



International Student & Scholar Services

Welcome to Southern Methodist University!

Please read the following information carefully regarding your F-1 status while studying in the United States.

You have received an I-20 document in order to begin your studies at SMU. You are expected to arrive **by and no later than the day specified on your I-20 in section 5**. Remember that you are allowed to **enter the United States up to 30 days prior to your program begin date**.

Upon arrival, you are required to **check-in** at the International Center within **the first week of your arrival**. Our mandatory government orientation sessions will be held in the **Blanton Student Services Building** first floor (see campus map, building #44). Please plan to attend ONE of the following sessions:

August : 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 at 10:00 AM.

August: 4, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 at 3:00 PM

At time of check-in, please bring the following documents for you and your dependents:

- I-20/DS-2019
- Passport/F-1 visa
- I-94 arrival card
- All papers you received at the port of entry

Be prepared to provide the following information:

- **U.S. Local Address (RESIDENCE ADDRESS):** The Department of Homeland Security does not accept a P.O. Box address.
- Emergency Contact Information (Name, email, phone number, full mailing address and relation to visitor)

Failure to check-in with our office could result in the termination of your visa status. Remember, even if you are enrolled full time your record could be terminated in the U.S. government database should you fail to meet these requirements.

Thank you and we look forward to meeting you soon!

International Student & Scholar Services Staff