

# > New International Student

## PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

### Welcome to Johns Hopkins University!

To help you prepare for your journey to the United States, the Office of International Services (OIS) developed a pre-arrival checklist to guide you with the important tasks ahead. We recommend beginning this process (from the top) as soon as you receive your JHU admission and email from OIS. Leading up to your arrival, OIS will also hold informative workshops on pre-arrival preparation and send important time-sensitive reminders.

For detailed instructions, please refer to the OIS website, [New Student page](#).

### Requesting your I-20/DS-2019 from OIS

#### F-1 Student (Form I-20)

- Prepare Required Documents:  
Valid Passport, Eligible Financial Documents (refer to [OIS website](#) for guidelines), Current Immigration Documents (if in the U.S. and transferring), Dependent Information (if applicable)
- Submit a [Request for an I-20](#)

#### J-1 Student (DS-2019)

- Prepare Required Documents:  
Valid Passport, Eligible Financial Documents (refer to OIS website for guidelines), Current Immigration Documents (if in the U.S. and transferring), Dependent Information (if applicable)
- Submit a [Request for a DS-2019](#)

### Preparing for your Visa Interview

#### Receive Visa Document from OIS

- OIS will notify by email when I-20/DS-2019 is available (on iHopkins)
- Review for accuracy, print, and sign
- Pay required [SEVIS I-901 Fee](#)
  - Use information on your I-20/DS-2019
- Print SEVIS I-901 payment receipt
- Review OIS ['Applying for U.S. Visa Stamp'](#) webpage

#### Schedule your Visa Interview

- Locate your local [U.S. Embassy/Consulate Office](#) to schedule a visa interview. \*Canadian & Bermudian citizens do not need a F/J visa.
- Complete [DS-160 Application](#) & print form
- Prepare Required Documents:  
Valid Passport, I-20/DS-2019, Financial Documents, Admission Letter, SEVIS Fee Receipt, Required Embassy Documents

### Preparing for your Departure

#### Finalize Housing

- On-Campus Housing:  
Finalize housing with [university housing](#)
- Off-Campus Housing:  
Refer to [OIS website](#) for off-campus resources/options

#### Prepare Travel Documents for U.S. Customs

- Valid F/J Visa
- Valid Passport
- Form I-20/DS-2019
- SEVIS I-901 Payment Receipt
- JHU Admission Letter
- Financial Documents

#### Before Departure

- Register and attend [OIS pre-arrival workshops](#)
- Do not enter more than 30 days before program start
- For border issues after [office hours](#), call OIS Emergency Line: 443-240-1938

### After Arriving in the U.S.

#### Check Status upon Entry

- Check your [I-94 Arrival/Departure record](#) to confirm that it says:
  - F or J status
  - D/S
- Save an electronic copy of your I-94

#### Validate your Status with OIS

- Complete [OIS Check-in Process](#) as soon as possible to activate status
- Watch [New Student Orientation Video](#)
- Complete the [Orientation Quiz](#) (F-1 students only), and/or [OIS Check-in Form](#) (F-1 & J-1 students) via iHopkins account

#### Maintain Immigration Status

- Review [OIS website](#)
- Maintain full-time enrollment
- Do not exceed online enrollment limitations
- Report any changes to OIS (i.e. U.S. address, change of major)
- Keep I-20/DS-2019 valid at all times