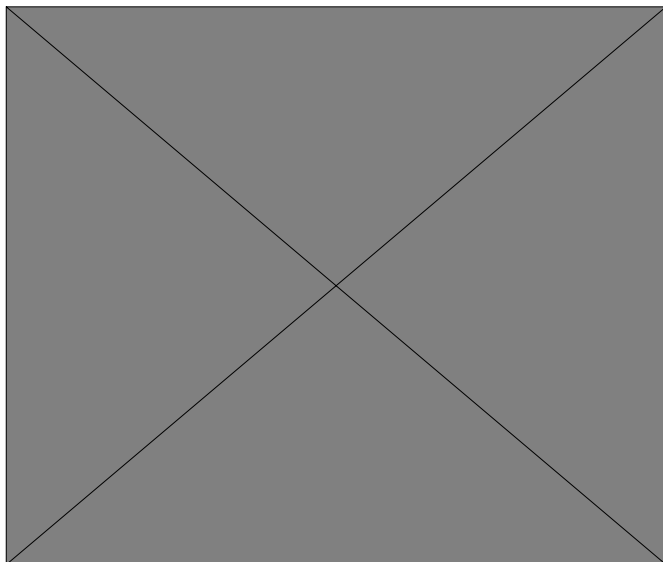


THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Welcome Guide

for international exchange students coming to UT
www.utexas.edu/student/abroad/international

SPRING 2010

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UNABLE TO ATTEND IN SPRING OF 2010?

If you wish to defer your admission to a future semester, please notify your home institution international exchange coordinator and ask she/he to contact the international exchange coordinator at the University of Texas at Austin. New immigration documents will be issued when you are admitted for a future semester.

Pre-Arrival Checklist

READ ALL INFORMATION ENCLOSED IN THIS PACKET AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO UT.

- ✓ Attend the International Student Orientation Program on Friday, January 8, and Tuesday, January 12, 2010 (Tuesday session not applicable to BBA, MBA and Law students).

Make financial arrangements. We estimate \$5,600 per semester for rent, books, supplies, etc.

- ✓ A bank draft or cashier's check in U.S. dollars, payable to yourself, is a convenient way to bring money to be deposited with a local bank in Austin. However, the bank draft or check will not clear for your use until 15-30 days after deposit. Therefore, it is recommended that you bring part of this amount in travelers checks and/or cash. There are several banks near the UT campus.
- ✓

When should I arrive in Austin?

If it is important to you to participate in the entire orientation program, you may choose to arrive on or before Thursday, January 7.

VISA

Obtain your visa. If you reside outside the U.S., take your valid passport, DS-2019 Form, evidence of adequate financial resources and receipt of SEVIS fee payment to the nearest U.S. Embassy/Consulate to apply for your visa. You may also need to provide proof of ties to your home country, such as job offers, evidence of ownership of a residence or property in your home country, or copies of bank statements from a bank in your home country. Other immigration information can be found later in this booklet.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

If you arrive on a Saturday or Sunday, you will find that UT, and most businesses, are closed. If you arrive on a weekday, we invite you to visit the IO between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm.

There will be a Welcome Center in the IO in January to answer individual questions about living in Austin. The local airport, Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA), is located approximately 15 miles from the campus. There are 4 transportation options from ABIA:

1. **BUS** - Capitol Metro's Route 100 Austin-Bergstrom Airport (Limited). Fare is \$0.75. One UT Campus stop at Dean Keeton St. and Speedway. See <www.capmetro.org/riding/routes_100.asp>
2. **SUPERSHUTTLE** - Private provider. Approximate fare to Central Austin (UT area) is \$13 for the first person, \$10 for each additional. Out of area reservations 1-800-258-3826 or <www.supershuttle.com>
3. **TAXI** - Approximate fare to UT area - \$25.
4. Check Planet Loughorn at <http://www.planetloughorn.net/index.html> for airport pick up.

Immigration Matters for New Students

Exchange students enter the U.S. in J-1 student status. The J-1 visa is administered by the Department of State. The Form DS-2019 (Certificate of Eligibility for a J-1 visa) may be issued to a student with a scholarship, either from a sponsoring organization or from UT Austin. Dependents of a J-1 visa holder are classified as J-2 and may apply for permission to work in the U.S.

If you reside outside the U.S., the UT Austin International Office will mail you the Form DS-2019 after you have submitted the required evidence of financial support. You must then pay the \$180 SEVIS fee. The DS-2019 must be presented at the U.S. Consulate or Embassy when applying for your J-1 student visa, together with your unexpired passport,

receipt of SEVIS fee payment, and evidence of financial support.

If you do not receive the Form DS-2019, **do NOT enter the U.S. on a B-1/B-2 tourist visa.** If absolutely necessary for you to enter the U.S. prior to receiving the Form DS-2019, you should request at the U.S. Consulate that "prospective student" be noted on the B-1/B-2 visa to make a change of status easier to obtain. Do NOT enter the U.S. on the visa waiver program! You will be required to leave the U.S. to change your status!

SEVIS Fee Information

J-1 students whose immigration documents indicate “begin new program” (DS-2019) must pay the SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) fee of \$180. The SEVIS fee must be paid at least 3 business days prior to applying for an initial J-1 visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate; or at least 3 business days prior to entering the U.S. for J-1 students exempt from the visa requirement (Canadian citizens).

The SEVIS fee can only be paid after obtaining a DS-2019 in one of the following ways:

1 On-line at www.fmjfee.com with a credit card (Visa, MasterCard or American Express). The student must complete an electronic Form I-901 and print out a receipt as confirmation of payment. The information on the form I-901 must match the DS2019 exactly. The Department of Homeland Security will also mail the student a paper receipt.

2 By mail with a check, money order or foreign draft drawn on a U.S. bank (made payable to Department of Homeland Security). Form I-901, which can be downloaded from www.fmjfee.com, must accompany the payment which is mailed to: DHS, P.O. Box 970020, St. Louis, MO 63197-0020. DHS will mail the student a paper receipt at the address on Form I-901.

3 Present the SEVIS fee receipt at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate with a J-1 visa application form and supporting documents. U.S. Embassies and Consulates will be able to verify SEVIS fee payment electronically, but it is strongly recommended to have the paper receipt when applying for a visa, as well as, when entering the U.S.

Health Insurance & Immunization Requirements

Student Health Insurance Coverage



Health insurance is required for all students at UT. The costs for UT health insurance will automatically be on your fee bill. Individual student coverage will cost approximately \$1100 per year. The coverage begins on the first class day, however, since new students will arrive before that day they are also charged a one-month pre arrival health insurance fee of US\$92. Students and dependents who arrive earlier than one month prior to the beginning of the semester should have their own temporary travel health insurance.

Services. Additionally, with the plan students do not pay out-of-pocket expenses at point-of-service nor are they required to seek reimbursement from insurance providers later.

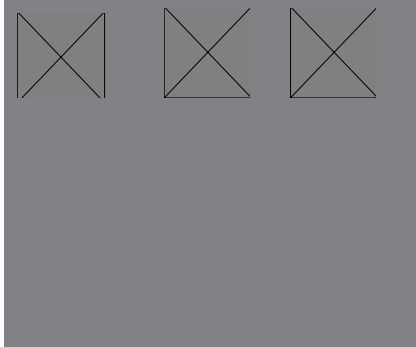
If you have a private policy and this one meets or exceeds the UT requirements you can get a waiver form. For more information see www.utexas.edu/student/abroad/international

The UT Health Insurance policy provides students access to health care professionals, pharmacy services, and other medical services available on-campus at UT's University Health

Health Insurance for Dependents

Medical insurance coverage is mandatory for the accompanying spouse and children of J-1 visa holders, under regulations of the U.S. Department of State. If you hold a J-1 visa, you must maintain health insurance with the required minimum coverage for all accompanying or subsequently arriving J-2 dependents; failure to do so will result in the termination of your program.

SPECIAL NOTICE ABOUT PREGNANCY



If pregnancy begins prior to the beginning date of insurance coverage, prenatal care, including birth and delivery, are not covered by the student health insurance.

University Health Services

Immunization Requirements

International students cannot register for classes (even during new student orientation sessions) until they have submitted documentation to University Health Services (UHS) that they have met the following immunization requirements:

1. Proof of immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella as described at the web address provided below, and
2. A PPD (Mantoux) skin test for tuberculosis (TB) administered in the United States within the time frame noted at the web address provided below.

Please print out the online TB and Vaccination History for International Students form (see below) and have your healthcare provider complete and sign it. If you are outside of the U.S., DO NOT complete the TB screening portion. The TB test must be administered in the U.S.

Take the completed, signed form and your immunization records to the UHS Allergy/Immunization Clinic (Student Services Building 2nd floor) as soon as you arrive in Austin. If your healthcare provider cannot complete the form, take another form of immunization documentation to UHS if you have it.

For details about medical clearance requirements and to print the TB and Vaccination History for International Students form, go to the “Incoming Students” section of www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu and click “Medical Requirements to Attend UT for International Students.”

For questions regarding medical clearance requirements and medical bars, call the UHS Immunization Compliance department at (512) 475-8301, or email imm@mail.uhs.utexas.edu. Provide your UT EID, and be as detailed as possible about your question or circumstances.

MAKING AN APPOINTMENT FOR IMMUNIZATIONS

Immunization Clinic

University Health Services, located at 100 West Dean Keeton St. in the Student Services Building, provides immunizations and TB screening by appointment, starting approximately one month before classes begin. There is a fee for TB tests and immunizations at UHS. To schedule an appointment, call (512) 475-8301.

Important Reminder about Tuberculosis (TB) Testing

Before you register for classes, you must complete the TB test and the other required immunizations. The TB screening **MUST** be performed in the U.S. within one year of enrollment at UT Austin. Please note that it takes 48 hours to get the result. TB screening performed outside the U.S. will **NOT** be accepted.

Orientation to UT Austin

Required Immigration Briefing and Check-in

You are required to attend the 75-minute Immigration Briefing and Check-in (IBC) session to clear your IO bar and prepare to register for classes. You'll get information about immigration rules and regulations, health insurance, and registration. IBC is not available on weekends or on Friday, January 8th. IBC will begin Monday, January 4th. Please schedule your appointment online at <https://instant-scheduling.com/sch.php?kn=26886&typId=2879&step=2>

Welcome Parents!

We recognize the important role of parents in assisting students in preparing to enroll at UT Austin. Parents who accompany their children to campus are invited to participate in any of the activities and programs offered during Intl. Welcome Weekend.

Campus Tours

Tours of campus are available every weekday at 11:00am and 2:00pm, Saturday at 2 pm. During the months of May and December, only one tour is offered at 2 p.m. each day Monday – Saturday. Tours depart from the Information Desk located on the first floor of the Main Building (MAI).

WELCOME WEEKEND

Welcome Weekend begins with the International Student Orientation Program on Friday, January 8. This fun and interactive event begins at 9:30 am and ends at 2:30 pm. This is your opportunity to meet many other international students and make connections with departments on campus. The highlight of this day is the Welcome Lunch and Information Fair.

Friday, January 8

- International Student Orientation, TX Union Ballroom, 9:30am
- Welcome Lunch and Information Fair, Rec Sports Center, 12:30 – 2:30pm
- BBA Intl. Programs exchange students orientation
From 2:00 - 4:30 pm, GSB 2.124

Saturday, January 9

- Welcome Center opens 10:00am – 4:00pm
- Walking Tours of Campus will depart the IO at 10:00am and 12:00pm
- Austin Bus Tours will depart the IO at 10:00am, 12:00pm
- Shopping Shuttle to Target departs the IO at 2 pm

Monday, January 11

- Law Orientation, 10:00 am

Tuesday, January 12

- International Student Orientation (part II, not applicable to BBA, MBA and Law students) from 9.30 am to 1 pm

You'll get information about registration, health insurance, your status at UT, immigration course load requirements, courses, academic advising etc.



UT Identifiers

UT Electronic Identification

Your UT EID, an electronic identifier that allows you to access secure UT Austin web services, is assigned when you apply for admission. To use your EID, you must activate or claim it. At that time you may choose to keep the default name as your UT EID or you may create your own. You must choose a password when you claim your UT EID. Once you have claimed your UT EID and chosen your password, your UT EID is ready to use. Detailed information is available online at: https://utdirect.utexas.edu/nlogon/eid_suite/general

Student Identification Card (ID)

You can obtain a student identification card with your photo printed on the card at the ID center in the Flawn Academic Center (FAC). At that time, you may also upgrade your medium assurance UT EID to high assurance. For security reasons, UT Austin prints a 16-digit ISO (International Standardization Organization) number on your student ID card. The ISO number is linked to your student ID number.

Academic Matters

Exchange Agreements and Coursework

At UT Austin, international exchange agreements — aside from ones specifically in Law and MBA — are administered as undergraduate agreements. All exchange students are administratively classified and coded at UT as undergraduate exchange students, no matter their actual academic standing at their home university.

International reciprocal exchange students are not guaranteed registration in any courses — undergraduate and/or graduate. Registration in MBA and/or Law courses is not permissible for students participating in exchanges coordinated by the UT International Office.



What is UT DIRECT?

UT Direct is the web site that you can use to do all your business with the University, to find out what is happening on campus, and even what is going on in your department. It is "one-stop shopping" for students for orientation, registration and other student services. The URL is <utdirect.utexas.edu>. You may also access UT Direct by clicking on the UT Direct logo on the University's public website. You must have a UT EID and password to use UT Direct.

Academic Matters

McCombs School of Business

International Office exchange program students can register for no more than 6 credit hours of undergraduate coursework in the McCombs School each semester, assuming course availability. International Office coordinated international exchange students are not permitted to register for MBA courses.

Students must verify that they have met business course prerequisites. Check course schedule for course requirements. Students must bring proof that they have successfully taken required or similar courses, if they are not listed on one's transcript sent with one's application. Business students may be emailed by the McCombs School with additional course information, such as registration, availability, and course prerequisites.

Participants on a BBA International Programs exchange cannot take graduate courses, and must take at least 2 business classes. Detailed information will be provided at Orientation.

MBA Exchange Students take 4-5 graduate level business courses (12-15 credit hours) in the McCombs School of Business.

Academic Matters



IMPORTANT
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Incoming UT international reciprocal exchange students are not guaranteed registration in any courses—undergraduate and/or graduate. Selecting courses can be difficult; exchange students should be flexible about the courses in which they will enroll.

It is advisable to consider courses in several academic departments, and possibly in various UT colleges. Be sure to have optional courses in mind that you can substitute, if necessary.

BBA International Programs registration and MBA students follow specific procedures, which will be explained during orientation.

Law Exchange Students take 3-5 courses, 10-16 credit hours, in the Law School. As law is graduate level in the U.S., any non law course taken while at UT must also be graduate level.

Steps to Registration at UT Austin



Course registration takes place on (dates here) only if you have done the following after arrival at UT:

- 1 - Attend IBC at the International Office. Bring your immigration documents and SEVIS fee receipt with you.
- 2 - Go to the University Health Services (UHS). TB testing and immunizations are required before you may register for classes. Bring your immunization records with you.
- 3 - See an academic advisor at your individual department concerning classes that are appropriate for your degree plan. Locations for academic advising are listed in the Course Schedule.
- 4 - Catalogs and course schedules are available at: registrar.utexas.edu/students
Course schedules list all courses and times for a specific semester; catalogs list all courses and degree plans.
- 5 - Check Registration Access Times and Bar Information by clicking "Check your RIS" at registrar.utexas.edu/students/registration
- 6 - Register for classes during your registration access period at registrar.utexas.edu/students/registration.
- 7 - Pay your fee bill at the Main Building. If you wish to pay your tuition by credit card (Master card or Discover, drawn on a U.S. bank), service charges apply. See: [http:// www.utexas.edu/business/accounting/sar](http://www.utexas.edu/business/accounting/sar)
- 8 - If you must make changes in your class schedule, they can be made online during add/drop access periods, noted in the online course schedule.

Housing Information



Short-term Housing

There is no temporary housing available on campus. You may plan to stay in one of the following facilities until you find permanent housing. Ask for a UT discount. For more information about short-term and long-term housing, see <www.utexas.edu/international/iss/housing/>.

1) MOTELS (in order of proximity to UT campus)

Rodeway Inn	2900 N. IH 35, Tel.(512)477-6395, www.rodewayinn.com
Days Inn, University	3105 N. IH 35, Tel. (512)478-1631 or (1-800)329-7466. www.daysinn.com
Doubletree	303 W. 15th, Tel. (512)478-7000, www.doubletree.com
La Quinta Inn	300 E. 11th St., Austin, TX 78701, (800) 531-5900 www.lq.com
Motel 6	9420 N. IH 35 (need car), (512)339-7852

2) YOUTH HOSTELS

American Youth Hostel, 2200 S. Lakeshore Blvd. (located on the NR shuttlebus route), Tel. (512)444-2294, hostel@hiaustin.org, \$19-22. Reservations strongly recommended. <www.hiaustin.org>.



Long-term Housing

Students are responsible for finding housing. UT does not require that students live on campus and cannot make off-campus housing reservations.

On-campus housing is not available for exchange students, although off-campus ones are. Apply as early as possible as spaces are limited.

Those marked with an * in the Long-term Housing section below may accept temporary residents as space is available. Reservations may be required.

Housing Information

Dormitories

*The Castilian	2323 San Antonio, Tel. (512)478-9811 www.thecastilian.com
*Dobie Center	2021 Guadalupe, Tel. (512)505-1000 www.dobiecenter.com
Goodall-Wooten	2112 Guadalupe St., Tel. (512)472-1343 www.goodallwooten.com
Hardin House (for women only)	2206 Rio Grande, Tel. (512)472-6717 FAX (512)474-5847 www.hardinhouse.com
University Towers	801 W. 24th St., Tel. (512)472-5846 www.universitytowers.com
Abbey House	408 W 17th St, Tel (512)474-2408 www.abbey-house.com/abbey/index.php

Cooperative Housing

Cooperative houses are democratically-run residences, called "co-ops," in which occupants share cooking and cleaning responsibilities and share decision making about house policies and activities. Sometimes less expensive than other housing options, Co-ops provide an opportunity to meet a variety of people. For information contact:

*College Houses, Inc.	1906 Pearl St.,(512)476-5678 www.collegehouses.org
*Deutsches Haus (German House)	2103 Nueces St., (512)477-8865 www.utexas.edu/students/dhaus/
*Inter-Cooperative Council	2305 Nueces St (512)476-1957 www.iccaustin.com



3 Apartments

A few apartments known as "family housing" are owned by the University. Family housing offers inexpensive off-campus furnished apartments for married students, available on a limited basis. For information and application, visit the Division of Housing and Food Services website at <www.utexas.edu/student/housing/>, Tel. (512)471-3136; FAX: (512)475-6532.

Most students live in privately owned apartments, many of which are available within walking distance of campus and on the UT shuttle bus or city bus routes. Apartments are usually rented in person, but apartment locator services may assist you before you arrive.

Housing Information



Apartment Finders: (512)322-9556; (1-800)711-0498
www.ausapt.com

Properties One: (512)836-0727
www.prop1.com

Habitat Hunters: (512)482-8651
www.habitathunters.com

Remax Affinity Group: (512)372-9595
mlangenbach@austin.rr.com

A+ properties: (512)231-1400
www.aplusapartments.com

Apartments for you: (512)663-5499
www.apartmentsforyou.net OR liz@apartmentsforyou.net

Austin 4 rent: (512)452-0122
www.austin4rent.com

Austin Apartment Store: (512)828-4470
www.austinapartmentstore.com

Good to Know

Search the internet for rental apartments or homes as well as merchandise www.statesman.com/classifieds/content/classifieds/realestate/rentalssearch/index.html currently advertised for sale. Select "Central" Austin, for addresses nearest the University of Texas at Austin. Refer to the Metropolitan and University Shuttle Bus Routes and Schedules for convenient public transportation.

www.auschron.com/class/
<http://realestate.yahoo.com>
www.austin.craigslist.org
www.dailytexanonline.com
www.statesman.com/classifieds
www.housingmaps.com

Local Bus Transportation



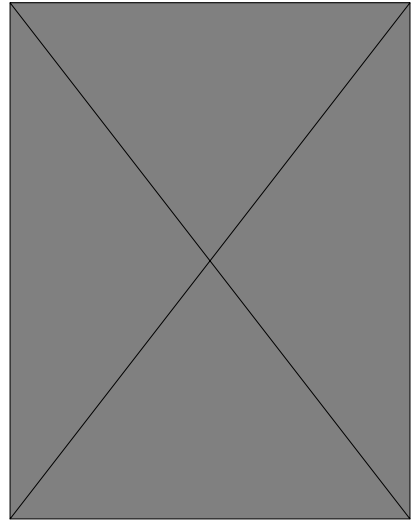
Public bus transportation in Austin is free to holders of the UT student ID (Identification Card). Bus rides cost \$.75 without a UT ID card, including bus #100 from the airport to campus. Bus #100 stops near Speedway and Dean Keeton St., which is across the street from the Student Services Building. You can have your student photo ID made (with your passport and \$10), so you can ride local buses free! See www.capmetro.org for bus routes and schedules.

International Student Organizations

Many UT student organizations are eager to be in contact with new students and answer questions about life at UT. To access student organizations visit: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sald/studentorgs/index.php>

PALS: Partnerships to Advance Language Study and Cultural Exchange

Celebrating 16 years of service to the University of Texas at Austin! The PALS Program, a student organization run by students for the UT community, is affiliated with the Intercultural Programs of the International Office. The mission of the program, to bring students together for language and cultural exchange, is accomplished by matching international and American students in partnerships based on their culture/language preferences. The program also offers a variety of activities such as coffee hours, movie nights, pot-lucks, and picnics. Joining PALS when you get to Austin is a great way to practice English and get to know American culture. Visit <http://studentorgs.utexas.edu/iopals> or email: PALS@uts.cc.utexas.edu to learn more.



PALS

Important Dates

January 4, 2009

Immigration Briefing and Check-in begins

Friday, January 8

- International Student Orientation, TX Union Ballroom, 9:30am
- Welcome Lunch and Information Fair, Rec Sports Center, 12:30 – 2:30pm
- BBA Intl. Programs exchange students orientation
From 2:00 - 4:30 pm, GSB 2.124

Saturday, January 9

- Welcome Center opens 10:00am – 4:00pm
- Walking Tours of Campus will depart the IO at 10:00am and 12:00pm
- Austin Bus Tours will depart the IO at 10:00am, 12:00pm
- Shopping Shuttle to Target departs the IO at 2 pm

Monday, January 11

- Law Orientation, 10:00 am

Tuesday, January 12

- International Student Orientation (part II, not applicable to BBA, MBA and Law students) from 9.30 am to 1 pm

Get ready to register! Check in at the IO, if you have not already done so.

January 13 and 15, Wednesday and Friday
Registration

January 19, Tuesday
Classes begin



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN