OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & FACULTY SERVICES

FALL 2016

“Ipsa scientia potestas est. Knowledge itself is power.”
-Francis Bacon
Dear New International Student:

Greetings and congratulations on your admission to Morgan State University! We are delighted that you have selected Morgan and we welcome you as a part of the Morgan community.

Aligned with Morgan State University’s motto of “Growing the Future, Leading the World”, the international community at Morgan is robust and continues to grow with your support.

I look forward to the contributions of new inbound international students that bring with them their values, religious beliefs, customs, and experiences to enrich our campus as you enrich yourselves. We hope you will find your time here rewarding both personally and academically.

The Division of International Affairs and the Office of International Student and Faculty Services (OISFS) is here to serve and support you during your stay. I look forward to meeting you at the beginning of the semester. We wish you a successful and enjoyable stay in the United States!

Kind Regards,

Dr. T. Joan Robinson
Vice President of International Affairs
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

الإخوان والأخوات.. حفظهم الله

يطيب لنا في بداية هذا العام الدراسي أن نرحب بالطلاب والطالبات الجدد ونتمني لكم عاماً طيباً مليئاً بالإنجازات والنجاحات.

ونود أن نعبر عن سعادتنا البالغة بإضمامكم إلى جامعة مورقني ستيت، ونعدكم بأننا سوف نسخر كل إمكانياتنا وسنبذل قصارى جهدنا لمساعدتكم في تحقيق أمانیكم وتعلعتمكم.

وكونوا على ثقة بأن جميع منسوبي النادي سوف يكونوا خير عون لكم في تحصيلكم العلمي وإرشادكم وتوجيهكم.

وأخيراً نقول لكم:

أهلاً وسهلاً بكم في جامعة مورقني ستيت، هذا الصرح العلمي المتطرف، فأطلقوا العنان لمواهبكم وقدراتكم، وستجدون من الجامعة والنادي كل دعم وتشجيع وتوجيه، فأنتم الراجاء والأمل وبناء المستقبل.

وفقكم الله في تحقيق أمالكم

مع تحيات إدارة النادي السعودي في جامعة مورقني

(531) 333-3631  Help@ssatmsu.com  www.ssatmsu.com
International Student Association
TUNJI OGIEFO (President)
tuogi1@morgan.edu

The International Student Association was established to promote unity and multicultural understanding among students with different heritage and ethnic groups at Morgan State University. By presenting international awareness forms and volunteering within the community, ISA was able to collectively introduce cultural tradition to individuals who wanted to embrace various customs. The International Student Association built its foundation on beliefs, wisdom, and most importantly family, in which we stand for today.

African Student Organization
BOLAJI AJAYI (Founder & President)
boaja1@morgan.edu

An advocate for African people on and beyond highlighting the positive sides of Africa; Africa’s diversity and also speaking up and addressing issues which face the continent; A voice particularly for African students (especially for International Students on Morgan State University Campus) but also for African students who may not have necessarily had a place of comfort growing up in the United States; An assisting body which will help students acquire internships, scholarships and mentors; and a family, a home away from home which allows many opportunities for connecting with other MSU ASO members based on commonalities.

Caribbean Student Association
CHIKERE HARRISON
(President)
chhar35@morgan.edu

International Student ConneXions
RENEE BOWEN (Advisor)
rebow1@morgan.edu
I. PRE-ARRIVAL

Here are all the basic things you need to know about & do before you arrive in the U.S.A & to Morgan:

1. CONFIRM YOUR ACCEPTANCE

To confirm your acceptance go to: http://www.morgan.edu/admissions/undergraduate_admissions/admitted_students

2. RECEIVE YOUR I-20

Submit the following documents to respective admissions office:

- Financial Certificate reflecting current tuition costs
- Bank statement with official bank stamp or seal and signature of bank official (must be converted to USD if coming from a foreign account) OR a Financial Guarantee from your government or sponsoring agency
- Affidavit of Support (letter from person financially supporting — not required if you have a Financial Guarantee)
- Supplemental International Applicant information sheet
- Transfer-in form (transfer students only)

2a. I-20 PICK-UP VS. DELIVERY

- Undergraduate students can pick up their I-20 from the international office located in Montebello Room 206-D
- Graduate students can pick up their I-20 from the School of Graduate Studies located in McKeldin Room 310.
- If someone is picking up your I-20 on your behalf you MUST send an email expressing consent and the person’s name to the office creating your I-20.
- Unless otherwise requested, I-20 will be mailed to address on file.
- Confirm that MSU has your correct mailing address.
1. **PRE-ARRIVAL CONTINUED...**

**T H I N G S Y O U N E E D T O K N O W**

3. Have A Passport -Valid For At Least Six Months

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4. Apply For A US Visa

- **PAY YOUR I-901 FEE FOR SEVIS**
  (mandatory for new international students: [https://fmjfee.com/i901fee/desktop/students/formSelection.htm](https://fmjfee.com/i901fee/desktop/students/formSelection.htm))

  *Print the receipt for your records!*

- **SCHEDULE A VISA INTERVIEW APPOINTMENT**

- **ATTEND YOUR VISA INTERVIEW** with all required documents. Required documents are:
  - A passport valid for at least 6 months
  - Form I-20 (prepared by Morgan State and sent to student)
  - A completed visa application form
  - SEVIS I-901 Payment and Visa Application Receipts
  - Proof of financial support
  - Other documents can be found at the U.S. Embassy website

5. Test Your User Name & Password

For services such as Morgan mail, WebSIS and BlackBoard. Take time to configure and get familiarized with these services. User name and password is located in acceptance letter.

If there is any difficulty accessing these services, contact Morgan State University’s Help Desk at 443-885-4357 for assistance.

6. Note orientations and other important dates

See page 10 for dates and make every effort to arrive in time to participate

7. Arrive within 30 days of program start date.

8. Plan airport pick-up on arrival to the United States

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**BEARTIP**

Be prepared for cold weather! Bring coat or jacket
9. Apply for On-Campus Housing

The Application for campus housing can be found here - [http://www.morgan.edu/residence life](http://www.morgan.edu/residence life)

**ON CAMPUS HOUSING IS DESIGNATED BY GENDER:**

- Male
  - Baldwin Hall
  - Cummings Hall
  - O’Connell Hall
  - Rawlings Hall
- Female
  - Blount Towers
- Co-Ed
  - Harper-Tubman *(honors students ONLY)*
  - Marble Hall Gardens
  - Thurgood Marshall

10. Child Care & Schools

If you are bringing your family, you can find more information about local schools and childcare at the link below:


11. Look & Apply for off-Campus Housing

**Morgan View Apartments** is the closest off-campus housing. Information about Morgan View – [http://morganview.com](http://morganview.com)

To apply to Morgan View Apartments - [https://applynow.studenthousing.com:446/732](https://applynow.studenthousing.com:446/732)

**TOOLS TO FIND OTHER OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING:** [http://www.msu.och101.com/](http://www.msu.och101.com/)
II. ARRIVAL THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. Airport Emergencies
If you have any difficulty at Customs & Border Protection while entering the country contact the Office of International Student Services so we can assist by phone:
Mon-Fri 9:00AM - 5:00PM
Call: 443-885-3038 (Office line)
Call: 443-414-3259 (immigration emergencies ONLY)

2. Transportation from the Airport
For convenient service that can accommodate your luggage, we recommend:
- BWI TAXI CAB SERVICE
  http://www.bwiairporttaxi.com/
- UBER mobile app
- LYFT mobile app
- SUPER SHUTTLE

3. Mandatory Check-In
Upon arrival to campus, you MUST bring the following documents to the Office of International Student Services:
- Your signed I-20
- Passport & F1 Visa
- I-94
  https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/consent.html
- I-901 Fee payment receipt
  https://fmjfee.com/i901fee/desktop/checkstatus/loadSearchPage.do
II. ARRIVAL

CONTINUED... THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

4. Get a Bear Card!

Your BEARcard is the student identification card that can be used for the PNC bank, meals, library, parking garage access, etc. To obtain a bear card, go to Montebello rm. 128-D or call 443-885-3065. You must be registered for classes BEFORE being issued a Bear Card card.

5. Sign up for Mobile Alerts

Mobile Alerts allow you to get important campus-wide information by text. You can sign up at http://www.morgan.edu/mobilealerts.

6. Obtaining a U.S. Phone Number

International students can gain access to a phone number by buying a SIM card with a prepaid plan from certain cellphone providers.

7. Health Insurance

All UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS are required to have health insurance. Health insurance is automatically added to the account of undergraduate students. If you already have insurance coverage, you can waive health insurance by visiting the following link: http://www.morganstudentinsurance.com/waive-coverage.html.

GRADUATE STUDENTS are eligible to enroll in the insurance plan, however, this is a voluntary process. To enroll in health insurance, visit: http://www.morganstudentinsurance.com/voluntary-coverage.html.
III. ORIENTATION

ORIENTATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL NEW STUDENTS. ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND ACCESS TO PREVENT A HOLD ON REGISTRATION.

1. Freshmen Orientation

ACCESS ORIENTATION is for freshman and ALL new incoming students. Dates are as follows:
• July 10-13, 2016
• July 17-20, 2016
• July 24-27, 2016
• August 14-17, 2016

2. Transfer Orientation

If you are transferring from another U.S. institution you will need to learn how to transfer you credits. Visit this link for more information: http://www.morgan.edu/academic_affairs/university_transfer_center/transfer_orientation.html

3. Meet Your Advisor

Advisors are assigned according to major. Advisors walk students through choosing classes – freshmen will have a hold on registration until you meet with your advisor. A meeting can be scheduled by email to your advisor/department.
IV. Scheduling Classes

6. Online Registration: WebSIS

WebSIS is the Student Portal for your registration needs. You will need your pre-assigned username and password for access on www.Morgan.edu.

WebSIS dates you NEED to Remember:
Last day to ADD courses is September 3, 2016.
Last day to drop a course WITHOUT a grade of “W” (Withdrawal) is September 3, 2016.

7. Paying Tuition & Fees

Payments can be made at the Office of the Bursar http://www.morgan.edu/bursar Payments Plans Are Available. Fees and tuition can also be paid through “Pay Now” under the student tab in WebSIS System.

8. Government Sponsored Students

TRANSCRIPTS
The international office provides transcripts to students’ respective government on their behalf

VERIFICATION LETTERS
Letters concerning confirmation of tutoring and good academic standing can be requested at the Office of International Student & Faculty Services

Provide a copy of your guarantee to the International Office to avoid your schedule being dropped.
V. Administrative Offices & Resources

1. Office of International Student & Faculty Services

http://www.morgan.edu/oisfs
Montebello Rm. 206-D
Mon-Fri 9:00AM - 5:00PM
Call: 443-886-3038 (Office line)
Call: 443-414-3259 (Office Cell Phone) Immigration emergencies ONLY

2. School of Graduate Studies

http://www.morgan.edu/gradschool
McKeldin Rm. 310
443-885-3185

3. Office of Records & Registration

http://www.morgan.edu/registrar
Montebello rm. 112-A
443-885-3300

4. Office of the Bursar

http://www.morgan.edu/bursar
Montebello rm. 124-A
443-885-3108

5. Counseling Center

http://www.morgan.edu/counselingcenter
Carter Grant Wilson rm. 202
443-885-3130

6. Campus Resources

At Morgan State University there are several resources located on campus for the convenience of students, including:

- Bookshop
- Library
- PNC Bank - Located in the University Student Center, provides access to a bank account for all students including international students.
- Restaurants
- Sports Facilities
- Chapel
- Gym
- Police and Public Safety Department
- University Health Center

7. Campus Map

VI. Getting Around

TRANSPORTATION

GETTING AROUND
BALTIMORE CITY:

MTA BUS
SUBWAY SYSTEM
LIGHTRAIL
www.mta.Maryland.gov

GETTING AROUND CAMPUS:
The MSU Shuttle provides transportation around the campus.

ROUTES:
Montebello
McKeldin to Northwood Shopping Center, Blount & Montebello
Campus West
McKeldin to Communications, Engineering/CBEIS, Morgan View, Portage, Marble Hall & Northwood Shopping Center
Campus Wide
Makes all stops

Baltimore College town Shuttle provides transportation around Baltimore City
www.baltimorecollegetown.org/shuttle
Collegetown shuttle stops in McKeldin parking lot and at bus stop by the library

ROUTES:
BLUE: Goucher College, Towson Mall, Towson University, Notre Dame, Loyola State University, Johns Hopkins University & Penn Station
RED: Towson University, Towson Mall, Towson Place Shopping Center, Morgan State University, Johns Hopkins University, Penn Station
Campus Wide Makes all stops

Obtaining a Driver’s License

If you want to obtain a drivers license, you must visit the Office of International Services to obtain a Social Security Exception Letter

Get in contact with & involved with campus organizations