

PRE & POST ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

For New International J-1 Exchange Visitors

Pre-Arrival Checklist

You've received your DS-2019, next steps:

- Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.** Visit fmjfee.com to pay for this fee. Be sure to print a copy of the SEVIS fee payment receipt.
- Apply for J-1 Visa.** Complete the online Visa Application form, pay the DS160 fee, and schedule your appointment.
- Prepare to Enter the U.S.** Plan for health insurance, initial expenses, baggage, temporary housing, and medical records prior to departing your home country.
- Arrive in the U.S.** Plan to have the necessary documents available to show the inspection officer at the U.S. port of entry and plan travel from the airport to SMU.



Tip: Review the Exchange Visitor Post Arrival Handbook on the ISSS website for more information and resources about SMU and Dallas.

- Obtain Adequate Health Insurance.** Ensure that you and all dependents (if applicable) have health insurance that meets at least the minimum requirements.
- Secure Housing.** Use an apartment search on the internet to search for apartments near SMU. Keep in mind some apartments are accessible via the SMU Express bus.

Post-Arrival Checklist

Welcome to Dallas, Texas!

- Scan all documents:** DS-2019 first page, J-1 Visa, Passport, I-94 Arrival Document, Appointment Letter, and copies of all immigration documents of J-2 dependents, if applicable.
- Register to attend the required Government Check-in Session:** Visit <https://booking.smu.edu/calendar/scholars> to register for a check-in session.
- Attend Government Check-In appointment with ISSS:** Prior to attending, review the required documents on the ISSS website and bring scanned versions of them all and a device (laptop) to submit documents on.
- Attend Employee Orientation with Human Resources (Only for benefits-eligible employees).**
- OBTAIN SMU ID:** Visit SMU Parking and ID Services (Hughes-Trigg Student Center) to pick-up your SMU ID Card.

For more information, visit
<https://www.smu.edu/EnrollmentServices/international/For-Scholars/New-Scholar-Information>