

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS Pre-Arrival Guide



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

WELCOME

Colorado State University is proud to welcome more than 1,600 international students and scholars from 90+ countries to study and work here in Fort Collins. Over the course of your stay, the Office of International Programs will assist you with your cultural adjustment, academic integration, professional growth, and personal support.

This guide provides information to help you prepare for your first few weeks in Colorado. By reading this guide thoroughly, you will understand the services we provide to assist you in your transition to CSU and to be prepared for the tasks ahead.

We look forward to having you on campus.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pre-Arrival Checklist.....	4
Visa & Immigration.....	6
Arriving in the U.S.....	7
Finances	8
Health & Insurance	9
Housing & Dining	10-12
Registering for Classes.....	12
Transferring from Another School	13
Bringing Dependents	13
Arrival at CSU.....	14
Orientation	15
About Fort Collins	16
What to Pack	17
Campus Resources.....	18
Health & Safety	19
Money & Banking.....	19
Transportation.....	20

FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION:

<https://col.st/RBI64>

PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

1: Obtain Visa and Passport

- Make sure your passport is valid for at least six months from the date you plan to enter the U.S.
- Obtain an I-20 or DS-2019 with a start date for your planned enrollment.
- Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.
- Schedule a visa application interview at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

2: Get Your Finances in Order

- Bring enough accessible money for your initial living expenses.
- Make plans to pay tuition and fees before the deadline.

3: Complete Health Tasks

- Submit your immunization records.
- Submit health forms.
- Fulfill the health insurance requirement.
- Purchase travel insurance to cover you until orientation.

4: Required Online Programs

- Haven: Understanding Sexual Assault Program
- AlcoholEdu Program (undergraduate students under age 23 only)
- Create a YOU@CSU profile

5: Secure Housing

- Complete housing application as soon as possible.
- Arrange for temporary housing, if needed.

6: Register for Classes

- Take the appropriate placement exams (undergraduates)
- Contact your department for more information (graduates)

7: Arrange Transportation

- Arrive the weekend prior to orientation.
- Reserve shuttle transportation from Denver International Airport to campus.

8: Register for Orientation

- [Undergraduates](#)
- [Graduates](#)





HOW TO CONTACT US:

iss@colostate.edu

international.colostate.edu/iss

Phone: (001) 970-491-5917



U.S. VISA AND IMMIGRATION-RELATED INFORMATION

For every immigration document you receive, check that the spelling of your name and your date of birth are exactly the same as listed on your passport. Your passport must be valid for six months after your intended entry into the United States. Copy all documents prior to departure. Carry all originals with you when you travel, and keep copies in a separate place.

OBTAINING A VISA

1. Receive I-20 or DS-2019 from CSU

Your I-20 or DS-2019 form should be included in the packet with this pre-arrival guide. You will be required to submit this document when you apply for a visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

2. Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee

At least two weeks before your visa interview, pay this fee online at fmjfee.com. Type your name exactly as it appears on the I-20 or DS-2019 form. Print a copy of the online receipt and bring it to your visa interview. (Canadians should present this receipt at the U.S. border.) Make copies of this receipt and keep it with your other immigration documents.

3. Complete the DS-160 form

The DS-160 form is a non-immigrant electronic visa application, available on your local U.S. Embassy/Consulate website.

4. Pay visa application fee

Follow the instructions on your local U.S. Embassy/Consulate website to pay this fee.

5. Make your visa appointment at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate

Find your local U.S. Embassy or Consulate at usembassy.gov and schedule an appointment with them as early as possible. The wait time for a visa interview varies, but is always longer during the months of June, July, and August. Depending on your course of study and nationality, the visa officer may also have to get special clearances, which can require additional time. The earliest the U.S. Embassy or Consulate can issue an F-1 visa is 120 days before the start date of your program in the U.S. If you are applying for a J-1 visa, you may apply any time before the beginning of your program.

6. Prepare and bring to your visa interview:

Remember to remain calm and answer all the visa officer's questions openly and honestly.

- Passport valid for at least six months
- I-20 or DS-2019 form (signed/dated)
- Admission letter
- Two 2" x 2" photographs in the required format
- A receipt of the paid SEVIS I-901 fee
- Financial evidence of sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses during your period of study
- Any information that proves that you will return to your home country after finishing your studies in the U.S. This may include proof of property, family, or other ties to your community.

7. Visa Delays

If you are unable to obtain a visa prior to the program start date, contact ISSS (iss@colostate.edu) immediately. You may defer and apply your deposit toward the tuition for the next semester.



ARRIVING IN THE UNITED STATES

1. Plan your arrival

You will not be allowed to enter the country more than 30 days before the start of your program if you are an initial entry student. Plan to arrive the weekend before Orientation on Saturday or Sunday.

Remember: Always carry your original I-20 or DS-2019 and passport on your person, not in your luggage!

2. At the port of entry

Proceed to the terminal area for arriving passengers. Present the following documents:

- Passport
- SEVIS (I-20 or DS-2019 Form)
- Customs Declaration Form (CF-6059), which reflects the address where you will reside, not the address of the school or program.

All visitors entering the U.S. must state their reasons for wishing to enter the country. You will be asked to provide information about your final destination. It is important that you tell the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer that you will be a student. Be prepared to include the name and address of the school program in which you are enrolled.

Once your inspection is successfully completed, the inspecting officer will:

- Assign you an Admission Number (I-94). You can locate your I-94 number at i94.cbp.dhs.gov. Be sure to check that your I-94 lists the correct visa type (either F or J,) correct date, and D/S for Duration of Status.

3. Secondary Inspection Requirements

If the CBP officer at the port of entry cannot initially verify your information or you do not have all of the required documentation, you may be directed to an area known as “secondary inspection.” Here the CBP Officer will attempt to verify your status by using the Student and Exchange and Visitor Information System (SEVIS). If the officer needs to verify information with your school or program, contact International Student and Scholar Services at +1 (970) 491-5917.

In case of an after-hours emergency, please contact the Colorado State University Police Department at +1 (970) 491-6425. They will connect you to the on-call ISSS person.

4. International Post-Arrival

Check-in (Immigration Document Review)

All new international students complete an immigration document review after arriving in the United States. You will receive additional information about this process by email. Please make sure you have the required documents:

- Passport (including the U.S. entry stamp)
- I-20 or DS-2019 form
- The name and address of an emergency contact in the U.S. or your home country
- Current U.S. address and phone number

International Programs requires these documents to register your arrival in the SEVIS system as required by the U.S. government. If a report is not submitted, you may be considered in violation of your immigration status in the U.S. If you cannot complete this process online, please email ISSS@colostate.edu as soon as possible with the documents above. You will not be able to register for classes until this requirement is completed.



IMPORTANT INFO

For helpful information on applying for a U.S. visa, visit: bit.ly/studentvisatips

FINANCES

How much money should I bring?

Bring enough money to cover your expenses during your first few days in the U.S., such as food, transportation, personal items, and temporary housing. These expenses can be covered with major credit cards, debit cards and ATM cards. We don't recommend carrying more than \$1,000 in cash. You can set up a checking account at a local bank once you arrive, and wire money electronically as needed.

Calculate the estimated expenses and learn more about tuition and fees for your first year [online](#).

Tuition and Fees

The best way to pay tuition is through the International Funds option on [RamWeb](#). Tuition and fees will be charged to your RamWeb account each semester, along with any on-campus housing and CSU health insurance charges.

Late fees will be charged if the bill has not been paid in full by the deadline, and a registration hold will be placed on your account to prevent registration for future courses. For more information on billing, visit, financialaid.colostate.edu/paying-your-bill/.

Students should also budget for textbooks, approximately \$300 to \$600 per semester.

Semester	Billed to Your Account	Payment Due
Fall	August	September 10
Spring	January	February 10
Summer	May	June 10



HEALTH AND INSURANCE

For Current Information, visit:

Undergraduate Students: col.st/HtOP2

Graduate Students: col.st/Fmvvk

All students are required to complete the following by the first day you arrive. All documents must be created or translated into English. Consult your family members and doctor before leaving to complete the health history, tuberculous screening and immunization records requirement.

- Immunizations: Submit completed Colorado State University Mandatory Immunizations Form showing proof of the following:
 - Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
 - Meningococcal Vaccinations (for students living on campus)
 - COVID-19
- Submit Health Forms
 - Health History
 - Tuberculosis Assessment
 - Authorization for Treatment of a Minor (if under age 18)
- Fulfill the Health Insurance Requirement
 - More information about health insurance coverage and costs can be found at: col.st/44POy
 - There may be requirements related to the COVID-19 pandemic, testing, and vaccines with travel. Please see international.colostate.edu/iss for more information.**
- Complete online programs
 - Haven: Understanding Sexual Assault
 - AlcoholEdu Program (for students under age 23)
 - Create a YOU@CSU profile

Waiving Health Insurance:

If you have health insurance and would like to waive the mandatory CSU insurance, you must provide proof that your insurance coverage meets the CSU requirements. Travel insurance policies will not meet the waiver requirement.

Sponsored Students:

If your sponsor's health insurance coverage is known to meet the waiver requirements, you will not be charged if you show your letter of financial guarantee upon arrival. To see if your alternative insurance will be acceptable, please email: Admissions@colostate.edu



IMPORTANT INFO

You must pay for your insurance on your CSU student account upon your arrival at CSU. Make sure you have at least \$1,000 to pay for one semester of insurance.

HOUSING AND DINING

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

All first year undergraduate students (freshmen) are required to live on campus in the residence halls for their first two semesters. Housing is guaranteed for freshmen students. Transfer students and graduate students are not guaranteed housing, but may apply if they wish to live on campus.

Apply for housing immediately after you receive admission. On and off-campus space fills quickly.

Residence Halls

There are 15 residence halls on the CSU campus. Most residence hall rooms host two students in one room. Consider living in one of the Residential Learning Communities (RLC) to enhance your academic and social experience.

Items Included in Your Room

- Adjustable bed frame
- Desk with chair
- Closet
- Curtains
- Trash and Recycle Bins

Apartments

CSU offers both single and family apartments. Furnished apartments as well as month-to-month leases are available. Aggie Village Apartments are a brand new global community for students interested in an intercultural experience. For more information about on-campus housing options, visit housing.colostate.edu.

Features of On-Campus Living

- Convenient locations on campus close to classrooms, library and the recreation center.
- Supportive and involved live-in staff
- Securely locked doors on the exterior and interior of the buildings.
- Free high-speed internet and cable TV service.
- Student kitchens, laundry facilities, study rooms, lounges with TVs and games.
- Buildings are free of alcohol, drugs and smoking.

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Off-campus housing is another option available for transfer and graduate students.

If you prefer to live off-campus, you should begin your search as soon as possible.

The CSU Off-Campus Life office has many great resources for international students looking for housing, including a useful tool:

ocl.colostate.edu/international-students.

Finding furnished apartments is rare. Plan to pay your first and last month's rent before you move in plus a deposit.

Signing a Lease:

Most apartment owners require a one-year lease. Visit an off-campus rental in-person before committing and signing a lease. Student Legal Services at CSU can help you with the lease signing process to make sure that the lease is legal and appropriate. Visit Student Legal Services online at: sls.colostate.edu.

FAMILY HOUSING

If you are traveling to Fort Collins with your immediate family, please visit:

- [AGGIE FAMILY](#)
- [UNIVERSITY VILLAGE](#)

Apply early, family housing is limited!

TEMPORARY HOUSING

Students are responsible for making their own housing arrangements and should do so before arriving in Fort Collins. For information about temporary housing, please visit:

international.colostate.edu/iss/resources/housing/temporary-housing/

International Student Groups:

If your country has an international student group at CSU, the group may be able to provide you with temporary housing. Visit the international student group [website](#) for a list.

HOUSING AND DINING

Temporary Home Stay Program

The Fort Collins International Center offers a Temporary Home-stay Program. We provides up to 5 nights of free housing for a local community member for new students. This is a convenient way to find temporary housing and also a great opportunity to learn more about American culture and begin to make friends in the community.

Apply for home-stay at least a month before you arrive, as this is a popular option for incoming international students and space is limited. Complete the [Home-stay Request Form](#).

HOME STAY HOPES TO BE BACK IN FALL 2022



IMPORTANT INFO

If you arrive before the assigned move-in date for your program, and *did not* reserve housing prior to arrival, you will need to make temporary arrangements at a hotel or hostel.

HOTELS NEAR CAMPUS



[The Hilton Fort Collins](#)
425 West Prospect Road
Fort Collins, CO 80526
+1 (970) 482-2626

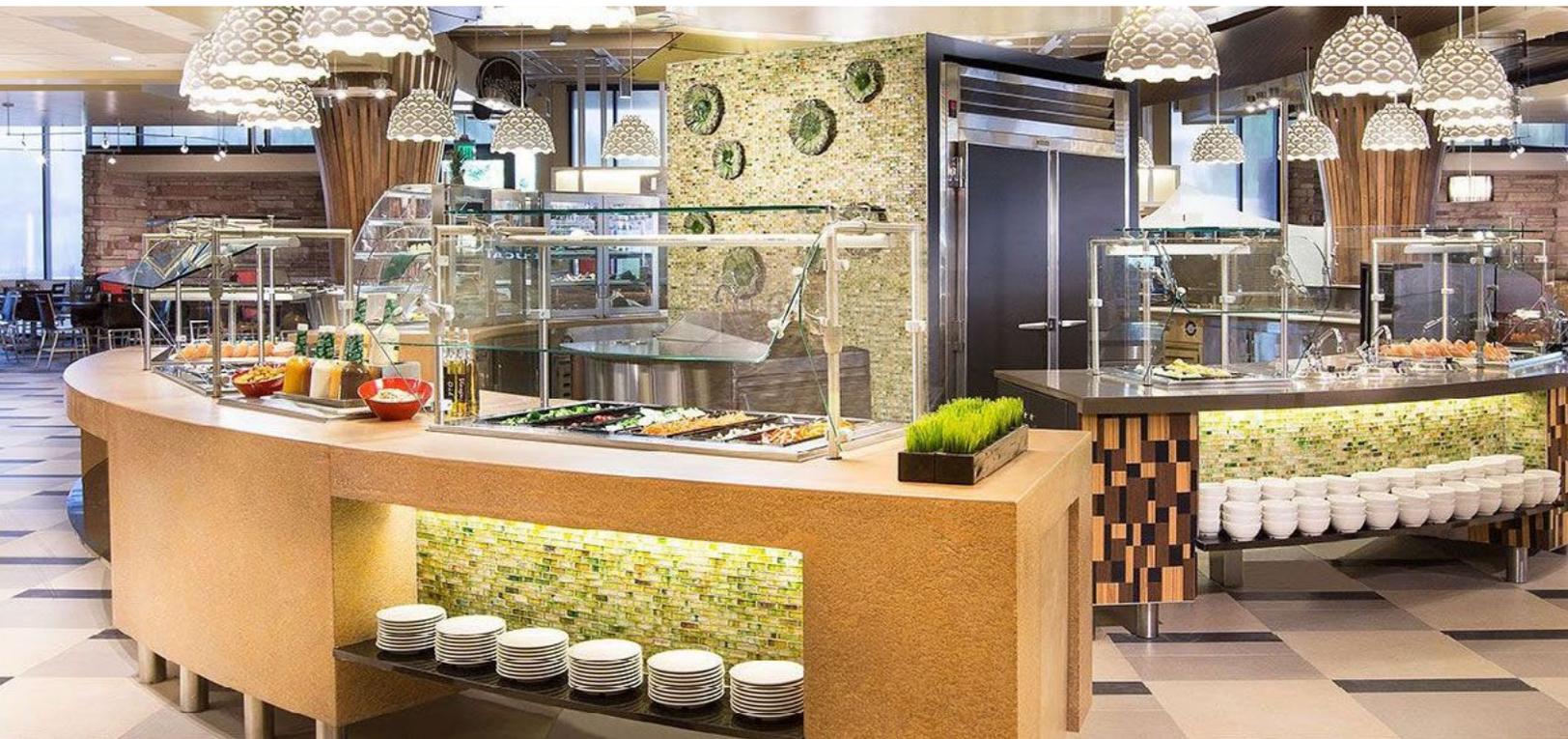


[The Armstrong Hotel](#)
259 South College Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80524
+1 (970) 484-3883



[Fernweh Inn & Hostel](#)
616 West Mulberry Street
Fort Collins, CO 80521
+1 (970) 219-9493

You may choose to stay in a hotel at an average cost of US \$35 to \$135 per night. Above are a few of the hotels closest to campus. Others may be inconveniently far from campus, possibly without public transportation.



HOUSING AND DINING

ON-CAMPUS MEAL PLANS

If you live on campus, you automatically get a meal plan and you can choose from one of the following plans. Plans are all-you-care-to-eat including fresh fruit, salad bars, pizza, pasta, deli sandwiches and much more across six dining centers and two express facilities.

- **The Ultimate:** includes virtually unlimited dining with up to 8 meals per day - best if you plan to eat all or most of your meals in the dining centers.
- **Any 19:** includes 19 meals per week - best if you plan to eat two to three meals a day in the dining centers.
- **Any 15:** includes 15 meals per week - best if you plan to eat about two meals a day in the dining centers. This is the default meal plan, but can be changed at any time.
- **Apartment and Off-Campus Meal Plans:** Dining options for students living in apartments or off campus are available. Students who live off campus may purchase meals in blocks of 5.

REGISTERING FOR CLASSES

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS (NEW AND TRANSFER)

Fully admitted undergraduate students should take the appropriate placement exams, accessible at <http://virtualorientation.colostate.edu/home/to-do-list/44-2/>.

Orientation and Transition Programs at CSU will send you an email with instructions for completing the online Pre-Orientation Module. Once complete, you will be able to register for classes. If you do not sign up for classes before arrival, you will be able to sign up during orientation. If you wait until orientation you may not be able to sign up for desired classes, as they fill quickly.

Transfer students will need to submit more detailed information on previous courses if you wish to use that course credit toward your CSU degree. Learn more about transferring credit at registrar.colostate.edu/transfer-credit.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Graduate students should contact their department to receive information about signing up for classes. Each graduate department has different policies about course registration. Contact information for academic departments can be found on the [graduate school website](#).



TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER U.S. SCHOOL

If you are transferring from another school in the United States and already have an F-1 visa, you must complete the [Transfer in Clearance Form](#) as soon as you have been admitted to CSU. If you do not intend to transfer your SEVIS record, please contact CSU to obtain a new I-20 or DS2019 for re-entry purposes. Do not use your previous school's I-20 or DS-2019 to re-enter the United States.

BRINGING DEPENDENTS

If you are in F-1 status, your spouse or child(ren) under 21 years old may accompany you on an F-2 dependent visa. F-2 visa holders are not allowed to work or pursue a degree program or any other full-time language training program. Additional funding and documentation may need to be provided for your dependents.

If family members accompany you to CSU:

- Living expenses may increase by 50% because of increased housing, transportation, food, and childcare costs.
- CSU does not offer spouse or dependent health insurance plans. Other health insurance options for your family can be found at connectforhealthco.com. Spouses or domestic partners of eligible students may access the CSU Health Network by paying the student health fee on a semester basis or paying for medical services as they are received.
- F-2 dependents may not work under any circumstances. J-2 dependents may apply for work permission from the USCIS only if the income earned is to be used for support of the spouse or children, not for support of the J-1 student or scholar. Learn more at: international.colostate.edu/iss/resources/employment/



ARRIVAL AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Fort Collins is most easily accessed by way of Denver, Colorado, which is an hour south of CSU. This is the most common way for students to arrive in Colorado.

SHUTTLE SERVICE TO FORT COLLINS

The most economical way to travel between DIA and Fort Collins is to take the [Groome Transportation](#). The service offers rides every day of the week, and drops passengers off at various Fort Collins locations, including major hotels and the CSU campus. For an additional fee, they can drop you off at a specific address. ***Please use discount code "CSU" when making your reservation.***

RIDE SHARE SERVICE TO FORT COLLINS

If you are traveling with others, you could split the cost of a ride share service such as Uber or Lyft to lessen the expense.

You can find a campus map here:

maps.colostate.edu

GET INVOLVED!

INTERNATIONAL RAMS ON FACEBOOK

Join us on [Facebook](#) to learn about upcoming events, plus other international student programming.

CULTURAL MENTOR PROGRAM

Cultural Mentors are student volunteers who have been trained to assist new international students with adjusting to life and culture at CSU, Fort Collins, and in the United States. A Cultural Mentor will get in touch with you through email to answer questions before your arrival.

FORT COLLINS INTERNATIONAL CENTER (FCIC)

FCIC is a local volunteer organization devoted to fostering international understanding, cultural exchange, and friendship among international students, domestic students, and the Fort Collins community. Learn about their programs and services at fortcollinsinternationalcenter.org.



BRING THIS TO ORIENTATION:

- ❑ Passport, Visa, and I-20 or DS-2019
- ❑ If not previously provided, official academic or English proficiency documents
- ❑ Proof of required MMR/Meningococcal/ COVID-19 immunizations, tuberculosis screening form, and health history form
- ❑ Your address in the United States
- ❑ Name, email and phone number of a person we can contact in case of emergency

DURING ORIENTATION YOU WILL:

- Meet other CSU students.
- Open your university email account.
- Learn about campus and community resources.
- Confirm you have provided all of the required health and admissions documents.
- Pay any balances you owe.
- Learn about your student visa regulations.
- Register for your classes.
- Take a campus tour.
- Get your student ID card (RamCard).
- Purchase your textbooks.
- Learn more about Colorado State University.



Register for Orientation Here:

col.st/sWmHs

ABOUT FORT COLLINS



300+ DAYS OF SUNSHINE

Beautiful weather: Fort Collins enjoys a moderate, four-season climate with 300+ days of sunshine each year.

RANKED BEST PLACES TO LIVE

Low crime rate, clean air and water, and low cost of living make it one of Money magazine's top choices for American cities.

POPULATION 171,000

More than 30,000 people have moved to Fort Collins in the last 10 years. They're moving here for a reason.

WHAT TO PACK

CLOTHING

Due to weather changes, you will need clothing for both warm and cold seasons. All of these items are available for purchase in Fort Collins upon arrival. Only pack what you will need for the first few months after you arrive.

ROOM ESSENTIALS AND DECORATIONS

Consider bringing decorations for your room that will remind you of home such as photos, books, music, recipes, and items associated with a hobby or sport you enjoy. Many students also choose to bring items of cultural significance such as their national dress.

APPLIANCES

U.S. electrical outlets are 110 volts AC and use a NEMA electrical socket. You may need an adaptor to use electronics from home. Appliances with exposed heating elements are prohibited in residence halls. Purchase appliances after you arrive.

CELL PHONES

If you want a cell phone while living in the U.S., we recommend waiting to purchase the phone until you arrive. You will receive more information at orientation.

WEATHER IN FORT COLLINS

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Avg. High:	43F 6C	47F 8C	55F 13C	62F 17C	70F 21C	81F 27C	87F 31C	84F 29C	76F 24C	64F 18C	51F 11C	43F 6C
Avg. Low:	17F -8C	20F -7C	28F -2C	35F 2C	44F 7C	52F 11C	58F 14C	56F 13C	47F 8C	36F 2C	25F -4C	17F -8C
Avg. Rain:	0.4 Inches	0.4 Inches	1.59 Inches	2.06 Inches	2.43 Inches	2.17 Inches	1.71 Inches	1.60 Inches	1.33 Inches	1.15 Inches	0.76 Inches	0.5 Inches
Avg. Snow:	8 Inches	7 Inches	13 Inches	6 Inches	1 Inch	0 Inches	0 Inches	0 Inches	1 Inch	4 Inches	9 Inches	8 Inches

LUGGAGE

Always label all of your luggage clearly. The label should have your full name and the address of International Programs.

CSU International Programs
700 Oval Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1024
U.S.A.

WHAT TO CARRY ON THE PLANE

- Original I-20 or DS-2019
- Valid passport and F-1 or J-1 visa
- SEVIS I-901 fee payment receipt
- Evidence of funding for your tuition, fees, and living costs.
- Sponsor letter (if applicable)
- Health forms, and immunization documentation
- All medical prescriptions written in English
- Official transcripts or test scores
- Insurance documents
- Laptop computer

WINTER CLOTHING

It is very important to have a good winter coat, hat, gloves, and boots. You can purchase these items after you arrive.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

STUDENT SERVICES

col.st/vqTXA

Our goal is to help you get the most from your experience in the United States and to succeed academically.

ACADEMIC AND STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOPS

tilt.colostate.edu/learning/tiltworkshops/

The Institute for Learning and Teaching (TILT) offers many academic and study skills workshops to assist you with your academic success. In addition, TILT offers:

- Personalized study plans and tutoring
- A collection of online study-skill resources
- Study Groups

THE WRITING CENTER

writingcenter.colostate.edu/

The CSU Writing Center is a free service open to Colorado State University students. The Writing Center provides face-to-face and online consultations for writers in all disciplines working on all types of writing.

COLLABORATIVE FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

studentachievement.colostate.edu/

The Collaborative offers a continuum of services including advising for undeclared students.

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

registrar.colostate.edu/

- Class schedules
- Registration dates and deadlines
- Transcripts
- Credential Validation
- Course catalog

COMPUTERS AND INTERNET ACCESS

There are many computer labs on campus and internet access is free on campus.

CAMPUS RECREATION

csurec.colostate.edu/

Campus Recreation offers you a variety of resources and activities including the Student Recreation Center, fitness classes, outdoor programs, and intramural sports.

PROGRAMS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

International Programs offers many trips and activities throughout the year including:

- Weekend in the Mountains
- Football 101
- Ski Trips
- Outdoor Programs
- Friday Afternoon Club (FAC)



HEALTH AND SAFETY

CSU HEALTH CENTER

health.colostate.edu

Colorado State University provides all CSU students with services through the CSU Health Network. The mission of the CSU Health Network is to promote complete physical and mental health of CSU students by providing quality healthcare and comprehensive health education and prevention programming.



151 West Lake Street
+1 (970) 491-7121

ASSOCIATES IN FAMILY MEDICINE - URGENT CARE

afmnoco.com/location/csu-office

AFM is an in-network provider for the student health insurance plan.



151 West Lake Street
+1 (970) 237-8200

UC HEALTH - URGENT CARE AT HARMONY

uhealth.org

UC Health is an in-network provider for the student health insurance plan.



2127 East Harmony Road, Suite 140
+1 (970) 297-6250

UC HEALTH - WALK-IN CLINIC

uhealth.org

UC Health is an in-network provider for the student health insurance plan.



1025 Pennock Place, Suite 121
+1 (970) 495-8980

POUDRE VALLEY HOSPITAL - UC HEALTH

uhealth.org



24-Hour Emergency Services
1024 South Lemay Avenue
+1 (970) 495-7000

CSU HEALTH NETWORK - COUNSELING

health.colostate.edu/about-counseling-services/

Whether you're experiencing a situational problem, an immediate crisis, or have a longstanding mental health concern, our professional staff is here to help.



+1 (970) 491-6053

+1 (970) 491-7121 After Hours

CAMPUS SAFETY SERVICES

safety.colostate.edu

- Safewalk is a free service staffed with students who will walk with you any place on/near campus. +1 (970) 491-1155
- Blue Light Emergency Phones are located around campus for communication with campus police.
- Campus police can provide additional services such as personal escorts and building access assistance.

CAMPUS SAFETY TIPS

CSU is a very safe and welcoming place, but is important to follow these steps to help ensure the safety of you and your property.

- Lock your bicycle to bike rack that is secured to the ground whenever you leave it unattended. If you lock your bike to anything other than a bike rack, you can be fined. A U-Lock is recommended for locking your bike.
- Do not leave items unattended in the library, classroom, or cafe.
- Always keep your student ID card with you in a safe place.
- Always lock the doors, and windows in your housing.
- Always lock your car and do not leave valuable items in it.
- Do not keep a lot of cash with you or in your housing.
- Keep your passport and other important documents in a safe, locked location.
- When traveling at night, do so with a friend or in a group.

EMERGENCY
Ambulance | Police | Fire
Dial: 911

MONEY AND BANKING

CASH

When you arrive in the United States, you should bring at least \$500 in cash to cover immediate needs such as books, a cell phone, and other living expenses. Cash is accepted at most locations.

- One dollar (\$1) is equal to 100 cents.
- Common coins include:
 - Penny (1 cent)
 - Nickel (5 cents)
 - Dime (10 cents)
 - Quarter (25 cents)
- Common paper bill amounts are: \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100.



CREDIT/BANK CARDS

In the United States, the most widely accepted bank and credit cards are Visa and MasterCard. Bank cards can either be debit, which pulls funds directly from your bank account, or credit, which you pay off at the end of each month. Apply for a credit card in your home country before you travel since it may be difficult to get one after you leave.

BANK ACCOUNTS

It is not recommended to regularly carry large amounts of cash with you, so once you arrive, you will need to open a bank account. To open an account, you will need two pieces of photo identification (your passport and your student ID/Ramcard,) your U.S. mailing address, and money to deposit. During orientation, CSU will give you information about local banks, and can help you open a bank account.

There are two banks located inside the Lory Student Center.

Canvas Credit Union

[canvas.org](https://www.canvas.org)



Located on the 2nd level of the Lory Student Center
+1 (970) 416-5000

First National Bank of Omaha

[fnbo.com](https://www.fnbo.com)



Located on the 2nd level of the Lory Student Center
+1 (970) 494-5216

TRANSFERRING MONEY

Before you leave your country, you need to know your government's regulations and your home bank's procedures for transferring money to the United States. Plan to transfer enough money to cover your expenses for one semester. Consider your living situation and lifestyle to plan ahead. Will you live on campus? Do you like to eat at restaurants? Do you need to buy clothes or more school supplies?



BICYCLES

Many people ride bicycles in Fort Collins. Fort Collins is a community that is nationally recognized for its support of bicyclists and the resources that exist here. Bicycling is a great way to get across town and campus easily.

Make sure to register your bike with the CSU

Police Department:

police.colostate.edu/register-your-bike/

CSU CAMPUS SHUTTLE - AROUND THE HORN

pts.colostate.edu/transportation-options/transit-general/horn/

Around the Horn is an on-campus shuttle system. It is designed to help CSU students, faculty, staff and guests get across campus quickly and conveniently. The shuttle is free and runs every 10 minutes. It makes a loop around campus with 14 stops along the way.

GETTING AROUND FORT COLLINS TRANSFORT BUS SYSTEM

ridetransfort.com

Transfort offers a multitude of stops close to student living areas and runs schedules that complement CSU class schedules. The CSU Transit Center is located at the north end of the Lory Student Center on the ground floor. You can board buses here and also get bus route maps. The Transfort buses are free for students. Show your RamCard to the bus driver.

MAX BUS

The MAX bus is also free for students and runs from Old Town in the north to shopping in the south end of Fort Collins.

RAMRIDE

RamRide is a free, safe, non-judgmental ride home for CSU students. Since 2003, the program has been dedicated to improving the safety of CSU and the Fort Collins community. RamRide provides free rides:

- Thursday - 10pm - 2am
- Friday/Saturday - 10pm - 3am



ramride.colostate.edu

+1 (970) 491-3333

Z-TRIP TAXI SERVICE

If you need a ride from a taxi (cab), you will need to know the address of your current location and the address of your destination. Make sure you have cash and ask for change if you don't have the exact amount that you owe. It is customary to tip your taxi driver 15-20% of the fare.



ztrip.com/northern-colorado

+1 (970) 224-2222

UBER AND LYFT TAXI SERVICE

Uber and Lyft are apps that you can download onto your iPhone or Android. The apps are extremely simple and allow you to order a car from your smart phone and are normally cheaper than a taxi. It is customary to tip your driver 15-20% of the fare.

BUSTANG

Bustang connects Fort Collins with Denver, Grand Junction, Colorado Springs, and other cities across Colorado.

ridebustang.com/north-line-schedule

Email: infobustang@aceexpresscoaches.com



Phone (Monday-Friday): 800-900-3011

Phone (Weekends): 800-900-3011



CONTACT AND CONNECT

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- Email: iss@colostate.edu
- Phone: (001) 970-491-5917
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