



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

LILLIAN AND EMANUEL SLUTZKER CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

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DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dear New International Student:

The staff of the Slutzker Center for International Services is happy to welcome you to our international community! We know you are thinking about your arrival here and those first few days of life in the United States. In order to assist you, we have included some helpful information below. You may find answers to many of your concerns on our website (<http://international.syr.edu>). You may also contact the Slutzker Center by mail, telephone, facsimile or e-mail.

THINGS TO DO UPON YOUR ARRIVAL

STEP 1: CHECK INTO THE SLUTZKER CENTER.

Please check into the Slutzker Center as soon as possible upon arrival. Please coordinate your travel in order to attend the mandatory orientation session (http://international.syr.edu/intl_orientation.htm) but no later than the start date indicated on your Form I-20 item #5 (F-1 student) or DS-2019 item # 3 (J-1 student). You may enter the United States **no earlier than 30 days prior to the program start date**. Bring to the Slutzker Center all immigration documents (passport, I-20/DS-2019, I-94, visa), affidavit(s) of financial support and, if applicable, your health insurance policy. At the Slutzker Center, you will receive a Clearance Form for completing the following steps.

STEP 2: OBTAIN CLEARANCES.

To ensure that your University records are in proper order, you must visit certain University offices and obtain signatures from them prior to course registration. A **Clearance Form** is used for this purpose. You can view the Clearance Process and Form at http://international.syr.edu/todo_list.htm. All international students must provide proof of health insurance which meets the minimum standards as described in Essential Medical Information.

STEP 3: ATTEND ORIENTATIONS AND PROVIDE DATA.

Attendance at the Slutzker Center and departmental orientations is mandatory. Your total orientation will consist of 4 parts:

- a) Your personal Slutzker Center orientation will begin upon your arrival at the Slutzker Center. This part will consist of checking in, completing paperwork, and having your questions answered.
- b) Next will be a New Student Arrival Seminar, the date and time to be assigned after your arrival. In this part we will provide you with answers to your personal questions, and information on University policies, immigration regulations, and registration procedures.
- c) Next will be the large group orientation (To determine the date and time, access: http://international.syr.edu/intl_orientation.htm). Here you will meet officials from the University and learn more about health care, safety, and academic/social environments.
- d) Your school/college orientation. Graduate students should contact their school or college regarding any orientations they may have. Undergraduate students must participate in SYRACUSE WELCOME, a comprehensive orientation program for all new undergraduate students. Review all materials included in the website for the Office of

First Year and Transfer Programs. (<http://orientation.syr.edu>). Please pay special attention to the Syracuse Welcome link and all of the information that was mailed to you.

STEP 4: TAKE THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT EXAM (ELAE).

This test of English proficiency will determine if any additional English course(s) will be required or recommended. It differs from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) in that the latter is used only as an admissions criterion. Exemptions from the test may be made for citizens of countries where English is the first language, or if TOEFL score exceeds 600 (paper), 250 (computer), or 100 (internet). Be sure to bring a copy of your score with you. You may take the ELAE upon arrival, prior to class registration.

STEP 5: OBTAIN FINAL CLEARANCE. After you complete STEPS 1-4, you will be cleared by the Slutzker Center for course registration. Classes will begin on **Monday, August 31, 2009.**

STEP 6: LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO S.U. Visit our website to see how to get to Syracuse University. (http://international.syr.edu/getting_to_syracuse.htm)

**The Slutzker Center recommends that you use the taxicab service from the train or bus stations to the SU campus.*