

INTERNATIONAL F-1 Student ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

The **MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS** is responsible for advising on F-1 international student regulations. The following is a list of important steps to prepare for your arrival at Minot State. We look forward to meeting you!



Carefully review the Minot State Office of International Programs website

It has answers to most of your questions, including detailed information on arriving in the U.S., health insurance, taxes, and social security numbers.

MinotStateU.edu/international/services.shtml



Pay the SEVIS Fee

SEVIS (Student Exchange Visitor Information System) is an internet-based system in which the U.S. Department of Homeland Security maintains information on non-immigrant visitors holding F visas. You can pay the SEVIS fee to the Department of Homeland Security by mail or online. The fee can be paid by you or by a third party, inside or outside the U.S. **The fee must be paid at least three business days BEFORE crossing at a U.S. port of entry.**

To pay the SEVIS fee online:

- Find the Form I-901 at www.Fmjfee.com.
- Complete the form online and pay the fee. Be sure to write your name on the form I-901 exactly as it appears on your I-20.
- After paying the fee, print your SEVIS fee receipt by entering your SEVIS ID number, last name, and date of birth. Your SEVIS ID number can be found at the top of your I-20.
- Make copies of your receipt, and keep it with your other important immigration documents.



Print and sign your I-20 on the bottom of page 1

Review the regulations on page 3.



Apply for a Student Visa

A visa can only be issued by a U.S. embassy or consulate. Contact the nearest embassy or consulate in your home country for detailed instructions; requirements for processing the visa will vary by location, and many offices will require a visa interview. Allow a minimum of four weeks for this process to be completed.



Submit health records

Official immunization documentation must be submitted to the Minot State Student Health Center prior to your arrival in Minot. For more information regarding immunizations or health records, contact the center at **+1-701-858-3371** or visit MinotStateU.edu/health.

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Complete the online International F-1 Regulations Workshop

The online workshop is **MANDATORY for all new international and Canadian students at MSU, including transfer and graduate students.** During this online workshop, you will learn about U.S. federal F-1 student regulations that you must follow in order to remain in legal F-1 student status. Directions for the Online F-1 Regulations Workshop and your reporting responsibilities will be sent out by email a month before the start of your first semester at Minot State.



*The International F-1 Regulations Workshop is considered to be so important that **if you fail to attend, an administrative "Hold" will be placed on your Minot State student record, and you will not be able to add or drop classes.** Your registration in SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) could also be delayed, which could create future concerns with the Department of Homeland Security.*



Entry into United States

You must bring all of your documentation regarding Minot State University in order to successfully obtain entry into the U.S. Without proper documentation and identification, you will be denied entry until all documentation is present.

- **Form I-20**
- **Passport**
- **Visa**
- **Admission letter** – sent with your I-20
- **I-901 SEVIS fee receipt**
- **Financial documentation** – the same documents you sent to Enrollment Services to prove eligibility to receive an I-20



When to arrive

You may enter the U.S. up to 30 days before the Program Begin Date listed on your I-20. We recommend that you arrive in Minot at least one to two days before the beginning of New Student Registration so you have time to get settled.

If you will live on campus, please note that you are responsible for informing the Minot State Housing Office of your arrival date and time. International students are given a special allowance to arrive prior to the official check-in dates so that you can attend New Student Registration, and to get settled over the weekend. However, you **MUST** notify the Housing Office of your expected arrival date and time **AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE** in order to ensure that staff will be available to assist you when you need them.

As soon as you know your arrival details, contact the Housing Office at **+1-701-858-3363** or msu.housing@MinotStateU.edu.



Traveling to Minot

If you are traveling to Minot by plane, your destination airport code is **MOT**. Minot also has daily Amtrak train service (MOT) from Minneapolis/St. Paul, Chicago, Seattle, and Portland.

You may book a ride with Souris Basin by calling +1-701-581-1049 at least a day before you need a ride. Once you arrive on campus, you may pick up Souris Basin tokens from the International Office for free rides.

Options like Lyft and Uber are also available in Minot. To use these services, you have to download the app and schedule a ride. If you are arriving at Minot International Airport, you should schedule a ride prior to landing and should account for the time it might take to get your baggage.

If you need to access wi-fi on a personal device while at the Minot airport this service is offered free of charge. **User ID: MOT Password: MOT**



Enjoy life as a Minot State Student!

QUESTIONS? Contact the Office of International Programs!
International@MinotStateU.edu
MinotStateU.edu/international