



Pre-arrival Information for Newly Admitted International Degree Students

**Office of International Student & Scholar Services (OISS)
Rutgers University – Newark Campus**

Welcome to Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark campus! The following information has been provided to answer many of the questions frequently asked by new international students preparing to come to Rutgers. Please read it carefully and thoroughly.

OBTAINING YOUR STUDENT VISA:

Now that you have been admitted to your degree program at Rutgers Newark, your next step is to apply for a student visa to enter the U.S.

SPECIAL NOTES:

F1/J1 students who attended another U.S. school before coming to Rutgers: You **MUST** request your previous school to transfer your SEVIS record to Rutgers Newark. You do not need to apply for a new visa if not traveling abroad during the transition, or if your current F1 or J1 visa in your passport is still valid upon returning from travel abroad.

Canadian citizens: Canadian citizens are **NOT** required to obtain a U.S. visa to enter the United States. However, when you come to attend school, you must present the following documents for inspection either at a pre-inspection site in Canada or upon entry to the United States:

- Canadian passport
- Admission letter to Rutgers University
- Original I-20 or DS-2019
- SEVIS Fee Payment Receipt
- Financial documentation

Upon inspection, you must obtain a stamped I-94 card marked "F1/DS" or "J1/DS"

VISA TYPE: F1 STUDENT VISA v.s. J1 EXCHANGE VISITOR VISA

F1 visa is issued to international students pursuing full time studies in the U.S. Majority of Rutgers international students should apply for an F1 student visa.

J1 visa is issued to internationals in a wide variety of categories under the Exchange Visitor Program administered by the U.S. Department of State. Rutgers degree students sponsored by government agencies, certain international organizations or on exchange programs are advised to apply for a J1 visa in the category of "student, college/university" unless a sponsor advises otherwise.



A WORD ABOUT U.S. VISA AND IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS

Rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the U.S. Department of State (DOS) may seem unnecessarily complex to those coming to the U.S. for academic and scholarly visits. In addition to standard visa and immigration rules, F and J visa holders are subject to special procedures of the DHS's Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). Information on SEVIS can be found at <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/index.htm>.

Although the Office of International Student & Scholar Services (OISS) tries to clarify and simplify these regulations by providing relevant information and advices, ***students who plan to study in the U.S. in F-1 or J-1 status should be aware that it is the legal responsibility of each individual student to comply with federal regulations governing his or her stay in the U.S., and that failure to comply is likely to jeopardize his or her legal status in the U.S..***

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS for Visa application:

Your Name Must Be the Same on All Legal Documents.

The easiest way to avoid unnecessary bureaucratic problems in the U.S., is to ensure that ALL of your legal documents list your name exactly the same way as it is listed in your passport. The spelling of your name should be exactly the same on your passport, your Form I-20 or DS-2019 and your F1 or J1 visa stamp.

Your Passport

Your passport is an essential travel document issued by your home government. As passports are small and easily misplaced, it is wise to make and keep a photocopy of your passport in a safe place in a location separate from where you keep your passport itself.

Form I-20 or Form DS-2019 Generated Through SEVIS

Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status is for you to obtain an F-1 student visa; *Form DS-2019 Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status* is for you to obtain a J-1 visa. If your name on the Form is not exactly as it appears in your passport, do NOT use this I-20 or DS-2019 to apply for a visa—instead, contact the Rutgers Newark Office of International Student & Scholar Services (OISS) and request an amended I-20 or DS-2019 be sent to you before you apply for your visa.

(Note: All Forms I-20 and DS-2019 are generated through the ***Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)***, an Internet-based system that the U.S. Federal Government uses to maintain accurate and current information on international students, exchange visitors, and their dependents. SEVIS enables schools and program sponsors to transmit mandatory information and event notifications via the Internet, to the Department of Homeland Security and Department of State throughout a student or exchange visitor's stay in the United States.)



SEVIS Fee Payment Confirmation Receipt

All F-1 and J-1 visa applicants who are beginning a new academic program must pay a mandatory SEVIS fee to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Enclosed with your Form I-20 or DS-2019 you should find instructions on how to pay the SEVIS fee. You must obtain and present proof of having paid the fee in order to apply for a visa and in order to enter the U.S. If you choose to pay online, **be sure to print out the online "confirmation" receipt** at the time it appears on your computer screen, as this will be the *only* chance you will have to access the confirmation receipt! Once you leave that screen, you will not be able to access it again. Regardless of whether you pay online or by another method, be sure to make several copies of the payment confirmation receipt for your records.

VISA APPLICATION

Where to Apply for F1 or J1 visa

Visa applicants should apply at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate, generally in their country of permanent residence.

Visa Application Forms:

DS-160: The DS-160 Online is a new Nonimmigrant Visa Electronic Application. The implementation of DS-160 is being phased-in during 2010. Not all U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad will be required to use the form at the same time. To learn which Embassies or Consulates are requiring the form, go to this website:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms_4230.html

Form DS-156: At the Embassies or Consulates where DS-160 is not required, the basic U.S. visa application is Form DS-156; some F-1 and J-1 visa applicants may be required to complete additional forms (DS-157 and/or DS-158). For more information about the forms, go to this website:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms_1342.html

Application Fee: There is generally an application fee for a U.S. visa. For information on fees that may apply to you, go to the website of the U.S. consulate at which you'll apply for your visa. All U.S. consulate websites are accessible by link from: <http://www.usembassy.gov/>

Personal Visa Interview

Most F-1 and J-1 visa applicants will be required to have a personal interview at the U.S. consulate. Waiting times for these interviews vary, depending on the specific consulate and time of year. For details on average visa waiting times at U.S. consulates throughout the world, go to the following website: http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait_4638.html

For additional visa information and instructions on how to apply for a visa, go to:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/info/info_1304.html



Additional Documents Needed for the Visa Application

Go to: <http://www.usembassy.gov/> and check the website of the U.S. consulate at which you will apply for a visa prior to submitting your application to ensure that you have all necessary documents. Even if not listed on the website, you should also plan to present the following:

- Admission Letter from Rutgers
- Proof of funding as listed on Form I-20 or DS-2019 (not needed if admission letter notes full funding from Rutgers)
- If available, documentation indicating your intent to return home at the end of your studies

ENTERING THE UNITED STATES

Enter U.S. within 30 days before program starting date on I-20 or DS-2019

DO NOT attempt to enter the U.S. more than 30 days before the program starting date on your I-20 or DS-2019! Although you may *apply* for an F-1 visa up to 120 days prior to the I-20 start date and you may apply for a J-1 visa at any time after receiving the DS-2019, F-1 and J-1 visa holders are NOT permitted to *enter* the U.S. more than 30 days before the start date on your I-20 or DS-2019. Also, entry to the U.S. after the first day of classes requires permission from University officials and may require issuance of a new I-20 or DS-2019 form.

Enter U.S. on F1 or J1 visa only

DO NOT enter the United States on B-1/B-2 visitor visa or F-2 dependent visa even if you have one in your passport. You will not be allowed to attend school on B-1/B-2 or F-2 visa in the U.S. US Customs and Immigration Services (USCIS) would deny your application to change status from B-1/B-2 to F1 or J1 if you have evidence of intending to go school prior to your arrival, such as having applied for school or requested a Form I-20 or DS-2019.

Use Rutgers I-20 or DS-2019 when entering the U.S.

DO NOT enter the United States with an I-20 or DS-2019 issued by another school! If it is the first time you attend school in the U.S., your F1 or J1 visa stamp should bear Rutgers name. If you have already obtained a visa with another school's name listed on it, please contact OISS by email at oiss@andromeda.rutgers.edu or by phone at (973)353-1427.

Procedures at the Port of Entry

Before you arrive at the U.S. port of entry (airport or immigration check-point at the border), you will be asked to complete an "Arrival/Departure Form" (I-94 card) which consists of two identical parts. Be certain to write your name on the Form I-94 ***exactly the same*** as it appears in your passport and on your F1 or J1 visa.

At the port of entry, you will go through immigration and customs inspection lines, and you will need to present your passport, I-20 or DS-2019, and I-94 form. After stamping your documents, the Immigration Officer will return your passport, I-20 or DS-2019 and one part of your I-94 card.



Check Your Documents After the Immigration Officer Gives Them to You

U.S. Immigration Officers handle thousands of people every day and, like all of us, they occasionally make mistakes. We strongly recommend that you check your documents before leaving the inspecting officer's desk to ensure they have been processed correctly. Errors on these documents will cause complications at a later date if you apply for a U.S. Social Security Number or a New Jersey Driver's License. ***Your documents ARE correct if all of the following are true:***

- Your I-20 or DS-2019 has been stamped with your arrival date, AND the Immigration Officer has hand-written two items on the stamp: (1) your correct immigration status (F-1 or J-1) AND (2) the notation "D/S."
- Your I-94 Arrival/Departure Form (little white card stapled in your passport by the Immigration Officer) ALSO bears the same stamp as your I-20 or DS-2019, and ALSO has your immigration status (F-1 or J-1) AND the notation "D/S" handwritten on it.
- Your passport has been stamped with an entry date.

Keep all these documents (the I-94 card, and your I-20 or DS-2019 stamped and returned to you by the inspecting officer) together with your passport at all times. Carry all of these documents with you each time you travel.

TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORT TO NEWARK CAMPUS

Choosing an Arrival Airport

If possible, we suggest you fly into Newark Liberty International Airport rather than JFK International Airport. It is faster, less expensive, and easier to get to Newark campus from the Newark airport than from JFK.

Travel Accommodations in the U.S.

Arrival in a strange city in a foreign country can be confusing and expensive. Hotel charges in large American cities are usually very high--\$125 per night or more—though lodging in smaller cities is considerably less expensive. Unless you plan to do some sight-seeing elsewhere in the U.S. before arriving in Newark, you should try to plan your travel and interconnecting flights to minimize the necessity for overnight lodging. If you do wish to tour a bit in the United States before coming to school, however, consult a travel agent or the Internet for information on expenses, places to stay and eat, and transportation. *Let's Go: USA* is a good reference available online at <http://www.letsgo.com/>

Getting to Newark from Area Airports

The cheapest way to get from your arrival airport to Newark is by public transportation--bus or train. *The airport with easiest access to Newark is Newark Liberty International Airport.* There is train and public taxi service to Newark ***directly*** from Newark Liberty International Airport; whereas all train and bus service from JFK International Airport to Newark is ***indirect*** (public transportation from JFK takes you first to New York City where you must change to another train



or bus to get to Newark. Advanced reservations for airport car or van service are strongly suggested and are usually very expensive (see below).

Transportation Choices from Newark Liberty Airport:

<http://www.panynj.gov/airports/ewr-ground-transportation.html>

Train: Take the "Airtrain" train directly from your arrival terminal to the Airport Train Station, where you can connect with a New Jersey Transit train to Newark (cost is about \$8.25). On weekdays, between 6 a.m. and 9p.m., three NJ Transit trains arrive every hour at the Airport Station. Between 9 p.m. and midnight, two trains arrive every hour. Service is not available between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m.

Taxi: From Newark Airport to the City of Newark is about \$18 (not including tolls and tip). Tipping 15% is customary.

Transportation Choices from JFK Airport:

<http://www.panynj.gov/airports/jfk-ground-transportation.html>

Take the "Airtrain" train directly from your arrival terminal. Passengers landing at JFK can be at New York Penn Station in midtown Manhattan in about 35 minutes. You will take the Airtrain from your JFK terminal to the Jamaica Station (The cost is \$5 and you must purchase a Metro Card). From the Jamaica Station you will board the Long Island Railroad (LIRR) to Manhattan, New York Penn Station. (The cost is about \$8 again with a Metro Card).

Bus: Take the New York Airport Service Express Bus from JFK to the Port Authority bus terminal in Manhattan at 42nd St. & 8th Avenue (cost is about \$15). Connections to Newark can be made by bus from Port Authority Terminal by taking bus #108 (cost is about \$5.50)

Bus/Train: Take either the Super Shuttle or the New York Airport Service Express Bus from JFK to New York Penn Station at 34th St. and 7th Ave. (cost is about \$15). Then take a New Jersey Transit train, which departs on a regular schedule from Penn Station for Newark Penn Station (cost is \$5).

Private Transportation Choices:

You can hire a private limousine, car service or van from Newark International Airport or JFK but you should be prepared to spend between \$75-\$125 (or more) for the ride, depending on distance, time of day and level of service. If you *do* choose to hire a private car service, be sure to settle on a price with the driver *before* the ride. Tipping 15% is customary.

HOUSING

Rutgers Newark provides on-campus housing to both undergraduate and graduate students. However, on-campus housing is **NOT AUTOMATICALLY** available to admitted students like in universities in some other countries. Students who have been admitted to Rutgers Newark **MUST APPLY** for on-campus housing **separately**. You may apply online at <http://housing.newark.rutgers.edu/index.html> . Off-campus housing information is also available on the same website.



CHECK –IN WITH INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR OFFICE (OISS)

It is mandatory that you check in with the Office of International Student & Scholar Services (OISS) as soon as you arrive in Newark. As explained in the “visa application” section of this document, your I-20 or DS-2019 will be stamped at the airport or immigration check-point when you enter the U.S. It is important that you bring a photocopy of the stamped I-20/DS-2019, your passport, visa and I - 94 card (a small white card that you will fill out on the plane or at the immigration check-point). Your legal status in the U.S. will depend upon your completion of this mandatory “check in” at OISS within the first 30-day period of your I-20 or DS-2019)! ***Of critical importance to all F-1 and J-1 visa holders on Rutgers’ visa sponsorship is that federal law requires you to complete the “check in” procedure at OISS no more than 30 days after the start date on your I-20 form (for F-1s) or DS-2019 form (for J-1s).*** Additional details on how to comply with U.S. government regulations are available on our website <http://oiss.rutgers.edu/> and in publications and workshops offered by our Office upon your arrival.

If you will not be able to complete this check-in before the 30-day deadline, you MUST notify OISS in advance by email or phone to protect your future entry and legal status.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

A mandatory new international student orientation is held before each Fall or Spring semester begins. Detailed information is sent to new students through separate emails and is also posted on OISS’ website. The international orientation is specially designed with a focus on specific issues and needs for international students on F1 or J1 visas such as how to maintain legal status in the U.S. and how to engage employment legally as a student on visa, etc.

The international orientation is different from the academic orientation that is organized either by your individual graduate school for graduate students or by the University for undergraduate students.

It is very important that you attend **BOTH** the international and academic orientations. You will receive information essential to your transition to your new life at Rutgers and in the U.S. You will become familiar with the University and its resources, meet with advisers to plan your curriculum, get settled, learn about University procedures and regulations, register for courses, recover from travel fatigue, make new friends and have a smooth start of your education at Rutgers.

Please note that if you are unable to attend the orientation program, ***you are still required by federal law to complete a “check in” procedure at OISS upon arrival.*** As noted above, entering the U.S. after the starting date specified on your I-20 or DS-2019 may require issuance of a new form. Contact OISS if you must arrive after the starting date on your form. If you cannot arrive in the first week, you must contact the admissions office immediately as you may need to reapply for readmission the following semester.



SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER FOR EMPLOYMENT

If you have been granted Teaching Assistantship or Graduate Assistantship, you will be considered to be EMPLOYED by Rutgers University. Everyone who is employed in the U.S. should have a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN). Because it takes at least 10 days for port-of-entry data to appear in the Social Security Administration's database, we suggest that individuals who need to apply for an SSN wait at least 10 days after entering the U.S. to make the SSN application. When you complete your "check in" at OISS, ask for instructions on applying for an SSN. When you complete your SSN application, be sure that you spell your name exactly the same as it is spelled on your passport, I-20 or DS-2019, visa, and I-94 card.

PLANNING FOR YOUR STAY IN THE U.S.

Things to Plan For

Climate and Clothing - New Jersey has a variable climate: cold winters with periodic snowfalls, hot summers, and some very pleasant periods in between. The temperature frequently drops to between -15C and -12C in the winter and rises to between 32C and 37C in the summer. Jackets, scarves, gloves and boots are essential for the cold winter months (November-March). Water-proof outerwear and umbrellas are essential in rainy weather.

Baggage - Regardless of the cost for excess weight, it is usually better to bring all personal baggage on the plane rather than ship it separately. Check with your travel agent or your airline for specific size and weight limitations. Even if you must spend \$100 for excess weight, you will save money, as most unaccompanied shipments cost at least that much. You may have difficulty getting a shipment through customs and you may require a U.S.-based agent for clearance and forwarding. Such services are expensive and often result in considerable delays. Do not send packages, suitcases, or other belongings to the University in advance of your arrival. Offices and residence halls on campus do not have secured storage facilities for personal belongings. Bring what you can with you, and if you have additional baggage, have it sent to you after you arrive and have obtained a U.S. address.

Mail and Email – You should not have any mail (letters or packages) delivered to the University. Immediately after you arrive you must notify OISS, and your correspondents of your U.S. address. Also after arriving, everyone will be able to set up a Rutgers email account.

Things to Bring

Money - If you do not have an ATM card that is able to obtain cash from a U.S. cash machine, it is best to exchange some of your own currency for U. S. dollars and traveler's checks before you leave home. Direct foreign currency exchange is not available in most U.S. cities. The University and local businesses accept only U.S. dollars. When you arrive in the U.S., you should have sufficient funds to cover your expenses for several weeks, but you should not travel with large amounts of cash to avoid the risk of possible loss or theft. Ideally, you have a U.S. – usable ATM card. If you do not have a U.S.-usable ATM card, you should estimate your first month's expenses and purchase traveler's checks in U.S. dollars for that amount at a bank or travel office in your country. You can cash traveler's checks at U.S. airports, banks and most businesses in the U.S., including hotels and restaurants. It is also advisable to carry at least



\$150-\$200 in paper currency plus \$10 in coins for "change" for telephones, baggage lockers, bus fares, and tips.

Linens – It is recommended you purchase Linens upon arrival in the U.S., because the beds in the U.S. may not be in the same standard size as in your home country.

Items Representing Your Country - Many people enjoy having samples of arts, crafts, traditional dress, photographs, music, maps or other items descriptive of home, both to show interested Americans and to provide a familiar touch that may help release your homesickness.

Things NOT to Bring

Electrical Appliances - Electrical appliances manufactured outside the U.S. may not be compatible with the U.S. power supply or may not be permitted in the residence halls. It is best to purchase appliances after arrival.

Textbooks – For students, textbooks used in previous study are not recommended because students are expected to purchase required texts for each course they take, and supplemental material is available in University libraries.

U.S. Customs Restrictions – General information on items that may not be brought into the U.S. from abroad is available at:

www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/vacation/kbyg/prohibited_restricted.xml

EXPENSES

Because living in the United States is expensive, you should bring at least \$1000 in traveler's checks for initial purchases (more if you plan to live off-campus). If you have a banking card that can be used in the United States upon your arrival, it is suggested that you bring it with you. You should also be prepared to pay for a full semester of tuition and fees (and, if applicable, on-campus room and board) once registered in classes. A bank draft can be used to pay for these expenses, but students should bear in mind that bank drafts take at least 14 days to clear for payment and that there is a payment deadline each semester. Sponsored students must submit copies of their award letters to arrange for direct billing to the sponsor. Details on current tuition costs, mandatory student fees, and payment options, and payment deadlines are available online at <http://newarkbusinessoffice.rutgers.edu/>.

F-1 and J-1 registered students on Rutgers University's visa sponsorship will be assessed a Rutgers SEVIS Administration Fee ("**SAF**") each semester on their term bill; the **SAF** is waived for students with full TA, GA or Fellowship awards from Rutgers. Please note that *the Rutgers SAF is completely separate from the U.S. government's SEVIS Fee*; the Rutgers SAF is a fee the university assesses to help offset its own high costs of institutional compliance with DHS SEVIS regulations. International students are responsible for financing their university education. Most international students at Rutgers are privately supported through personal or family resources. A few receive support from their government or institutions in their home country. Others are participants in exchange programs under foreign university or international organization sponsorship. With the exception of teaching or graduate assistantships and



fellowships, the University has no financial aid available for enrolled foreign students. Teaching and graduate assistantships are awarded competitively by academic departments and require students to assist with instruction or research in addition to their own academic studies. If you have not received notice of an award, you should plan to meet your own educational expenses through personal funds. No long-term loan funds are available through the University. As a nonimmigrant student, you were issued an I-20 or DS-2019 referencing the financial statement you filed with your admission application. If there has been a negative change in your financial status, do not proceed to the University.

MARRIED STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

Married students who wish to have their families join them must realize the financial obligations of doing so. A married couple that is able to live inexpensively will require *at least* an additional \$5000 more per year than a single student. A minimum of an additional **\$3750** is necessary for each accompanying child. The F-2 spouses of F-1 students are NOT permitted to work under any circumstances during their entire stay in the United States, nor are they permitted to enroll in an academic program while in F-2 status. J-2 dependents may apply to USCIS for employment authorization only if the income they earn will not go to the support of the J-1 principal visa holder. We advise international students to delay bringing your family until you have found housing in the community.

Dependents of F-1 and J-1 students on Rutgers' visa sponsorship are required to have comprehensive health insurance coverage during their entire stay in the U.S. (See "Insurance" section in this document.)

Schooling for Children

Education in the United States is required for children up to the age of 16, and public education is free of charge. Classes start in early September and go through mid-June. To enroll, children must be 5 years old by December 1. Bring your children's birth certificates, school and immunization records, all in English. Children must have the following immunizations: three or more diphtheria toxoid series (DPT or DT), three or more trivalent oral polio series or four salk polio vaccine series, measles, mumps, and rubella live vaccines, given on or after the first birthday, or a statement from a physician that the child has had measles or mumps, or a certified serological blood test if the child has had rubella.

HEALTH CARE

Immunization Requirement for Students

New Jersey law requires all college and university students to be vaccinated against certain diseases prior to enrolling in classes. ***The immunizations required for enrollment can be found at <http://health.rutgers.edu/immunizations/faq.htm>*** . Students who do not submit immunization records are immunized at the Rutgers Student Health Service after arrival. Students who do not submit records or obtain immunization after arrival may not remain at the University. Rutgers requires students to show proof of required measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccinations or immunity to these diseases. In addition, all undergraduates who will live in University Housing must show proof of having received a meningococcal vaccination prior to moving into their residence hall. (The vaccine is available on campus at the University Student



Health Services if it is unavailable in your home country). Also, students from countries considered to be “high risk” for tuberculosis must present results of a tuberculosis skin test prior to registration. Documentation has to be in the form of school immunization records, physicians’ records, or vaccination records from a public health department. When you receive the immunization forms from Rutgers, have them completed by a physician or other medical practitioner. Additional vaccinations may also be recommended. For complete information, see <http://health.rutgers.edu/immunizations/faq.htm>

Health Insurance

Medical care in the United States is very expensive. One visit to a doctor's office can cost \$150 or more, and one overnight stay in a hospital can easily cost \$2000 or more. It is essential to have adequate health and accident insurance to cover the cost of routine medical care as well as emergencies, and Rutgers’ policy requires all international students and their visa dependents to have such coverage at all times, either through the University’s program or through personal coverage outside the University.

All Rutgers **students who are registered for a full-time credit load** are provided “basic” health and accident insurance (coverage up to \$5,000). All students on Rutgers’ F or J visa sponsorship are provided both basic and “major medical” insurance (coverage up to \$250,000). The plans are in effect from the beginning of your first semester through the beginning of the fall semester of the following year and are paid for through your student fees. The basic plan includes a health fee covering the cost of using the student health service. **PLEASE NOTE: Students are required to be insured upon arrival in the U.S.; therefore, please come with temporary coverage that will be valid in the U.S. from your arrival date until the first day of the semester.**

Dependents of students in F and J status are required to have comprehensive basic and major medical insurance as well. Purchase of such coverage through Rutgers or proof of coverage through an alternate insurance plan is required at the time an F-1 or J-1 student asks OISS to issue a visa document (I-20 or DS-2019) for the dependent(s).

Student health insurance policies do not cover 100% of all medical expenses. Major medical coverage has a “deductible” (an amount the insured has to pay before the insurance company will begin paying), while certain expenses such as dental care, eyeglasses, and prescription drugs are not covered at all. Full-time students can receive free primary medical care at the Rutgers Student Health Center; services include physical examinations and treatment, psychological counseling, some laboratory tests, and discount pharmaceutical services.

ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

Each new student admitted to Rutgers is assigned an academic adviser to assist in the planning of an academic program consistent with educational and career objectives. In a large university with many resources, it is essential to build a coherent and well-thought out degree program with an adviser who is knowledgeable about academic options, procedures, policies, rules and regulations. It is your responsibility to come prepared to discuss your academic interests.



Although these may change as you become more familiar with the University, advance planning and consultation will facilitate the formulation of your academic program.

Undergraduate students with undeclared major receive academic advising in the Dean for Student Affairs Office; those with an undergraduate major receive academic advising in the academic services office of their school; graduate students receive it in their academic department.

International students should be certain when registering for classes to spell their name on University registration forms exactly the same as it is spelled in their passport and on their other legal documents.

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES (OISS)

The Office of International Student and Scholar Services (OISS) is a vital reference point for international students and scholars. Members of OISS staff advise on legal, cultural, educational, social, and personal matters. OISS coordinates programs with and for international students and scholars, and serves as an advocate for the campus's international community. We hope you will maintain close ties with OISS throughout your stay.

Many details regarding your relationship to the U.S. government, to your own government, or to your sponsoring agency are handled by OISS staff.

All F-1 and J-1 students on Rutgers University's visa sponsorship are required by U.S. law to report to OISS upon arrival and to keep OISS informed of changes in your address, curriculum, program, and status at all times.

If you have questions regarding your travel and arrival which are not answered in this brochure, write to the Office of International Student and Scholar Services, Rutgers University - Newark, 175 University Avenue, Conklin Hall, Newark, New Jersey 07102-1814, call 973-353-1427, or e-mail oiss@andromeda.rutgers.edu. Information about services and programs, including orientation dates, is on our website <http://oiss.rutgers.edu/>

IF YOUR PLANS CHANGE

We hope you will enroll at Rutgers, but if you do not, please return the original Form I-20 or DS-2019 to the address below, and notify the admissions office of your decision:

Office of International Student and Scholar Services
Rutgers University – Newark
175 University Avenue, Conklin Hall
Newark, New Jersey 07102-1814

We look forward to welcoming you to join our international community at Rutgers Newark!