

ISSS Newsletter for New International Students

December 20, 2011

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ADVICE FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

PERSONAL SAFETY & THE SECURITY OF YOUR BELONGINGS

When you arrive in a new place, it's a good idea to be more cautious than usual about your personal safety and the security of your belongings. That's because you don't know your new environment so should take as few risks as possible. Please follow the tips below to minimize your risks:

- 1) Be sure to keep your belongings with you or locked in your room or apartment at all times. NEVER leave your purse, laptop and backpack unattended in campus lounges, libraries and dining halls.

2) NEVER walk alone at night off-campus. AVOID walking alone near UB's South Campus during the day. Pay attention to your surroundings (e.g. do not listen to an iPod while walking). Walk confidently and assertively. If a stranger approaches you on the street, ignore him/her.

3) Lock your doors and windows at all times. This includes the door to your residence hall room. It also includes the main entrance to your off-campus house.

4) Be careful about your immigration documents (e.g. your passport). Keep it in a safe place at all times. Avoid leaving them in a University photocopier.

For more Safety Tips, visit www.buffalo.edu/intlservices/documents/SafetyTips-11-15-11.pdf.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

PRE-ORIENTATION SHOPPING TRIP

New students will be able to shop for linens, toiletries, food, household items, clothing, etc. on Monday, January 9 from 1:00-4:00. ISSS will provide a guide and a bus to a local mall. To join this trip, you must sign up in ISSS, Talbert Hall 210, North Campus and pay a \$10 fee, which will be returned to you when you board the bus.

NEW STUDENT RESIDENCE HALL WELCOME (only for students who will live in UB residence halls)

Come and meet other new international students and a representative from the Campus Living (residence halls) staff. Pizza and beverages will be provided.

The meetings will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10. The location will depend on the residence hall where you live.

- Clement Hall Lobby (South Campus Residence Halls)
- Richmond Dining Hall (Ellicott and Greiner Residence Halls)
- Lehman Hall Lounge (Governors Residence Halls)

SERVICES FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT

New students cannot register for classes until they submit their immunization form to UB's Student Health Services (Michael Hall, South Campus). SHS medical staff will also be present at Orientation Check-In on Tuesday, January 10 (10:00-3:00). They will be in Student Union 145 checking new students' immunization records, lifting their registration hold and giving shots to any student who needs one.

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

New students should have their lease reviewed by an attorney before they sign it. Students seeking such assistance should go to SBI Legal Assistance, Student Union 377 during the hours below:

Tuesday, January 10: 1:00-4:00

Wednesday, January 11: 1:00-4:00

Thursday, January 12: 1:00-4:00

Friday, January 13: 1:00-4:00

UBIT ACCOUNTS

Letters with single-use password that new students can use to activate their UB computer accounts will be distributed on Sunday, January 10 (9:00-2:00). After that, new students can obtain their single-use password letters in ISSS, Talbert Hall 210.

BANK & CELL PHONE ACCOUNTS

New students will be able to open bank and cell phone accounts on Tuesday, January 10 (10:00-3:00). Representatives from AT&T, Bank of America and M&T Bank will be in Knox Hall opening accounts on those days.

Note: Students who do not have Social Security Cards and do not want to pay deposits will be able to open cell phone accounts and get their cell phones at that time.

ESL CLASSES

New students who must take ESL courses in addition to their academic courses will be able to register for those courses starting on Tuesday, January 10. Keith Otto, Program Director of ESL Programs, will be in Baldy Hall 320 registering students in their ESL classes and lifting their ELI hold on that day.

TOEFL & SPEAK TESTS

New students who must take SPEAK or TOEFL tests will be able to do so during International Student Orientation. The TOEFL test will be given at 1:00 on Tuesday, January 10.

The SPEAK test will be given to all graduate students who have been awarded graduate, teaching or research assistantships and graduate students whose departments require it on Tuesday, January 10. Sign-up for the TOEFL and SPEAK tests is required and will take place in Baldy Hall 320 on Tuesday, January 10.

SHOPPING TRIP

New students will be able to shop for linens, toiletries, food, household items, clothing, etc. on Wednesday, January 11 from 4:30-8:30 p.m. ISSS will provide a guide and a bus to a local WalMart.

SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS

To apply for Social Security Cards, F-1 students must have written job offers and be registered as full-time students. J-1 students and scholars do not need written job offers to apply. Any student or scholar who meets these requirements and wants to apply for a Social Security Card must attend the “Social Security Card Information Session” on Friday, January 13 at 3:45. There will also be a few make-up "Social Security Card Information Sessions" during the first week of classes (schedule available in ISSS, Talbert 210).