

Fall 2016

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

for Admitted International Freshmen



U of M At a Glance

- Founded in 1851
- Located in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul
- Ranked 9th in the nation and 26th in the world among public research universities (*Newsweek*)
- More than 135 areas of undergraduate study
- 38 professional programs (including law, pharmacy, architecture, medicine, veterinary medicine, and dentistry)
- 180+ graduate majors
- 4,000 faculty
- 800+ student organizations

Enrollment (fall 2015)

- Total freshman enrollment: 5,771
- Total undergraduates: 30,511
- U.S. states represented: 49
- Countries represented: 100

Congratulations on your admission!

We invite you to choose the University of Minnesota—a place that will awaken your spirit and nourish your mind. As a U of M student, you will experience great academics (the University of Minnesota is one of the top public research universities in the nation) and great opportunities in a great location for a great value!

COME CURIOUS.

BECOMING A U OF M STUDENT

This guide contains all of the information you will need to become a University of Minnesota student. When you study at the world-renowned University of Minnesota, your education won't come exclusively from a textbook; your college experience will be enhanced by award-winning faculty who are discovering new knowledge every day, plus modern learning facilities, and an endless variety of options. Learn more at <http://www.passport.umn.edu/>. We look forward to welcoming you to the University of Minnesota community this fall!

ADMITTED STUDENT CHECKLIST

Confirm your enrollment today.

Deadline: May 1, 2016

Details: below

Submit a Financial Certification Statement (to receive an I-20)

Details: below

Apply for housing

Deadline: May 1, 2016

Details: below

Submit your final transcript

Deadline: August 1, 2016

Details: below

Confirm your enrollment (Deadline: May 1)

When you confirm your enrollment, you are declaring your intent to attend the University of Minnesota, and we will hold a place for you in the incoming class. To confirm your enrollment, you will need to pay a non-refundable \$250 confirmation fee. You may do so online at: www.uofminn.org/confirm. Or, you can return the enrollment confirmation form (which is included with your paper admission letter) and your confirmation fee to the Office of Admissions by **May 1, 2016**. Please note that confirmation fees submitted after May 1 are accepted only if space remains available.

Submit a Financial Certification Statement (to receive an I-20)

The University of Minnesota issues I-20 documents to students who will be studying at the University on F-1 visas. The I-20 is issued differently for students who are currently studying in the U.S. than for students who are coming to the U.S. to study for the first time.

If you are coming to the U.S. to study for the first time:

To receive an I-20, you need to submit a Financial Certification Statement and passport copy by August 1, 2016 at the latest, (available online at <http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/PDFs/>) that indicates you have adequate funds for your first year of study at the U of M. Your I-20 will be issued after we receive your Financial Certification Statement and after you have confirmed your enrollment.

If you are currently studying in the U.S.:

To receive a transfer I-20, you need to submit a Financial Certification Statement by August 1, 2016, (<http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/admissioninfo/intl>) indicating you have adequate funds for your first year of study at the U of M and a Transfer Release Form, available at www.iss.umn.edu/fstudent/FitransUM.html.

Transfer I-20s are issued after you: (1) submit your Financial Certification Statement, (2) confirm your enrollment, (3) meet with the international student adviser at your current school to

discuss your intent to transfer schools, and (4) complete the Transfer Release Form. More details about this process are available at www.iss.umn.edu/fstudent/FitransUM.html or by contacting an adviser in International Student and Scholar Services at 1-612-626-7100 or by email at iss@umn.edu.

Apply for Housing

Be sure to make housing arrangements prior to arriving on campus.

Guaranteed on-campus housing (Deadline: May 1)

The University provides housing for students in nine residence halls and three apartment-style buildings, all with beautiful facilities and easy access to classroom buildings and public transportation. The University guarantees housing to admitted first-year freshmen who are willing to accept assignment to any space designated and who (1) submit the housing application-contract by **May 1, 2016**, and (2) confirm their enrollment by May 1, 2016. We encourage you to apply for housing early to enhance your assignment options! After May 1, students are assigned housing on a space-available basis.

A wide variety of Living Learning Communities are available within University housing, including Honors Housing, Students Crossing Borders, cultural houses, interest-based houses, and others. These communities offer a special opportunity for students to live and learn with other freshmen who share similar interests. If you are interested in a Living Learning Community, we encourage you to apply as early as possible at www.housing.umn.edu. The priority deadline for these communities is March 1, 2016. For details and to apply for housing online, visit www.housing.umn.edu/international.

Off-campus housing

If you want to live off-campus in a house, room, or apartment, or for information on temporary housing if you will be arriving in the U.S. prior to the date you move into University Housing, please visit: www.housing.umn.edu/international.

Submit your final transcript (Deadline: August 1)

Students are admitted to the University of Minnesota based on the information they provide in their admission applications. We want students to succeed at the University and because strong academic preparation through the final year of secondary school enhances the likelihood of student's academic success, it is the policy of the University of Minnesota that students must successfully complete and graduate from secondary school before they will be eligible to enroll.

In order to verify that you have met this enrollment requirement, you must have your secondary school send to the Office of Admissions, no later than August 1, 2016, your official final secondary school transcript and proof of graduation (i.e. graduation certificate or leaving exam results). All documents not issued in English must be in the original language and include a certified, true English translation. (Official documents are those that are original or are attested copies of original academic documents that are mailed in a sealed, stamped envelope directly from the secondary school.)

Important: *Students who do not submit the necessary documents by the deadline or if altered, modified, or falsified documents are submitted, admission will be rescinded, the I-20 will be cancelled, and the student will NOT be allowed to enroll at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.*

Senior year grade policy

Senior year courses are a primary factor that we consider when making admissions decisions. After final transcripts are received, we review each student's senior year coursework and the grades earned in those courses to confirm course completion and that the performance during the senior year is consistent with the academic performance at the time of application. Changes in senior year coursework may result in a change to the student's college of admission. Unsuccessful completion of senior year coursework and/or a significant decline in academic performance during the senior year may result in the cancellation of admission. If you are considering making changes to your senior year courses or if you are concerned about your academic progress in any of your courses, you must consult with the Office of Admissions at 1-612-625-2008.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Financing your education

As an international student at the University of Minnesota, you are expected to take full responsibility for financing your education. International students are not eligible to apply for U.S. state and federal financial aid programs. If you anticipate not being able to meet the cost of your education and living expenses, you are advised to request a postponement of your enrollment until you have secured adequate funding.

Tuition and expenses

International undergraduates pay non-resident tuition rates. For the 2016-17 school year, the estimated cost for tuition, fees, and books and supplies for nine months is \$26,279*. Estimated living expenses, including room and board, transportation, mandatory health insurance, and personal/miscellaneous expenses for 12

months are \$17,977. Additional information is available online at http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/admissioninfo/intl_costs.html.

* The tuition and fee figure above includes a \$862 student service fee, \$510 collegiate fee (may vary based on your college), \$290 international student fee, \$500 international student academic services fee, and \$258 in miscellaneous fees. Fees and charges are subject to change without notice as necessitated by University or legislative action.

Paying your tuition

Your tuition payment will generally be due two to three weeks following the start of the semester. You may pay your tuition on an installment plan by making the minimum payment and paying a small service charge. Learn more at http://onestop.umn.edu/finances/pay/installment_plan.html.

International students can also pay tuition bills online through their Student Account. One option offered through the University allows students to bypass international transfer fees and access foreign exchange rates that are typically more favorable than those offered by banks by using Flywire.

International students should log into their Student Account and select "International Payment" from the drop-down menu. You will need to create an additional account with Flywire, so be sure to have your student ID and payer information handy.

Student employment

International students may apply for on-campus student jobs at the University of Minnesota after they enroll. Funds earned in these positions may help you pay for a small portion of your living expenses. However, anticipated income cannot be included on your Financial Certified Form. Learn more at <http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/costsaid/jobs.html>

AFTER YOU CONFIRM YOUR ENROLLMENT

Prepare for arrival

After you confirm your enrollment and submit your Financial Certification Statement, you will receive important and helpful information from the University's International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office. Staff members in ISSS will assist you as you prepare to arrive on campus and they will work with you after your arrival in Minnesota. If you have questions in the meantime, please visit www.iss.umn.edu/new or email them at iss@umn.edu.

Attend programs for new students

To facilitate your transition to the University of Minnesota, you will need to complete the following steps:

International Student Online Preparation Course

Prior to arrival: You are required to complete the International Student Online Preparation Course. This online course is an interactive tool with information about your immigration status and how to prepare for success at the University of Minnesota. It is mandatory for all new international students, and you must complete the required elements at least one week before attending Immigration Check-in. Please visit www.iss.umn.edu/new after April 1 to complete this orientation.

The International Student Online Preparation Course is separate from your Freshman Student Online Orientation; you must complete both of these orientations before attending Freshman Orientation.

Freshman Orientation (University-wide)

Freshman Orientation is your two-day, official introduction to University life. During this orientation, you will attend Immigration Check-in, register for classes, and meet your college adviser. You will attend Freshman Orientation in June, July, or August.

Immigration Check-in

You will attend Immigration Check-in during your on-campus Freshman Orientation. During this time, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) staff members will check your documents to verify you are eligible to enroll in classes. Immigration Check-In is a two-part program that is held in the morning and afternoon. **You must attend both sessions.**

Bring the original and a copy of the following documents for this Check-in:

- Your passport identification/picture page
- F-1 visa page from your passport (except Canadian citizens)
- Entry stamp from your passport (make copies after arriving in the U.S.)
- I-20

For more information about Orientations, please visit www.issss.umn.edu/new.

Welcome Week

Mark your calendar for Welcome Week, which occurs the week before classes start (August 31-September 5, 2016). Welcome Week—developed to build upon your orientation experience—is an action-packed week that includes events planned to connect and welcome you to the campus, your college of enrollment, and the Twin Cities community. During the program you will have an opportunity to build relationships with your classmates and discover the multitude of resources and opportunities available to enhance your college experience and support your success. More information will be provided in the summer to students who have confirmed their enrollment. Visit www.welcomeweek.umn.edu for more details.

Submit final university transcripts

If you have completed any university/postsecondary courses, have an official final transcript in both the original language and with a certified true English translation sent directly to the Office of Admissions from each university you have attended. A transfer credit evaluation will automatically be produced and emailed to you after we receive a complete record of your previous university coursework.

AP, IB, AS/A Levels Examination Results

The University of Minnesota grants credit to students who have earned specific minimum scores on AP, IB, and AS/A level exams. Detailed information is available at <http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/academics>.

If you have taken any of these exams, have your test results sent to the Office of Admissions. A transfer credit evaluation will automatically be produced and emailed to you after the test results are received.

Need to postpone your enrollment?

You have been admitted for fall semester 2016. If you decide to postpone your first semester of enrollment for any reason, you must contact the Office of Admissions so that we may consider your application for a later semester.

AFTER YOU ENROLL

English proficiency testing

If English is not your native language and you scored below 79 on the internet-based TOEFL, 6.5 on the IELTS, 80 on the MELAB, or your writing subscore is below 21 TOEFL, 6.5 IELTS or 80 MELAB, you will need to take an English proficiency test after you arrive on campus. There is a fee for this test. If your test results indicate a satisfactory level of proficiency, you may be exempted from further instruction in English. Further information on English proficiency testing will be provided to you by International Student and Scholar Services after you confirm your enrollment.

Minimum credit requirements

Most of our degree programs require you to complete 120 credits. A few require 128 credits. To graduate in four years, you need to average 30-32 credits a year (15-16 credits per semester). Averaging 15 credits per semester will ensure that you graduate in a timely manner. All new degree-seeking students who enroll at the University are required to register for a minimum of 13 credits each semester until they graduate.

Your academic reputation and ethical conduct

Each undergraduate student is a valued member of the University of Minnesota community of scholars. Your academic integrity is important to your personal, academic, and professional success as well as to the University's academic reputation. For more information about the University's commitment to academic integrity and to read the University of Minnesota Student Conduct Code that you are expected to follow, visit www.umn.edu/oscai.

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

If you have any questions about the University of Minnesota, visit www.issss.umn.edu/new, email issss@umn.edu, or call 1-612-626-7100.

Disability Services

To register to receive accommodations or services for a documented disability, email ds@umn.edu or call 1-612-626-1333 (voice or TTY). You can also visit <https://diversity.umn.edu/disability/> for more information.

Office of Admissions

If you have any questions about your admission, please visit <http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/answers> or call us at 1-612-625-2008.

2016 University calendar

Arrive by	August 21, 2016
Welcome Week	August 31-September 5, 2016
Classes begin	September 6, 2016
Final examinations	December 16-22, 2016
Semester break	December 22-January 16, 2017
First day of spring semester	January 17, 2017
Spring Break	March 13-17, 2017
Final examinations	May 8-13, 2017