

Spring 2022 Admitted International Student To-Do List

The I-20 & U.S. visa processes are outlined on pages 3-4.

Set up your Uldaho Student Accounts (called Vandal accounts)

Go to www.vandalsetup.uidaho.edu You'll need your V-number. For best results, please avoid using a cell phone. Make sure to regularly check your University of Idaho student email (called VandalMail) for messages and important updates. (If you have technical problems, go to www.support.uidaho.edu)

Accept Invitation to Idaho Scholarship

Once you are admitted to Uldaho, you will automatically be considered for the Invitation to Idaho scholarship. If you qualify for this award, it will be posted to your VandalWeb account the Tuesday after an admission decision has been made. Accept or decline your awards **after considering the cost of attendance**.

E-Meet with your Academic Advisor – Register for Classes

You will meet with an advisor each semester at U of I to remove your advising hold before you can register for classes. You can schedule an appointment with your advisor through VandalStar. Academic advisors are assigned by major.

- [Find Your Academic Advisor](#).
- [Schedule an Advising Appointment](#).
- [Preparing for an Advising Meeting](#).

Reserve On-Campus Housing

First year students are required to live on campus their first year in either a Residence Hall, Fraternity, or Sorority. Explore the Residence Halls and make a selection at www.students.uidaho.edu/housing or visit www.uidaho.edu/greek to learn about Greek life and sign up to participate in Recruitment (held in August).

Transfer students are not required to live on campus but are encouraged to consider both options! **Off Campus** – Contact local rental offices and real estate agencies or review the housing website sponsored by ASUI: www.asui.uidaho.edu/trading. The best rentals go quickly!

Register for Vandal Welcome & Complete iVandal Pre-Arrival

Vandal Welcome, our new student orientation, connects you with campus, fun events and other new students—Register at <https://www.uidaho.edu/events/vandal-welcome>.

Virtual Immigration Pre-Arrival in [iVandal](#): Please complete prior to January 9, 2022.

Organize Your Travel Documents, including Class Schedule

- Print your class schedule from VandalWeb before you travel and keep with other travel documents to verify enrollment at your port of entry.
- Carry these documents with you—don't put them in your checked luggage.
 - Valid Passport; Valid U.S. Visa; I-20 for F-1 status;
 - Receipt from paying the SEVIS fee; housing/lease confirmation;
 - Copy of admissions letter, proof of funds, class schedule.



Paying Your Bill

All semester tuition, fees, residence hall and meal plan charges for on-campus housing, and health insurance must be paid at the Students Accounts Office, on VandalWeb, through mail or via wire transfer, by the first day of classes.

Billing is posted in your VandalWeb approximately 2-3 weeks prior to the start of semester.

Arrival

- We recommend using the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) as your port of entry for U.S. Customs prior to continuing to –**recommended– Moscow-Pullman Regional Airport (PUW)** or Spokane International Airport (GEG).
- Limited, free airport pick-up is offered if landing at PUW; if you are landing in Spokane, Washington (GEG), you will have to arrange for bus transportation from GEG to Moscow, Idaho–Greyhound Lines provides bus service to Moscow.
- Navigate the process and procedures for arrival in the U.S.

Are you ready?

Ask yourself – Are you ready to go to college? Do you have everything you need?

- **Classes** –Do you know who your advisor is and are you registered?
- **Accommodations** – Do you know where you are going to live?
- **Money** – Do you know how you will pay for college? Have you accepted your scholarship?

Did you change your mind? Do you need to defer?

If you have decided not to attend UI, please notify the Admissions Office by emailing admintl@uidaho.edu

If you need to defer, complete a UIdaho application for your new entry term.

Additional Notes:

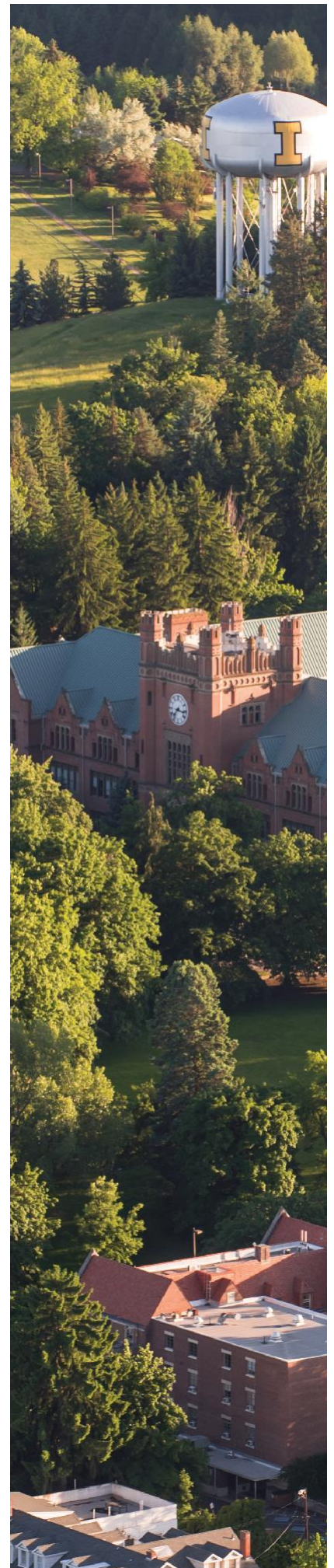
Review the complete International To-Do List:

<https://www.uidaho.edu/admissions/international/admitted/to-do-list>

Important Dates: Spring 2022 Semester

- Residence Hall Move-In Day: January 9, 2022
- New Student Orientation: January 10, 2022
 - **Mandatory:** International Student Orientation: January 11, 2022
- First day of Spring 2022 classes: January 12, 2022

Get Excited for Your Vandal Experience!



Form I-20, “Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status”

An I-20 is an important immigration document that F-1 students need to obtain for their student visa and enter the U.S. It is an important document that you will need throughout your time as an international student.

Allow 7-10 working days from the time of document submission to I-20 issuance.

To request an I-20 from U of I, submit Required Form I-20 Documents

1. [Certificate of Financial Responsibility](#)

In compliance with the Department of Homeland Security and SEVIS regulations, all international applicants on the F-1 student visa must provide evidence of sufficient funds available for their studies in the U.S. For this purpose, a **Certificate of Financial Responsibility (CFR)** must be completed and submitted.

- a. Include all scholarships (i.e. Invitation to Idaho scholarship, Athletic scholarship, etc.) received from the University of Idaho in the *Sources of Funds* table, in *U of I Department* section; include the total amount of funding received from U of I on the same line but in the right column that says “Amount in U.S. Dollars.”
- b. Students with dependents (a spouse and/or child) who will be joining them in the U.S. during their time on an F-1 or J-1 visa will need to provide proof of additional funds. These amounts are outlined in the CFR.
- c. Use the [Application Status Portal](#) to upload your documents.

2. **Bank statement:** statements must be dated within 6 months and will be required for your visa interview.

Bank statements will need to show liquid funds (funds that can be immediately accessed and used). These can be one statement covering the entire amount displayed on the financial guarantee form for one year of attendance at the university, or a collection of bank statements from the people listed on the financial guarantee as sponsors.

For sponsored students, a **sponsor letter** produced by a sponsoring agency recognized by U of I stating the applicant’s full name, academic program at U of I, term of the sponsorship and amounts covered by it. Some of the agencies are: SENACYT, Kuwait Cultural Office, Oman Cultural Division, Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission, Sidra and UAE Cultural Division.

Your bank statements need to show available balances that equal or surpass the amount of expenses (after deducting any scholarships) for one year of attendance at U of I. If this ability is not demonstrated, the I-20 cannot be processed.

- Use the [Application Status Portal](#) to upload your documents.
- Please ensure that the financial institution’s name, the account holder’s name and account balance are all clearly visible.
- These statements need to be dated within the last 6 months.

U.S. VISA APPLICATION STEPS

Step 1: Admission & I-20

Once you have been accepted to the University of Idaho and all your I-20 documents have been reviewed, you will be issued an I-20 form. This form documents your study plans and provides supporting information about your stay in the U.S.

Step 2: Pay your SEVIS Fee

The \$350 SEVIS fee is a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) processing and maintenance charge.

Step 3: Complete your DS-160 Visa Application

All prospective international students must complete a DS-160 to receive a F-1 visa.

Step 4: Schedule your Visa Interview

Wait times vary by country and can take several months. Schedule your appointment as early as possible to all for delays. Interviews cannot be over 120 days before your program start date.

Step 5: Attend Visa Interview

Step 6: Move forward with Travel Plans

Purchase plane tickets—arrive in time for orientation.

Step 7: Travel Documents

Always carry travel documents with you in your carry-on baggage. Print your housing/lease confirmations for this file. Print your class registration for this file.

Form I-20, continued from page 3

3. Copy of passport

- You may take a clear photo or scan of the biographic page of your passport and use the [Application Status Portal](#) to upload your documents. The bio page shows your picture and personal details.

Access Your Issued Form I-20:

Your I-20 Form is electronically issued and emailed to your University of Idaho student email account, called VandalMail.

- Review your issued SEVIS Form I-20—ensure that the information is correct (spelling, dates, etc.)
- Print in color once you have reviewed for accuracy.
- Add your printed I-20 to your visa interview/travel file.

After Receiving your I-20: Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee *Print/Keep Receipt!

Before you pay the [I-901 Student and Exchange Visitor Information System \(SEVIS\) Fee](#), you must receive the Form I-20 from the University of Idaho. You will need information from the Form I-20 to pay the fee. The [I-901 SEVIS Fee](#) is mandatory and must be paid before you schedule your F-1 visa interview at your nearest U.S. Embassy or consulate.

[I-901 SEVIS Fee Payment Video](#)

After Paying the I-901 SEVIS Fee: Schedule your F-1 Visa Appointment

To learn how to apply for your visa, review the [student visas page](#) on [travel.state.gov](#), as well as the instructions at the website of the [embassy or consulate](#) where you will apply for a visa. After you receive your visa, confirm that you were issued the correct type of visa AND check that your name and date of birth are correct and match the information in your passport.

Basic Steps:

- Complete the Online Visa Application, Form DS-160;
- Print the DS-160 confirmation page to bring to your interview;
- Schedule an Interview;
- Prepare for U.S. Visa Interview:
 - Pay Issuance Fee, if required;
 - Gather Required Documents—list [here](#);

