



Office of International Students & Scholars
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Welcome to UC Santa Barbara Fall 2013

The Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) congratulates you on your admission to UCSB. This letter summarizes some of the key information about applying for the student visa, how to reach Santa Barbara, what to do when you arrive as well as how to get oriented and settled. We encourage you to explore the Student Section of our web page at <http://www.oiiss.ucsb.edu/Students/index.aspx>

GETTING YOUR VISA:

Enclosed you will find your Certificate of Eligibility (I-20 form for the F-1 visa or DS-2019 form for the J-1 visa) which is the document that you need to use to apply for your student visa. We also enclose information about how to apply for your student visa.

GETTING TO SANTA BARBARA: If you can possibly book your airline ticket to the Santa Barbara Airport (SBA), we encourage you to do so. From the airport, it is a short taxi ride to the campus. If you arrive at the Los Angeles Airport (LAX), you might want to consider taking the Santa Barbara Airbus to our area. The last Airbus stop is closest to the campus and is located in the town of Goleta.
<http://www.sbairbus.com>

WHEN TO ARRIVE: When making your travel plans, please remember that you can enter the United States up to 30 days before the start date on the I-20 or DS-2019 form, but not earlier.

ORIENTATION: The Education Abroad Program Student Orientation is a good way to meet key people on campus, learn useful information, and make new friends. The Orientation will be held on **Monday, September 23, 2013 from 8:00am – 2:00 p.m.** You will need to register for the orientation at <http://www.oiiss.ucsb.edu/orientationprefs>

The estimated cost of \$20 will be charged to your university student account, known as BARC.

TEMPORARY HOUSING: For those who need temporary housing before the residence halls open, the Residential Services office offers temporary housing in the Santa Rosa Hall from August 31 through September 21. The estimated cost is \$55.00 per night, all rooms are double occupancy. No reservations are required. Other temporary accommodations are listed in the Student Section of our web site.

CHECK IN WITH OISS: When you arrive on campus, please come to our office on the third floor of the Student Resource Building (SRB) so that we can give you a welcome packet that will contain the orientation program and other useful information. In addition, you will need to bring your passport, I-20 or DS-2019 form and the white card the immigration authorities will give you when you enter the United States.

We look forward to meeting you in person when you arrive on campus.

Sincerely,
The Staff of the Office of International Students and Scholars