WELCOME
Exchange Students to the Gator Nation!

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Welcome Global Gator!

As an Exchange Student you are a valued part of what makes the University of Florida (UF) great! We believe that you will leave your mark on UF by bringing your global perspectives to our campus community, from joining in-class discussions to experiencing Gator games. In turn, we hope UF leaves an imprint on you. Consider the UF International Center (UFIC) your home-away-from-home while you’re with us. The Exchange Student Services (ESS) unit houses your J1 Visa Advisor and works jointly with UF academic departments and other offices to coordinate your exchange program. ESS also manages communication with your Home University along the way.

Enclosed in this packet are key documents required for your visa application:
- Exchange Program Invitation/Acceptance Letter
- DS-2019 Form; Form of Eligibility for J1 Visa Status
- US Department of State Welcome Brochure

Your exchange program started the moment you opened this envelope! Please follow all these guidelines and steps carefully to ensure a successful journey.

Get connected with us today at Facebook.com/UFExchangeStudentServices

Checklist for a Successful Exchange Journey (Please check your boxes as you complete your process.)

**Obtaining J-1 Visa Status**
J1 Visa Programs are overseen by the U.S. Department of State. Your UFIC J-1 Visa Advisor is designated to administer federal program protocols at UF. For more information visit J1visa.state.gov

- Review the enclosed documents and verify that all biographical information is correct. For any discrepancies, contact your ESS advisor.
- Pay the I-901 SEVIS fee online and save your SEVIS fee receipt for your visa interview. www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.html
- Complete the DS-160 application online travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/exchange
- Schedule your visa interview at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/exchange.html#howtoapply

**Gatorlink Account and Registration**
Set up your Gatorlink Account: 2-4 weeks after you’ve set up your Gatorcloud account, you’ll have access to your GatorCloud email inbox: outlook.com/ufl.edu

- Access ONE.UF.EDU
- Review and complete Pre-Registration Requirements (also called ‘Holds’)
- Submit your Immunization Form at healthcompliance.shcc.ufl.edu
- Submit your Proof of Health Insurance at healthcompliance.shcc.ufl.edu
- Register for courses through ONE.UF.EDU

Exchange Students hosted in the Colleges of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Law will be registered by the college Academic Manager.

**Pre-arrival Guidelines and Important Information**
Arrival Window: You can enter the U.S. up to 30 days prior to the start of the semester.

**UFIC Tools**
- Review the UF Pre-Arrival Guide
- Download the Exchange Student Check-List internationalcenter.ufl.edu/j-1-exchange-visitors/partnerschool-exchange-students

**Finalize Housing**
- If you are eligible for on campus housing, the application will be sent to you directly.
- For Off-Campus Housing Resources visit offcampus.ufl.edu
- Online Orientation (Optional): Access Voyages to learn more about UF processes and resources orientation.dso.ufl.edu/programs/international
- Take a Virtual Tour of UF at virtualtour.ufl.edu

**After Arrival**
Orientation: UFIC hosts a New International Student Orientation session the week prior to the classes starting. Completing “Check-In” with your Host University is a requirement of your J1 visa status. More information will be emailed to you.

- Check-In at the International Center:
  - Online Check-In: Once you arrive in the U.S. complete your online check-in.
  - In-Person Check-In: Your J-1 Visa Advisor will email you schedule options for in-person check-in.

Please refer back to the “New J-1 Student” section of the UFIC website and your online application for consolidated links and more information.

Wherever you may be in the world, welcome to the Gator Nation!