International Student Welcome Guide
Office of International Student & Faculty Services

Look out for my tasty bites of advice!

Fall 2023
Greetings International Student,

Congratulations on your admission to Morgan State University! We are delighted that you have selected Morgan State University and we welcome you to our growing 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.

We look forward to the contributions of new ideas, values, beliefs, customs, and experiences to enrich our campus. You will find your time here rewarding both personally and academically.

The Office of International Student & Faculty Services (OISFS) is here to support you. I look forward to meeting you at the beginning of the semester and wish you a successful and enjoyable learning experience in Maryland.

Best regards,

Al Zain Zee Al Zain
Interim Director of International Student & Faculty Services
I. PRE-ARRIVAL
Here are all the things that you need to know and do before you arrive in the United States and to Morgan:

1. Confirm Your Acceptance
(Undergrad)

To confirm your acceptance go to:

Submit the following documents to Office of International Student & Faculty Services via:
international.affairs@morgan.edu

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

Financial Guarantee from your government or sponsoring agency covering full cost of tuition, room & Board and books for 12 months: UG $33,822.00 | GRAD $ 32,858.00

Affidavit of Support (A notarized letter from person financially supporting – not required if you have a Financial Guarantee) Passport Bio Page

International Residential Address

Transfer-in form (transfer students only)

Undergraduate and graduate students can pick up their I-20 from DJ32, located in Suite #212 Earl S. Richardson Library.

POST COVID – BEGINNING FALL 2021

ALL I-20 MUST BE PICKED UP BY OR EMAILED DIRECTLY TO THE ADMITTED STUDENT.

**NO EXCEPTIONS**

If you are outside of the United States, you will need to register with eShipGlobal UMES to receive your I20. Instructions can be found on our webpage below: This service is currently suspended

https://www.morgan.edu/international_affair s/office_of_international_student_and_facult y_services/shipping_information_for_internati onal_students.html

PLEASE FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY
Pay your I-901 fee for SEVIS (mandatory for new international students).

7. Arrive Within 30 Days Of Program Start Date.
THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

3. Your Passport Must be Valid For At Least Six Months

Homeland Security

4. Apply For A U.S. Visa

students): https://www.fmjfee.com/

Schedule a visa interview appointment

Print the receipt for your records!

5. Test Your Username & Password

For services such as Morgan Email, WebSIS, and Canvas, take time to configure and get familiarized with these services.

If you have any difficulty accessing these services, contact Morgan State University’s Service Desk at 443.885.4357 for assistance.

8. Plan Airport Pick-up On Arrival To The United States

BEAR TIP

Be prepared for cold weather! Bring a coat or jacket.

◦ 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

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Attend your visa interview with all OISFS WILL NOT required documents. Required documents are:

- A passport valid for at least 6 LETTERS FOR LATE ARRIVALS

9. Apply For On-campus Housing

The application for campus housing can be found here - http://www.morgan.edu/residencelife

ON CAMPUS HOUSING IS DESIGNATED BY GENDER:

Male:
- Baldwin Hall

Female:
- Rawlings Hall
- Blount Towers
- Harper-Tubman (honors students ONLY)

10. Child Care & Schools

- Cummings Hall
- O’Connell Hall
- Female:
Marble Hall Gardens
Thurgood Marshall

11. Look & Apply For Off-campus Housing

Morgan View Apartments is the closest off-campus housing. Information about Morgan View –
http://morganview.com

To Apply To Morgan View Apartments https://applynow.studenthousing.com:446/732

TOOLS TO FIND OTHER OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING:
http://www.msu.och101.com/

1. Airport Emergencies

If you have any difficulty at Customs & Border Protection while entering the country contact the Office of International Student & Faculty Services (OISFS) so we can assist by phone:

MON-FRI 9:00AM - 5:00PM, CALL: 443.885.4755 (OFFICE LINE)

AFTER 5:00 PM & WEEKENDS FOR AIRPORT EMERGENCIES ONLY, Call:
2. Transportation from the airport

For convenient service that can accommodate your luggage, we recommend:

• BWI Airport Taxi - 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 & Faculty Services (OISFS): Post pandemic email to: international.affairs@morgan.edu

- Your signed I-20
- Passport & F-1 visa
- I-94 - https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home
- I-901 Fee payment receipt - https://fmjfee.com

**If these documents are not presented to OISFS by September**

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
12, 2023
Registration Hold will be placed on your account.**
IIa. ARRIVAL

CONTINUED...THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

4. Get a BEARcard!

Your BEARcard is your student identification card that can be used for PNC bank, meals, library, residence hall access, parking access, etc.

To obtain a BEARcard, go to Tyler Hall, Room 306 or call 443-885-4045. You must be registered for classes BEFORE being issued a BEARcard.

BEAR TIP

Money can be added to your BEAR Card to purchase items in the bookstore, canteen & certain vending machines.

7. Health Insurance

5. Sign Up For Mobile Alerts

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

6. Obtaining A U.S. Phone

BEAR TIP

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

GRADUATE STUDENTS are eligible to enroll in the insurance plan, however, this is a

students. If you already have insurance coverage, you must waive health insurance by visiting the Harriet A. Woolford
TO ENROLL IN OR WAIVE HEALTH INSURANCE, VISIT:
III. ORIENTATION & WORKSHOPS

1. Freshmen Orientation

ACCESS Orientation is for new, incoming first-time freshmen only. CASA, PACE, and Transfer students are not required to participate in the ACCESS Orientation Program. See the link for more information: https://www.morgan.edu/enrollment_management_and_student_success/office_of_student_success_and_retention/access_orientation.html

All NEW international students must attend ACCESS Orientation to prevent a hold on your registration.

2. Online Transfer Orientation

If you are transferring from another U.S. institution, you will learn how to transfer your credits and other resources available to you. Check in with your department’s Transfer or Retention Coordinators

3. International Student Workshops

F-1 BASICS:
Fall 2023 – 09/11/2023
In the Earl Richardson Library, Rm 212
Provides guidance and information you need to maintain your F-1 Status and get advice on how best to navigate campus services to meet your needs.

4. Meet With Your Advisor

Advisors are assigned according to major and help students with choosing classes. Freshmen will have a hold on registration until you have a meeting with your Advisor. A meeting can be scheduled by email. Check STARFISH/WebSIS to find your advisor.
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: https://cas.morgan.edu/cas/login

WEBSIS DATES YOU NEED TO REMEMBER:

- Last day to ADD/DROP courses
  Fall 2023 – 9/5/2023

- Last Day To Drop A Course WITHOUT A Grade Of “W”
  Fall 2023- 9/5/2023

7. Paying Tuition & Fees

Payments Can Be Made At The Office Of The Bursar http://www.morgan.edu/bursar

PAYMENTS PLANS ARE AVAILABLE!

Paying Tuition & Fees can also be paid by clicking “Pay Now” under the student tab in WebSIS.

8. Government Sponsored Students

Transcripts & Proof of Graduation:
Transcripts with a posted degree are proof of graduation. The Office of Records and Registration provides the above documents to students for their respective government requests.

Verification Letters, Ticket Allowances, Etc.
Letters concerning confirmation of tutoring, online classes, and enrollment, can be requested at the Office of International Student & Faculty Services (OISFS).

BEAR TIP

Being Under-enrolled And Not Paying Your Tuition And Fees WILL Affect Your Immigration Status.
V. Getting Around

1. Transportation

**BALTIMORE CITY TRANSPORT:**
- [www.mta.maryland.gov](http://www.mta.maryland.gov)
- MTA BUS
- METRO SUBWAY
- LIGHTRAIL

**GETTING AROUND CAMPUS:**
BEARtransit provides transportation around campus. [https://morgan.edu/beartransit](https://morgan.edu/beartransit)

**ROUTES:**
- **Montebello**
  - McKeldin to Northwood Shopping Center, Blount & Montebello
- **Campus West**
  - McKeldin to Communications, Engineering/CBEIS, Morgan View, Portage, Marble Hall & Northwood Shopping Center

2. Obtaining A Driver’s License

If you want to obtain a driver’s license, you must visit or email the Office of International Student & Faculty Services (OISFS) to obtain a Social Security Exemption Letter

3. Baltimore CollegeTown

**Baltimore CollegeTown Shuttle**
Provides Transportation Around Baltimore City:
[www.baltimorecollegetown.org/shuttle](http://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 University--Maryland, Johns Hopkins & Penn Station
- **RED:** Towson University, Towson Mall, Towson Place Shopping Center, Morgan State, Johns Hopkins, and Penn Station
- **CAMPUS WIDE:** Makes All Stops

**BEAR TIP**
Get in contact
with & involved with
campus
organizations
VI. Administrative Offices & Resources

1. Office of International Student & Faculty Services

http://www.morgan.edu/oisfs
Suite #212, E. S. Richardson Library
Mon-Fri 9:00AM - 4:00PM
443.885.4755 (Office)
International.affairs@morgan.edu

**AFTER 5 PM & WEEKENDS**
FOR AIRPORT EMERGENCIES ONLY:
CALL - 410.805.6924

2. School of Graduate Studies

http://www.morgan.edu/gradschool
McKeldin, 310
443.885.3185 (Office)

3. Office of Records & Registration

registrar.morgan.edu
Tyler Hall
443.885.3300

4. Office of the Bursar – Tyler Hall

http://www.morgan.edu/bursar
Tyler Hall 209
443.885.3108

5. Counseling Center

http://www.morgan.edu/counselingcenter
Holmes Hall, Suite # 326
443.885.3130

6. Campus Resources

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

- Book store
- Library
- PNC Bank - Located in the University Student Center, provides access to a bank account for all students, including international students.
- Restaurants--Chic-fil-A and Subway
- Sports facilities--workout, tennis, pool
- Chapel
- Gym
- Police and Public Safety Department
- University Health Center