

Meet the OIS Team

Dr. Paul Foster Executive Director

Abby Cook
Associate Director

Brittany LindInternational Advising & Admissions
Specialist

Alisa Batchelor International Student Services Coordinator



MSU Billings Office Of International Studies

WhatsApp business account



Scan this code to start a WhatsApp chat with MSU Billings Office Of International Studies.



Add us on WhatsApp!

Send us a message with your

Name Email Home Institution

This will be our main form of contact pre-arrival

+1 (406) 8751042

Suggested Packing List

1.) Clothing Items

- Cold weather clothes
- Traditional clothing
- Nicer clothes
- Shoes

2.) Toiletries

- Medications or prescriptions
- Essential items for arrival such as toothbrush/toothpaste/hairbrush, soap

3.) Electronics

- Unlocked cell-phone
- Laptop computer
- Power bank
- Universal adapter for power sockets







4.) Small Gifts

 For host families (BFF), friends, professors, etc.

5.) <u>Immigration Documents</u>

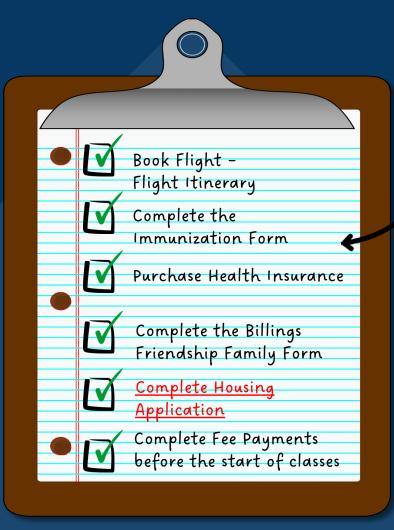
- Passport/Visa
- DS-2019
- OIS Contact Info

6.) Money

- Credit/debit cards that can be used in the US!
- Cash







Pre-Arrival Checklist

Please make sure you complete <u>all</u> these items prior to your arrival to the United States and MSUB.

Complete the Confirmation Form

Upload your:

- Flight Itinerary
- Immunization Form
- Health Insurance Information to the Confirmation form

Immunization Form

Health Insurance

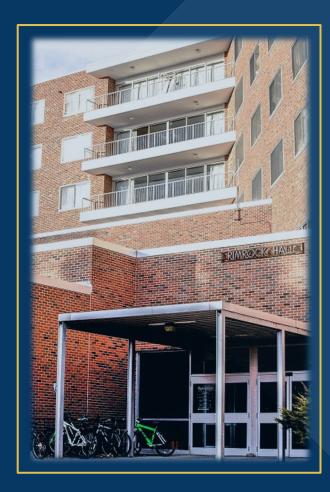
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Health Insurance Providers for International Students

- ISO Student Health Insurance
- Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI)
- MARSH
- INSUBUY
- International Student Insurance (ISI)

These forms must be completed and submitted to the online International Student Confirmation Form prior to arrival.





Step 1

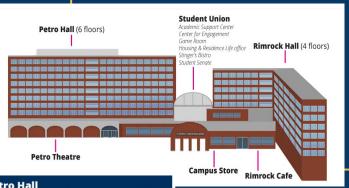
Look up your NetID and set your password.

To do this you will need your MSUB ID (found on your admission letter) & birthday.

Step 2

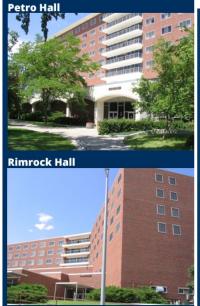
Sign-in to the housing portal with your MSUB email as your username and NetId password to complete the housing application.

During your designated timeslot chose your room and meal plan. Pay a \$125 deposit

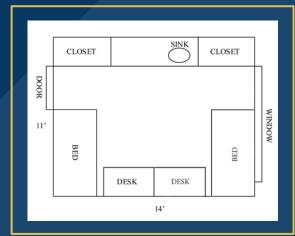












Paying Fees

You are required pay the following fees:

- Housing
- Meal Plan
- OIS Fee: \$100
- New Student Services Fee: \$110
- Student ID: \$15
- Health Insurance: \$250-\$500/semester from outside company

These fees are optional

- Student Health Fee: \$142.50
- Rec Fee: \$35
- Linen Sets: \$100-\$150



Housing Rates (Per Semester)

Double Room \$2,662

Single Room \$3,227

Meal Plan Rates Range from

\$2,084 - \$2,297





Includes: XL reversible comforter, sheets, blanket, pillow and 6-piece towel set

Linen Sets Available for Purchase Pre-Arrival

\$100-\$150

Arrival:

Under your J-1 student visa, you may enter the U.S. up to 30 days before the program start date listed on your DS-2019 – August 27, 2025. The earliest date you can arrive is July 28.

Flights to Billings should arrive between:

Saturday, August 23 – Tuesday, August 26

Billings Logan Airport

Upload your flight itinerary to the International Student Confirmation Form. MSU Billings offers airport pickup for students who inform us of their arrival I week in advance.

If any issues arise such as flight delays or cancellations please let us know via WhatsApp.

*Please make sure you arrive in time for mandatory International Student Orientation on August 27th (Wed)



Departure:

The Fall 2025 semester ends on Thursday, December 11, and the Residence Halls will close on December 12. Your DS-2019 lists December 30, 2025, as your program end date. You have a 30-day grace period after that date to depart the U.S., so the latest you may remain in the country is January 29, 2026.



Entering the Country

Documents Needed

- Passport/Visa
- DS-2019/MSUB Admission Letter HARD copies
- *Keep HARD copies of these documents as well as screenshots on your phone

Other Documents & Items

- OIS Contact Info
- Cell Phone
- Money cash, credit/debit cards

Issues at the Border

 Please contact our office if you encounter any issues at Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

Airport Pickup & BFF

*Please note that our office may not be able to accomdate airport pickup between the hours of 22:00-7:00.



Students who are interested in participating in this program should complete the Billings Friendship Family Questionnaire.

The Billings Friendship Family (BFF) program matches international students with a local family based upon shared interests and personalities.

Typically, the BFF will pick up their student from the airport and help them get settled in the dorms and life in Billings, MT.

Over the course of the semester, BFF families will have their students over for dinner, invite them to local attractions or even host them during holiday breaks.

This is a great opportunity for students to experience American culture.

Arrival to Billings



In the online International Student Confirmation form, please upload a copy of your flight itinerary. We MUST receive this at least a week prior to your departure.

We will arrange for someone from our office or your BFF to pick you up from the airport. They will meet you in baggage claim and will be holding a sign that says "Welcome MSUB International Student!".

Next, you will get checked in to your dorm room where an international student will be available to help you get settled and answer any questions you may have.

You will receive a welcome bag with some essentials and campus information.

*Please note that there will be no blanket/sheets/pillows on your bed. You can order them ahead of time or bring a set along with you.

The international student orientation leaders will be available to answer any of your questions.

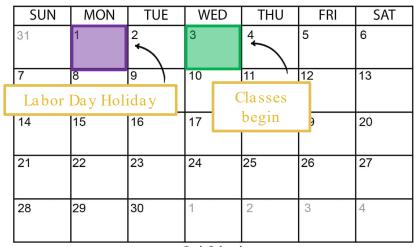


AUGUST 2025

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	www.GrabCalendar.co				Student		
Arrival & Check -					Orientation		

in to MSU-Billings

SEPTEMBER 2025



www.GrabCalendar.com

Cultural Exchange Events

These two events are required for exchange students as part of the cultural exchange component of their program.









Study Abroad Fair

The Study Abroad Fair is an event that allows exchange students to promote their home universities and countries to MSUB students interested in studying abroad. Exchange students will join former study abroad students to promote study abroad and a multitude of destinations around the world.

Date: September 24th
Time Commitment: 2-5 hours
Things to Bring: University promotional
materials, table decorations, traditional
clothing or home university T-shirt

International Food Fair

The International Food Fair is an annual event hosted on campus where international students prepare and share dishes from their home countries with the campus and Billings community. It is a celebration of cultural diversity through food, providing an opportunity for students to showcase their heritage and for attendees to experience flavor from around the world.

Date: November 14th
Time Commitment: 10-20 hours~
Things to Bring: Traditional clothing & table decorations



Questions?

Contact Info

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Dr. Paul Foster

Executive Director Paul.foster4@msubillings.edu +1 (406) 2475785

Mansi Luthra

International Student Worker mansiluthra@msubillings.edu