



International Student Advising and Arrival

Cranwell International Center

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Agenda

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- When you arrive in the U.S.
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Who we are – Cranwell International Center

Cranwell International Center provides advising and programming to support your curricular and co-curricular success



Advising at Virginia Tech

- Academic Planning
- Career Advising
- Well-being (physical and mental health)



Advising at Cranwell

Cranwell International Center provides a wide range of programs and services to all undergraduate and graduate international students at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg and in the D.C. area.

International student advising and immigration services are provided by a team of International Student Advisors who are assigned a portfolio of academic college/school/department. Please note that students who visit walk-in hours are assigned to the international student advisor who is available that day, rather than their discipline-specific advisor.



When to reach out and to what to reach out to your advisor about

- Common immigration regulation topics
 - Employment
 - Academic Issues*
 - Program extension
 - Health Issues*

What to expect in your international advising appointment

- Discussion of your concerns
- Information about your immigration history
- Resource Referral
 - Other offices/advisors on campus



Things to get ready before you arrive

Do you have your visa?

- Yes



- No –

1. Do you have a visa appointment?
 - Yes
 - No
2. Late arrivals



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VIRGINIA TECH.

International Student Arrival



Things to get ready before you arrive

1. Print your I-20, and sign it.
2. Get your visa stamp
3. Complete the Pre-Arrival Orientation on Canvas
4. Check with your airlines
5. Immunization
6. Complete the immunization history form (due July 31).
Schedule immunization appointment with Schiffert
health@vt.edu, or join the one-day immunization clinics on
Monday 8/14, if needed

your Aetna student health insurance will cover the month of August once you enroll, however, you will pay out-of-pocket for the immunizations at the clinic and receive reimbursement from Aetna later. If you have other health insurance plans, please check with the insurance company.



When to arrive in the U.S.

- All F-1 students must arrive in U.S. on or before 8/14*
- First-year new international students early move-in starts on Sunday 8/13 noon



*Late arrivals



When you arrive in the U.S.

- Have ready for the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers:
 1. Printed and signed I-20
 2. SEVIS fee receipt (I-901)
 3. Contact information of Cranwell International Center (phone: 540-231-6527)





Getting to Blacksburg - Airports

- ***Roanoke Regional Airport (ROA)*** is the closest airport to Virginia Tech; ROA is located about 38 miles (61 km) from campus. ROA is a local airport that only receives domestic flights within the US; the nearest international airports are:
- ***Dulles International Airport (IAD)*** - located in Washington D.C. (254 miles / 409 km from campus);
- ***Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT)*** - located in Charlotte, North Carolina (176 miles / 284 km from campus); **Need vehicle to get to campus**
- ***Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU)*** – located in Raleigh, North Carolina (228 miles / 367 km from campus). **Need vehicle to get to campus**



Getting to Blacksburg – Ground Transportation

Roanoke Regional Airport (ROA)

- [SmartWay bus](#) is the most convenient and affordable way to get to campus
 - \$4
 - Check out the bus schedule in advance
- Taxi/Uber
 - Approximately \$100

Dulles International Airport (IAD)

- [Virginia Breeze bus](#) connects Blacksburg and Dulles. The bus departs from Dulles (Curb 2A) at 10:40 a.m. and arrives at the Squires Student Center at 3:40 p.m.



Getting to Blacksburg – Reminders

- Allow 3-4 hours between connecting flights from your Port of Entry (the airport to which you first arrive in the US) to your next flight to allow for important immigration processing with US Customs and Border Protection (CBP).
- Bring with you cash in different notes (e.g. a couple of \$20, a few \$10 and \$5).
- Have active international plan on your phone in case there is no wifi at places.
- Stay at hotel overnight if you arrive late in the evening



What to do upon arrival in Blacksburg

- Obtain HokiePassport (student ID card)
- International Student Welcome Activities **8/9-8/13**
- Attend International Student Orientation **8/14 & 8/15**
- Attend College Sessions and other WoW (Weeks of Welcome) starting **Wednesday 8/16**
- Submit immigration check-in on IntlHokies
- Attend immunization clinics (if needed)
- If you are interested in on-campus employment, visit Handshake (information also included in the pre-arrival canvas site)



Important events for international students

International Immunization Clinic
&
Welcome Dinner (for family as well)

International Student Early Move-in

Come to international student welcome tent on the Harper Hall Lawn, obtain your Hokie Passport, complete Housing check in

Sunday August 13th noon

Monday August 14th

Tuesday August 15th

International Undergraduate Student
and Family Orientation

Paid temporary housing was sent on **Monday July 10** in [StarRez](#) (on-campus Housing portal) for you to register, which will allow you to stay on campus as early as **Tuesday, August 8** prior to your move-in. Information regarding the Housing contract, temporary housing, and move-in will be sent from housing@vt.edu.

New international students must arrive in the U.S. on or before August 14th

Sign up for the welcome dinner and orientation in GobblerConnect
**sign in with your VT login first*



Other helpful information (In pre-arrival canvas site)

☰	▼ Arriving in Blacksburg (travel, connecting to wifi, paying tuition, banking etc.)	✔	+	⋮
☰	📄 Travel to Blacksburg	✔		⋮
☰	📄 Connect to Wifi on Campus	✔		⋮
☰	📄 First Stops on Campus	✔		⋮
☰	📎 Banking in the U.S..pptx	🔄	✔	⋮
☰	📄 Paying Tuition	✔		⋮
☰	📄 Cellphone	✔		⋮



Other helpful information (In pre-arrival canvas site)

Living in Blacksburg (important places on and off campus, local transportation, housing etc.)		
Local Transportation.pptx		
Weather		
Important Places on Campus		
Important Places in Blacksburg		
On-campus Employment		
On/Off Campus Housing		
Health Insurance		
U.S. Culture		

Studying at Virginia Tech		
What to Expect in Your Classes		
Academic Integrity		



FAQs

- What do I do if I cannot arrive in the U.S. on or before August 14?
- I'm ready to register for classes. How and when do I do that?
- I already have a valid F-1 visa (from another university), do I need to apply for a new one?
- When can I apply for my SSN (Social Security Number)?
- How do I get to Blacksburg from Dulles international airport (D.C.)



Questions?

***We are not able to answer questions related to specific eForms or cases due to time constraints.**