

CSUSM

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PRE-ARRIVAL INFORMATION

RESOURCES FOR
NEWLY ADMITTED STUDENTS



Office of Global Education

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Congratulations from the Office of Global Education!

We are so happy that you have been accepted to CSUSM!

Below you will find important Pre-Arrival Information and steps to take as you prepare to attend CSUSM. If you have any questions, please email: newintl@csusm.edu

This Document includes the following important Pre-Arrival Information:

- **PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST**
- **STEPS TO SECURING YOUR F-1 STUDENT VISA**
- **ARRIVAL IN THE SAN DIEGO/SAN MARCOS AREA**
- **ORIENTATION**
- **HEALTH INSURANCE REQUIREMENT**
- **MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS/IMMUNIZATION FORM (Must complete)**
- **FINANCIAL INFORMATION SHEET**

MEET YOUR INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS:

Contact us at: newintl@csusm.edu



Danielle McMartin
Director of Global Education



Ryan Bobst
Assistant Director, International Student Services



Natalie Prellwitz
Senior International Student Advisor

Pre-Arrival Checklist



Step 1: Accept Admission to CSU San Marcos:

You can accept your admission by clicking on the link included with your acceptance letter in the email sent from International Admissions



Step 2: Receive your I-20 and Pay the SEVIS Fee: After you receive your I-20 from CSU San Marcos via email, you will need to pay the SEVIS I-901 Fee of \$350 US Dollars before applying for a Visa. You may pay online at <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/>



Step 3: Apply for your F-1 Student Visa & Attend your F-1 Visa Interview Appointment As Soon As Possible: You will need to apply for your Visa and make a Visa interview appointment at a US Embassy or Consulate near you.



Step 4: Review Carefully this Pre-Arrival Information Document: Please read this document carefully for detailed information on pre-arrival details and requirements.



Step 5: Plan Housing Arrangements before you arrive: You must confirm your on campus housing, homestay with a local family, or other off-campus housing before you arrive in San Marcos. **Details included.**



Step 6: Meet the Immunization Requirements and Purchase Health Insurance: You will need to show proof of the following immunizations BEFORE arrival: COVID-19 (+booster) MMR, Hepatitis B, and possibly TB. All F-1 visa applicants must purchase and maintain CSUSM medical insurance for the duration of their student status. **Purchasing details included.**



Step 7: Prepare Your Finances: You must bring enough money to pay for your tuition, homestay or housing fees, health insurance, books, and personal expenses. Visit our website for an estimate of expenses for your first semester. **Details included.**



Step 8: Prepare for Travel to the US: You are allowed to enter the United States no more than **30 days** before the reporting date listed on the I-20. Carry the following documents with you on the plane: Passport with your F-1 Visa, I-20, Vaccinations, & Evidence of Financial resources.



FINAL STEP: Attend Mandatory International Student Orientation:
MANDATORY for all new international students.

STEPS TO SECURING YOUR F-1 STUDENT VISA

SEVIS I-901 FEE

All students must complete the \$350.00 SEVIS (I-901) fee BEFORE you may apply for your visa at the U.S. Consulate. Please read this information carefully and follow the instructions.

APPLYING FOR YOUR F-1 STUDENT VISA

- You will use the I-20 form sent to you by email to apply for your F-1 (student) visa at the United States Embassy or nearest U.S. Consulate.
- In addition to the I-20, you will need to show proof that you have sufficient funds to meet all expenses.
- You may also wish to bring any documentation you or your family has to document your plans when you return to your home country after you complete your studies.
- Also, you may wish to prepare a brief verbal statement to explain your reason for wanting to study in the United States as you may be required to have an interview at the consulate.
- When you turn in your I-20 at the U.S. Consulate, there will also be several other application and background forms from the Consulate that you must fill out. They will have Fees required.
- We highly recommend that you go to the U.S. Consulate web site for your region to see the details regarding applying for an F-1 student visa as the process is different in each country.

WHEN YOU ENTER THE UNITED STATES

- You must carry your passport, I-20, Vaccine card, and SEVIS I-901 Fee receipt.
- When you go through customs at the port of entry, the officer will stamp your passport to show the date you have entered the USA.
- The officials will also take your photograph and fingerprint for their records.

AFTER YOU HAVE ENTERED THE UNITED STATES

- Please go to <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/>
- This website is the I-94 document retrieval site. The I-94 documents you entered the U.S. properly
- Please either PRINT your I-94 or do a SCREEN SHOT on your Mobile phone to show at orientation. It is mandatory that you have this during orientation.



ARRIVAL IN THE SAN DIEGO/SAN MARCOS AREA

CSU San Marcos is approximately 37 miles north of San Diego's Lindbergh Airport.

An airport shuttle service called Super Shuttle, will cost about \$130 to bring you to San Marcos, less if two or more people are traveling together. You can reserve on their website: www.supershuttle.com (Click On: Make On-Line Reservation). Other options: Lyft and Uber.

ORIENTATION

All students new to CSU San Marcos are required to attend Orientation:

New Student Orientation is set for:

August 23-25, 2022

*You **MUST** attend all 3 days of Orientation

*Immigration regulations will allow you to enter the U.S. up to **30 days before** the program start date on your I-20.

Bring to Orientation

1. Passport
2. I-20
3. I-94 document/screen shot
4. Proof of health insurance
5. Home country contact person name and phone number
6. U.S. contact person (if you have) name and phone number

Please continue to watch your e-mail for orientation reminders and check-in details!

*First day of Fall semester classes:
August 29, 2022*

**You must be in San Marcos for orientation on
Tuesday, August 23, 2022*



HOUSING

You must make housing arrangements before you leave your home country. You must confirm your on campus housing, homestay with a local family, or other off-campus housing before you arrive in San Marcos. [The Office of Global Education cannot reserve housing for you.](#) Please read the student housing options below.

1. On Campus Apartments: UVA and Quad

- UVA (University Village Apartments)
<http://www.uvasanmarcos.com>
- The Quad
www.thequadsanmarcos.com

2. U.S. Homestay

FA HOMESTAY

<https://www.fahomestay.com/sanmarcos>

email: info@fahomestay.com

***Homestay also offers short term stays.** We recommend homestay if you are unsure where you want to live and need time to search when you arrive to the US. You can request a one semester stay and the host family will help you become acclimated to the San Marcos area.

3. Off-Campus Housing

Student Life and Leadership Database

<https://csusm.och101.com>

HEALTH INSURANCE REQUIREMENT

CSUSM requires all international students to maintain adequate health insurance all year

Even if you do not register for classes in the summer, health insurance is required. To meet the health insurance requirement, we suggest you purchase the [CSU-sponsored health insurance](#) which meets the Health Insurance Requirements listed below. **Health insurance enrollment information will be sent to all students.** Students may purchase health insurance online with a credit card or debit card.

Purchase CSU-sponsored health insurance:

Approximate Coverage Dates and Costs:

Annual	8/10/XX	–	8/9/XX:	~\$1740.00
Fall Only	8/10/XX	–	1/9/XX:	~\$740.00
Spring/Summer	1/10/XX	–	8/9/XX:	~\$1,020.00

** Please note these are the costs from the 2019-2020 academic year.*

Prices are subject to change slightly for the 2021-2022 year.

** Other health insurance options may be accepted on a case-by-case basis. Only if the alternative policy meets the Health Insurance Requirements listed below will it be considered. You must submit a petition to the Office of Global Education for approval (petition found on our website).*

*****Do NOT purchase an alternative health insurance before the policy has been approved.**

The CSU international student health insurance requirements:

- The policy is valid as long as you are a student at CSUSM(including summer);
- The medical benefit is unlimited per condition with a deductible of no more than \$100;
- The repatriation benefit is at least \$7,500;
- The medical evacuation benefit is at least \$10,000;
- The policy provides equal benefits for each gender;
- The policy includes prenatal and maternity coverage at no extra costs;
- The policy pays for pre-existing conditions after 6 months of continuous coverage.

**As a means of guaranteeing compliance with this policy, you will be prevented from registering for classes until you show proof of health insurance that complies with these guidelines each semester.*

