

## **FALL 2019 CHECKLIST for New Exchange Students**

Now that you have been accepted to the University of Colorado at Boulder as an exchange student, there are a number of steps you need to take as soon as you receive the DS-2019 (if you will come as a J-1 student) or I-20 (if you will come as an F-1 student). International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) has prepared this checklist to assist you.

### **Make Sure Your Passport is Valid**

Your passport must be valid for at least six months after the date you enter the United States.

### **Pay Your SEVIS Fee**

J-1 and F-1 visa holders beginning a new program at CU-Boulder have to pay a SEVIS fee to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) **before** a visa can be issued. Carefully review these two web sites for information about the SEVIS fee and to access the form you will need to fill out. See: [SEVIS FEE](#) and [SEVIS Fee Payment Tutorial](#)

### **Apply for Your Visa**

Apply at the nearest US embassy or consulate as soon as you receive your I-20 or DS-2019, since the visa may take some time to obtain. You will have to make an appointment to go to the embassy or consulate. You must take your SEVIS fee receipt with you to your appointment.

### **Read Pre-Arrival Information**

Please review the [ISSS new student website information](#) for all incoming international students. Please read it carefully since **not all the information applies to you as an exchange student**. If you have any questions, please email us at [iss@colorado.edu](mailto:iss@colorado.edu).

- Register for your courses: [Exchange Student Registration](#). Prepare your finances.
- Prepare your [insurance compliance form](#)
- Prepare and bring your complete immunization records.
- Make your travel arrangements: If you are arriving in Boulder before your residence hall room is available and you need a place to stay, see a list of hotels at: [Boulder Colorado Accommodations](#)
- Make housing arrangements: Refer to your post acceptance questionnaire for more information.
  - If you wish to reside in Bear Creek Apartments, apply early! [Bear Creek Application](#)
  - If you wish to reside in the Residence Halls, apply ASAP: <https://living.colorado.edu/apply>
- Prepare packages you want to mail, if any. Address them to your residence hall.
- Choose clothing you will need for your first few months in Boulder. Read about Boulder's variable climate: [Boulder Colorado Weather](#)
- Complete the friendship host program form if you want a hospitality host. These local families can be very helpful for new exchange students. See the Boulder Friends of



International Students (BFIS) website at: [Boulder Friends of International Students](#) for the hospitality host application.

- Apply to have an International Student Guide assist you if you want one. These continuing CU-Boulder students are a great help in your first weeks in Boulder. For more information see our website: [International Student Guide Program](#)

### **Travel Tips**

You may arrive in the United States **up to 30 days** before your report date on your DS-2019 or your I-20.

You may remain in the U.S. for 30 days **after** the end date on your DS-2019 (if you are a J-student) or 60 days **after** the end date on your I-20 (if you are a F-student), if you choose. If you want to stay longer, then please consult with ISSS about your options to change your status.

Plan your travel so that you arrive in Boulder by **Sunday, August 18, 2019**.

If you are going to move into **Bear Creek Apartments**, you may move in on **Sunday, August 18, 2019**. If you need to move in earlier, please contact [BearCreekApartments@Colorado.edu](mailto: BearCreekApartments@Colorado.edu) for early move in options.

If you arrive earlier than Sunday, you will need to obtain alternative housing at your own expense. Please see a list of Boulder hotels at: [Boulder Colorado Accommodations](#)

Expect the process at the U.S. Port of Entry to take time. Allow at least two hours to clear the port of entry and to transfer to your next flight.

Bring with you on board the airplane the following documents so you can present them if needed at U.S. Customs and Port of Entry upon arrival:

- Your passport
- SEVIS form DS-2019 (if you are a J-student) or I-20 (if you are an F-student)
- Evidence of your financial resources
- Evidence of your student or exchange visitor status; such as your acceptance letter
- Paper receipt for the payment of the SEVIS fee
- International Student & Scholar Services contact information
- Completed J-1 insurance compliance form and information on your policy (if you are a J-student).

### **Upon Arrival in Boulder. You Must Attend These Required Meetings:**

1. **Exchange Student Meet & Greet:** TBD
2. **Meeting for Exchange Students & Immigration Reporting Session:** TBD

**Please Mark These Dates and Times on Your Calendar and Plan to Attend:**

<p>Arrival date for exchange students is, <b>Sunday, August 18, 2019</b></p>	<p>All J-1 students may arrive up to 30 days early, but should arrive no later than Sunday, August 18, 2019</p>
<p><b><u>Exchange students move in: Bear Creek Apartments:</u></b>  <b>Sunday, August 18, 2019. Please contact Bear Creek directly to request early move-in. Please advise them you are an exchange student.</b></p>	<p>Please read the notice you will receive from Bear Creek Apartments to confirm the location. See our campus map at: <a href="#">CU Campus Map</a></p> <p>If you arrive in Boulder before your Bear Creek Apartment is available, please see your hotel options: <a href="#">Boulder Colorado Accommodations</a></p>
<p><b><u>Exchange students move in: Residence Halls:</u></b>  <b>Sunday, August 18, 2019.</b></p>	<p>You will receive information directly from CU Housing.</p>
<p><b><u>Required Exchange Student Meet &amp; Greet:</u></b>  TBD</p>	<p>This is an informal meeting with incoming exchange students and staff. There will be free refreshments and a chance to meet other international students.</p>
<p><b><u>Required Meeting for Exchange Students &amp; Immigration Reporting Session::</u></b> TBD</p>	<p>You are <b>REQUIRED</b> to attend this meeting that covers topics relevant to exchange students only, including your required immigration reporting session. <b>Please allow about 2 hours of your time. DO NOT MISS this meeting!!</b></p>
Monday, August 26	First day of classes
To be determined	Deadline to waive insurance
Thursday, September 5	Payment of bill due at Bursar's Office
Monday-Friday, November 25-29	Fall Break, no classes
Thursday, December 12	Last day of classes
Friday, December 13	Reading Day
Saturday-Wednesday, December 14 - 18	Final Exams

For details on important academic dates please see: [Fall 2019 Academic Calendar](#) and download the Fall 2019 Academic Calendar.