



# International Student Advising and Arrival

## Cranwell International Center

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# Agenda

- Who we are – Cranwell International Center
- Advising at Virginia Tech
- Advising at Cranwell
- Things to get ready before you arrive
- When to arrive in the U.S.
- When you arrive in the U.S.
- Getting to D.C area
- What to do upon arrival
- FAQ



## 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.



## Embedded international student advisor

- For walk-ins, DC area students will see Ms. Jessica Mullins embedded international student advisor
- Programming and other services and events for NCR students are managed by embedded Cranwell International Center 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



STUDENT AFFAIRS  
CRANWELL  
INTERNATIONAL CENTER  
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. Complete the immunization history form (due July 31). Check local pharmacies or providers for appointments to receive the missing immunization

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\*



\*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 D.C. campuses - Airports

- *Dulles International Airport (IAD)*
- *Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)*
- *Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI)*



# Getting to D.C. campuses – Ground Transportation

- Taxi/Uber
- Metrorail/metrobus



## Getting to DC area – 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.





# What to do upon arrival in D.C. area campuses

- Attend International Student Orientation **8/19**, registration forthcoming
- Attend College and/or Department Orientation
- Submit immigration check-in on IntlHokies
- Assistantship/on-campus positions – complete I-9 paperwork and get SSN



# Other helpful information (In pre-arrival canvas site)

Other Helpful Information		✓	+	:
⋮	📄 Connect to Wifi on Campus	✓		:
⋮	📄 Paying Tuition	✓		:
⋮	📄 Off Campus Housing	✓		:
⋮	📄 U.S. Culture	✓		:
⋮	📄 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)?



# Questions?

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