



MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



International Student Welcome Guide

Office of International Student & Faculty Services

Look out for my tasty bites of advice!



BEAR TIP

Spring 2024



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. **Pre-Arrival**
 - I. Acceptance Letters
 - II. Receiving Your I-20
 - I. Passport & Visa
 - II. Housing
- II. **Arrival**
 - I. Airport Emergencies & Transport
 - II. Mandatory Check-in
 - III. Obtaining your BEAR-card
 - IV. Health Insurance
 - V. Mobile Alerts
 - VI. Obtaining a Phone
- III. **Orientation**
 - I. Registering For Classes
 - I. Baltimore Transportation
 - I. Administrative Offices

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 State University:



1. Confirm Your Acceptance

(Undergrad)

To confirm your acceptance, go to:

http://www.morgan.edu/enrollment_management_and_student_success/office_of_undergraduate_admission_and_recruitment/admitted_students/confirm_enrollment

2a. Receive Your I-20

[_a.html](#)

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 DISFS—located in Suite #712 Earl S. Richardson Library.

POST COVID – BEGINNING FALL 2021

2b. I-20 Delivery & Pick-up

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_affairs/office_of_international_student_and_faculty_services/shipping_information_for_international_students.html

PLEASE FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY



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Pay your I-901 fee for SEVIS
(mandatory for new international

7. Arrive Within 30 Days Of
Program Start Date.

7. Arrive Within 30 Days Of Program
Start Date.

Ia. PRE-ARRIVAL

CONTINUED...

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/>

Print the receipt for your records!
Schedule a visa interview appointment

- **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 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

Be prepared for cold weather!
Bring a coat or jacket

BEAR TIP



Attend your visa interview with all **OISFS WILL NOT** required documents. Required

documents are: _____ **PROVIDE SUPPORT**

- A passport valid for at least 6 **LETTERS FOR LATE** months **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



10. Child Care & Schools

- Cummings Hall ◦ O'Connell Hall
- Rawlings Hall ◦ Female:
- Blount Towers ◦ Co-Ed:
- Harper-Tubman (*honors students ONLY*)

Ib. PRE-ARRIVAL

Continued...

Things you need to know

- Marble Hall Gardens
- Thurgood Marshall



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STATE UNIVERSITY

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

<http://www.morgan.edu//Documents/ADMINISTRATION/OFFICES/ResLife/Child%20Care%20and%20Schools.pdf>

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:

II. ARRIVAL

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW



410.805.6924

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**



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presented to OISFS by September

12, 2023 a
Registration
Hold will be
placed on your
account.**

Ia. 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.

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

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 must waive health insurance by visiting the **Harriet A. Woolford**

**TO ENROLL IN OR WAIVE HEALTH
INSURANCE, VISIT:**

III. ORIENTATION & WORKSHOPS



ORIENTATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL NEW STUDENTS

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!
Fees and tuition 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).

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



BEAR TIP

Campus Wide
Makes all stops

V. Getting Around

1. Transportation

BALTIMORE CITY TRANSPORT:

www.mta.maryland.gov

MTA BUS

METRO SUBWAY

LIGHTRAIL

GETTING AROUND CAMPUS:

BEARtransit provides transportation around campus.

<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

3. Baltimore CollegeTown

Baltimore CollegeTown 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 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

International Student & Faculty Services (OISFS) to obtain a Social Security Exemption Letter



**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 200

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**