Welcome to Colorado State University

Colorado State University has welcomed international students for more than one hundred years. Currently, more than 1,700 international students and scholars from over 90 countries study and work here in Fort Collins. CSU places great value in the cultural and intellectual diversity that you will bring to our community. On behalf of the Office of International Programs, we look forward to welcoming you to campus.

The Globe Trotter provides information to help you to prepare for your first few weeks in Colorado. By reading this guide thoroughly, you will understand the services we provide to assist you in your transition to CSU and to be prepared for the tasks ahead.

Sincerely,

Mark Hallett
Senior Director
International Student & Scholar Services

Contact:
Office of International Programs
Laurel Hall
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523 - 1024
USA

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
E-mail address: isss@colostate.edu
Phone number: (001)970.491.5917
Fax number: (001)970.491.5501

Other Resources
Colorado State University: www.colostate.edu, check out the main university web page.
International Programs Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/world2csu/, connect with other students.
RAMWeb: www.ramweb.colostate.edu, sign up for classes, pay bills, search for jobs and more!
CSU Events Calendar: www.calendar.colostate.edu, discover activities to participate in while at CSU!
Virtual Tour of CSU: www.maps.colostate.edu, become familiar with the layout of your new university.
Fort Collins Visitors Information: www.ftcollins.com, explore the fun things our city has to offer.
City of Fort Collins: www.fcgov.com, learn more about living in Fort Collins.
Colorado Travel & Tourism: www.colorado.com, search the uniqueness of Colorado.
U.S. Visa and Immigration-related Information

1. Receive an I-20 or DS-2019 from Colorado State University
   In order to apply for a visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate, you must first have a SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) generated document (an I-20 or DS-2019) issued by a U.S. college or university. You will be required to submit this form when you apply for a visa. The U.S. academic institution or program sponsor will provide you with the appropriate SEVIS-generated form only when you have been academically admitted to the institution or accepted as a participant in an exchange program and have provided evidence of financial support.

2. Make a visa appointment at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate
   Oftentimes, you can make an appointment for your visa interview online. This website lists all U.S. Embassies and Consulates: http://www.usembassy.gov/

   It is best to apply early for the visa to make sure that there is sufficient time for the visa to be processed. The consular officer may need to get special clearances depending on your course of study and nationality. This can take some additional time. However, the U.S. Embassy/Consulate cannot issue an F-1 visa more than 120 days before the actual start date of your program in the United States. (However, if you are applying for a J-1 visa you may apply anytime before the beginning of your program.) Also, keep in mind that June, July, and August are the busiest months in most consular sections, and interview appointments are the most difficult to get during that period.

3. Complete the following form available on the U.S. Embassy and Consulate home pages: DS-160 (a nonimmigrant electronic visa application)

4. Pay the visa application fee by following the instructions on your local U.S. Embassy or Consulate’s website.

5. Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee (www.fmjfee.com)
   Be sure to input your name exactly as it appears on the I-20 or DS-2019 form. Print a copy of the online receipt and bring it to your visa interview. (Canadians should present this receipt at the U.S. border.) Be sure to make copies of this receipt and keep it with your other important immigration documents.

6. Prepare and bring the following to your visa interview:
   - A passport valid for at least six months
   - Form I-20 or DS-2019 (Be sure to sign your name and date it.)
   - School admission letter
   - Completed visa application forms (a printed DS-160 confirmation notice)
   - Two “2” x “2” photographs in the prescribed format (http://travel.state.gov/visa/visaphotoreq/visaphotoreq_5334.html)
   - A receipt of the paid SEVIS I-901 fee
   - Financial evidence that shows you have sufficient funds to cover your tuition and living expenses during the period of your study.
   - Any information that proves that you will return to your home country after finishing your studies in the U.S. This may include proof of property, family, or other ties to your community.

7. Remain calm and answer all the Visa Officer’s questions openly and honestly.

8. Plan Your Arrival
   Keep in mind, you will not be allowed to enter the country more than 30 days before the start of your program if you are an initial entry student. Returning students do not have this requirement. Please plan to arrive before the mandatory orientation, which is the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before classes begin.

   Remember: always carry your I-20 or DS-2019 and passport with you and not in your luggage!

9. As You Arrive at the Port of Entry
   Proceed to the terminal area for arriving passengers. Have the following documents available for presentation: your passport; SEVIS form (I-20 or DS-2019); and Customs Declaration Form (CF-6059). The Customs and Declaration Form should reflect the address where you will reside, not the address of the school or program.

   All visitors entering the US must state their reasons for wishing to enter the country. You will also be asked to provide information about your final destination. It is important that you tell the CBP officer that you will be a student. Be prepared to include the name and address of the school program where you will enroll/participate.

   Once your inspection is successfully completed, the inspecting officer will:
   - Stamp your passport. Please make sure this is stamped with your correct visa type (either F or J) and marked D/S for Duration of Status.
   - All students and exchange visitors who are granted entry into the United States will be assigned an Admission Number (I-94). You can locate your I-94 number by visiting this website: http://cbp.gov/i94. More information regarding the I-94 number will be provided at orientation.

   Secondary Inspection Requirements
   If the CBP officer at the port of entry cannot initially verify your information or you do not have all of the required documentation, you may be directed to an interview area known as “secondary inspection.” Secondary inspection allows inspectors to conduct additional research in order to verify information without causing delays for other arriving passengers.

   The inspector will first attempt to verify your status by using the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). In the event that the CBP Officer needs to verify information with your school or program, please contact:
   - Mark Hallett, Senior Director of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) at (970) 491-5917. In case of an emergency, Mark can be paged after hours by calling the Colorado State University Operator at (970) 491-1111.

10. What to Do When You Arrive at Colorado State University
    Once you arrive on campus, you should report immediately to the Office of International Student and Scholar Services to check in. When you come, you need to bring your passport, visa, and your I-20 or DS-2019. That office must report your arrival within the SEVIS system. If this report is not submitted, you may be considered to be in violation of your status in the United States, so be sure to make the ISSS office one of your first stops on campus.

   For the latest updates, visit http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/students/accepted/
Getting Finances in Order

How much money should I bring to the US?
A typical student will spend approximately $185 a month on personal expenses. Please plan to bring additional money for setting up your room or apartment.

Tuition and Fee Due Dates
Colorado State University offers electronic billing and one payment due date for each semester. Email notification will be sent to student’s colostate.edu email addresses. Students can access their CSU bill through their RAMWeb account (www.ramweb.colostate.edu). They can also create and maintain additional eBilling addresses on RAMweb.

Each semester’s tuition and fees must be paid in full by the designated deadline. Tuition, fees, residence hall charges, health insurance and other institutional charges will be billed in August and due on September 10 for the fall semester; billed in January and due on February 10 for the spring semester; and billed in May and due on June 10 for the summer term. Late fees will be charged if the bill has not been paid in full by this date, and a registration hold will be placed on your student account.

For more information on billing, please visit the Student Financial Services Website: http://sfs.colostate.edu/payingyourbill/faqs.aspx

Health Insurance
International students are required to purchase the CSU Health Insurance Plan or show proof of equivalent coverage. The CSU Health Insurance Plan begins the date that classes start, and it is recommended that students have temporary insurance coverage up to this date. Student Health Insurance Plan Premium Rates for International Students - Fall 2013 $685 and Spring 2014 $705 (includes Summer). Visit www.health.colostate.edu for plan coverage details.

International students are automatically enrolled in the CSU Health Insurance Plan. You may waive the CSU Health Insurance Plan if you are sure your plan meets CSU’s minimum requirements:
- Per sickness or accident benefit of at least $500,000
- No lifetime maximum amount allowed on essential health benefits*
- No greater than a 6 month pre-existing condition waiting period
- No greater than a $500.00 deductible per person
- Minimum of $10,000 in repatriation benefits
- Minimum of $25,000 in medical evacuation benefits
- Co-insurance: 80% insurance/20% your responsibility

*Essential health benefits include: Preventative and wellness services, prescription coverage, out-patient services, hospitalization, emergency services, maternity and newborn care, laboratory services, chronic disease management, mental/behavioral health and substance use disorder services (minimum of 45 in-patient and 20 out-patient days).

In general, waivers may be approved for the following types of insurance plans:
- Employer group health plans with acceptable deductible levels
- Sponsored health insurance plans approved through the CSU Office of International Programs
- U.S. government sponsored insurance plans (Tricare, Veteran Benefits, Medicare or Medicaid)
- Individual health insurance plans that meet Federal Health Care Reform Law

Waivers will not be approved for the following types of insurance plans:
- Short term, in-bound travel policies, policies not written in English and policies without benefits listed in U.S. dollars
- Short term, limited duration, sickness and accident insurance plan
- Foreign insurance plans with U.S. affiliates/representatives or reimbursement programs
- Plans that do not meet Federal Health Care Reform Law

Additional information regarding the waiver process can be found at http://health.colostate.edu/student-health-insurance/

Bringing Your Family?
The Office of International Programs understands that the success of our international students and scholars is often times dependent upon the happiness of their families. We offer a variety of programs and services to help meet the unique needs of international spouses and families, which you can learn about here: http://isss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=spouses_families

Please keep the following in mind as you and your family prepare for your new life at CSU:
- Living Expenses may increase by 50-percent or more since you will likely have an increase in your rent, purchase additional bus passes, more food, child care, etc.
- Health Insurance—CSU does not offer a spouse or dependent health insurance plan. For information regarding other possible health insurance options for your family, please visit www.health.colostate.edu under the Student Health Insurance tab.
- Spouses or domestic partners of eligible students may access the CSU Health Network by paying the Student Health Fee on a semester basis or paying for medical services as they are received.
- F-2 Dependents may not work nor apply for work permission under any circumstances. J-2 dependents may apply for work permission from the USCIS only if the income earned is to be used for support of the spouse or children, not for support of the J-1 student or scholar.

For the latest updates, visit http://isss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=new_students
Health History

Health History and Tuberculosis Screening
To receive the best health care possible, it is helpful for CSU Health Network care providers to know your medical history before they see you. Take time to consult your family members or your doctor before leaving so you can fill out your health history and tuberculosis screening information before coming to campus. The Health History form can be found here: http://health.colostate.edu/health-records/.

Students from counties with a high incidence of tuberculosis (See Tuberculosis Screening Form for complete list) must submit documentation of the tuberculosis skin test or IGRA blood test result. If either is positive, a copy of the chest x-ray result must also be submitted.

Also take some time to become familiar with what medical, counseling and health education and prevention services the CSU Health Network has to offer.

Alcohol Edu & Haven: Sexual Assault Prevention Program
All incoming students under the age of 23 must complete the online Alcohol Edu & Haven: Sexual Assault Prevention Program. Expect an e-mail from the university, one month prior to the start of classes, inviting you to access the program through your RamWeb account. An incomplete program will result in a registration hold for the following semester. Visit www.health.colostate.edu for details.

Arriving to Colorado State University
Fort Collins is most easily reached by way of Denver, Colorado, a city an hour south of CSU. Denver is accessible from any place in the United States by air, train or bus.

Shuttle Service from DIA:
The most economical way to travel between the Denver International Airport (DIA) and Fort Collins is to take either the Greenride or Super Shuttle. Both of these transportation services offer rides every day of the week. Please see the Greenride or Super Shuttle websites (listed below) for exact times for each day. Travel time is approximately 1.5 hours to reach Fort Collins. Both services drop passengers off at various Fort Collins locations, including major hotels and the CSU campus. For an additional fee, they also offer a door-to-door drop off. For more information or to place an online reservation visit: http://www.greenrideco.com or http://www.supershuttle.com.

Bus Service: Greyhound buses to Fort Collins leave from downtown Denver at 1005 19th Street. Information available at: www.greyhound.com


Travel by Car: Use the map on this page, and an online navigation site of choice.

Upon Arrival: If arriving in Fort Collins between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, the first destination, in order to check in, should be the Office of International Programs in Laurel Hall on the CSU campus. If arriving after office hours, please plan on coming to our office on the next working day.

Immunization Records
Colorado law requires every student to provide proof of two vaccinations against measles and mumps and one vaccine against rubella (MMR) before coming to campus. You should receive the required vaccinations and submit completed records before you register for classes. Incomplete immunization information will delay your registration for the following semester until the proper information is received.

The completed immunization record must:
• Include your name and birth date.
• Show proof of two vaccinations for measles and mumps and one vaccination for rubella given no earlier than 4 days before the student's first birthday. There must be at least 28 calendar days between the two vaccinations.
• Include the day, month and year of vaccinations.
• Be signed by a doctor, nurse, or school official and dated after the last MMR. AND Be translated into English.

You can submit your records to the CSU Health Network Immunizations Clinic by: Fax: (970) 491-0268; Mail: CSU Health Network, Immunizations Clinic, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-8031 E-mail scanned original (with health care provider's signature): CSUHN_immunize@mail.colostate.edu

Travel Times to Other Cities
Thinking about traveling to other cities or places in the United States? Here is a quick list of some estimated driving distances from the CSU campus to different cities and sites around the country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rocky Mountain National Park</td>
<td>41 miles (66 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boulder, CO</td>
<td>55 miles (88 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>64 miles (103 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vail Ski Resort</td>
<td>156 miles (251 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>806 miles (1,297 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>1,003 miles (1,615 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>1,075 miles (1,730 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>1,222 miles (1,966 km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>1,790 miles (2,880 km)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the latest updates, visit http://issss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=new_students
Permanent Housing Options Available in Fort Collins

All students must arrange their own living accommodations before arrival in Fort Collins.

On-Campus Housing:
All newly admitted first year undergraduate students, also known as freshmen, are required to live and dine on campus in the residence halls for their first two semesters. Therefore, housing is guaranteed for freshmen students. Transfer students and graduate students are not guaranteed housing.

Residence Halls: There are 15 residence halls on the CSU campus. Most residence hall rooms host two students in one room. Consider living in one of the Residential Learning Communities (RLC) to enhance your academic and social experience at CSU.

Apartments: There are three apartment complexes, offering both single and family apartments. Furnished apartments as well as month-to-month leases are available. With some apartments undergoing construction until Fall 2016, we encourage you to take advantage of suite-style rooms in Residence Halls during your first few years at CSU.

For more information about the on-campus housing options, please visit www.housing.colostate.edu

Tips for Applying to On-Campus Housing:
Apply for housing immediately after you receive admission. Housing space fills quickly. The earlier you apply, the better the chance you will receive housing. It is never too early to apply.

The Apartment Life housing deposit is refundable if you decide not to attend Colorado State University and you have not received an apartment assignment. Residence Life housing deposit is partially refundable based on the date you notify the office of your cancellation.

Off-Campus Housing Tips
Off-campus housing is another option available for transfer and graduate students. Off-campus housing is not an option for newly admitted first year students, also known as freshmen, who are required to live and dine on campus in the residence halls for their first two semesters.

If you prefer to live off-campus, you should arrive as early as possible to make appropriate arrangements. Suitable and convenient off-campus housing is available; however, may take time to find and fills quickly as many other students are also searching for cheap and convenient rentals.

The Off Campus Life office has a website for international students looking for housing, including the CSU Rental Search (with listings by other students) and Temporary Housing resources: http://ocl.colostate.edu/international-students

The ISSS Program Coordinator maintains an updated list of community members offering rental arrangements specifically for international students. Please email aimee.walton@colostate.edu for this list.

CSU Students also use a Facebook page to notify classmates of the most recent rental openings: http://tinyurl.com/csuFBhousing

Please note that finding furnished apartments is rare, and most apartment owners require a one year lease. Be sure to visit the off-campus rental in person before committing and signing a lease.

Student Legal Services will help you with the lease signing process to make sure that the lease is legal and appropriate. It is recommended that you utilize this service before signing the lease. For more infor-

Temporary Housing Available for New Arrivals

We request students arrive at least the Monday before orientation, which is the week before classes begin. Sometimes there are a couple of days between your move-in date to your apartment or residence hall and the date when you arrive. Therefore, you may need to find temporary housing for the first couple of nights you are in Fort Collins. The following temporary options are offered as you wait for your permanent accommodations to become available.

Temporary Home-stay Program (August & January)
The Fort Collins International Center (FCIC) is a community organization that partners with CSU in providing a good experience for international students. FCIC can arrange for you to stay 3 to 5 nights with a local U.S. family upon your arrival to Fort Collins. It is also a great opportunity to learn more about U.S. American culture and become friends with U.S. Americans.

To Request a Temporary Home-stay: Please request your home-stay at least a month before you arrive, as this is a popular option for incoming international students and space is limited. Please fill out the request form here: http://tinyurl.com/CSUhomestay

International Student Groups:
If your country has an international student group at CSU, you may choose to contact the leader of the organization. The group may be able to provide you with temporary housing. Visit the international student group website at http://isss.colostate.edu/forms/international_student_orgs.pdf

Local Hotels:
You may choose to stay in a hotel at an average cost of US $85 to $150 per night. Hotel information is available online at http://www.fortcollins.com/hotels.html.

Temporary Rental in a Home:
There are a small number of families who have space in their homes to temporarily rent to an international student. For more information about this option, please contact our programming coordinator Aimee Nord at aimee.walton@colostate.edu.

For more temporary housing options, visit http://www.ocl.colostate.edu/temporary-housing-suggestions

For the latest updates, visit http://isss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=new_students
Orientation for New Students

Coming to a new country can be an exciting opportunity, but also a difficult experience. To assist you with the transition from your home country to CSU, the Office of International Programs requires all new international students to attend International Student Orientation. The mandatory International Student Orientation is on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday before classes begin. We recommend that you arrive in Fort Collins by or before the Monday before orientation.

Please visit our website to register for International Student Orientation and learn more about this fun filled week.

The International Student Orientation will provide you with:

- Skills to balance requirements of U.S. immigration regulations with that of CSU academic policies.
- Foundational knowledge of the U.S. American Academic culture, which emphasizes personal responsibility for learning, understanding, and following all regulations.
- Various tours of the campus and community.
- Trips to local stores for purchasing personal items.
- Evening social events to help you become acquainted with fellow students and the Fort Collins & CSU community.
- Information about U.S. laws, safety, and health-care.
- Useful tips about overcoming culture shock, interacting with U.S. Americans and how to make the most of your intercultural experience at CSU.

Cultural Mentor Program

One of the best parts of the mandatory orientation is becoming acquainted with your Cultural Mentor group. Cultural Mentors are CSU students who assist new international students in adjusting to life and the culture at CSU and the greater Fort Collins community. They will be involved throughout the orientation week to help answer questions and aid new students in different tasks throughout the week. The Cultural Mentors also plan various activities throughout the semester that are a great way to build community at CSU.

Join our Facebook group where many Cultural Mentor events are advertised: https://www.facebook.com/groups/world2csu/.

Students can also request to contact a Cultural Mentor through email, by sending a request to ISSS@colostate.edu.

The best place to learn about programs & events is through our INTLInfo listserv. Sign up at this website www.acns.colostate.edu/ListServ/SubscribeNonCourse. Choose “list”, scroll down to “INTLINFO”, and enter your name and email address.

Day in the Mountains

As a continuation of orientation, the Office of International Programs offers a retreat to Colorado’s mountains within the first month of your orientation. This unique program takes students up into the picturesque Rocky Mountains for a day of intercultural activities and relationship-building with other students. Past activities included discussions about culture shock, diversity appreciation and other topics relating to new international students. Find more information at: http://isss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=day_in_mountains.

Register for Classes

Pathway and INTO program students

All new students are given a placement exam to determine the level they will study in the Academic English Program. The INTO - CSU programs are ideal for international students who need additional English language and academic preparation before continuing to a degree program at the university. For more information please visit www.intohigher.com/coloradostate.

Undergraduate Students

Undergraduate Students, who met English proficiency requirements, should sign up for classes at least one month before arriving in Fort Collins. Please see the document entitled “Important Information on How to Sign Up for Classes.” Students will need to complete an online Pre-Orientation Module, and the Math and Composition Placement Exams. After these tasks are completed, students will receive an advising code which will enable them to sign up for classes through RAMweb. For more information, please visit http://advising.colostate.edu/students/ramweb/index.cfm. If students do not sign up for classes before arrival, they will be able to sign up during our orientation.

Please note that course selection will be limited. Students may not be able to sign up for the classes necessary during their first semester if they delay and wait to sign up for classes at orientation. This restriction is why it is recommended students complete the Module at least one month before arriving at CSU.

Transfer Students

Transfer students should also complete the Pre-Orientation Module, just like all undergraduate students. While transfer students have submitted secondary course work with their admission application, they will also need to submit more detailed information about their transfer courses in order to possibly gain some course credit toward their CSU degree.

Please refer to this website on directions on how to receive credit through transfer evaluation: http://registrar.colostate.edu/students/transfer/transferpolicies.aspx.

For questions, contact registraroffice@colostate.edu.

Graduate students

Graduate students should contact their department to receive information about signing up for classes. Each graduate department has different policies about signing up for classes. Please refer to this guide for contact information for each academic department: http://graduateschool.colostate.edu/prospective-students/degrees.aspx
Fort Collins International Center

Fort Collins International Center is an all volunteer community organization devoted to enhancing international understanding, cultural exchange and friendship among international students, domestic students and the Fort Collins community. It is the officially recognized volunteer organization of the Office of International Programs at CSU. The Fort Collins International Center support international students, their families and the broader community with the following programs:

**International Friends:**
Families or individuals from our community offer new international students a way to get acquainted with Fort Collins and make new friends by inviting them to dinner in their homes and attending various events in the area. Friendships develop as they share experiences and each other’s unique culture.

**Friday Afternoon Club (FAC):**
During the academic year international students and community members meet regularly for conversation, food and fun. In the summer these weekly social gatherings move outside for a traditional U.S. American potluck picnic and hamburgers on the grill.

State of Colorado

Named after its red colored earth, found mostly in the southern part of Colorado, Colorado's name originates from Spanish origin, meaning "red colored." While Colorado State University is located in a very green part of the state, Colorado has a diversity of landscapes, which include mountains, canyons, mesas, plateaus, desert, and plains of farmland. Colorado is distinctive through its beautiful nature and preserved wildlife. The mountainous region makes it a perfect place to learn and enjoy skiing, snowboarding and many other winter sports.

Its capitol Denver is a great combination of exciting urban culture and natural areas. You can find many nightclubs, shopping malls and skyscrapers mixed with the largest city park system in the nation. Denver also hosts several professional sports teams and several world-class performing arts centers and theaters. Denver is about an hour by car from Fort Collins.

**Outdoor Activities:**
International students and their friends from the community join each month for a day, overnight or an extended trip to experience the beauty that is unique to Colorado. These events will allow them to try various outdoor activities they may have never done before.

**International Night at the Library:**
Thought provoking and informative global programs are presented monthly by students or members of our own community. This is an opportunity to share information about their home country and culture.

**Global Ambassadors:**
International students and scholars from numerous countries speak about their experiences and culture in local classrooms and also to the community. This opportunity is an excellent way to practice their presentation skills, meet new people and make new friends.

**Conversational English Classes:**
Free weekly classes during the academic year offer help with language skills, insight into U.S. customs, and a place to share cultural experiences.

For more information, please visit the Fort Collins International Center’s website at [http://www.fortcollinsinternationalcenter.org/](http://www.fortcollinsinternationalcenter.org/)

City of Fort Collins

Fort Collins is a U.S. American college town with a global atmosphere. Old Town Fort Collins was the inspiration for the Disneyland Main Street in California. Old Town is a viable business district with many historic buildings as well as new structures to compliment the original ones. Fashionable clothes, sporting equipment, food markets, ice-cream shops and art galleries can all be found in this unique area.

Outside activity is one of Fort Collins' longest traditions. Besides globally favored sports such as soccer, basketball and volleyball, students can also enjoy hiking, biking, rafting, rock climbing, horseback riding, fishing, and camping through the city park system, the Horsetooth reservoir, the Poudre Canyon, and other nearby open spaces.

As a vibrant student town Fort Collins also excites its newcomers with numerous restaurants, coffee houses, theaters, cinemas, and

**Top Things to do while at CSU**

- Experience U.S. American Football: attend Football 101 and go to a CSU Football Game.
- Discover and take a picture with Cam the Ram and the “A.”
- Attend Day in the Mountains.
- Participate with International Festival: World Unity Fair.
- Attend Homecoming and other CSU traditional events.
- Volunteer with a service-learning project at CSU.
- Share your culture through the Global Ambassadors Program, at the Friday Afternoon Club, or through other programs.
- Travel throughout Colorado: visit Mesa Verde, the Great Sand Dunes, Dinosaur National Monument, Aspen, and more.
- Learn to ski, snowboard, snow-shoe, or make a snowman.
- Make friends with people from all around the world, especially from the United States.

**Weather in Fort Collins**

Fort Collins boasts an average of 300 days of sunshine per year! The area also features low humidity, moderate winters and an overall mild year-round climate. You can expect about 15 inches (40 cm) of precipitation each year with about one-third of it in the form of snow.

Because of the dry air and the high altitude, it is important for you to drink a lot of water each day and wear protective sun gear. The average high temperature in the summer months is about 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees Celsius). During the winter months you can expect an average high of approximately 45 degrees Fahrenheit (7 degrees Celsius), and temperatures can dip below 0 degrees Fahrenheit (-18 degrees Celsius) with high wind speeds for extended periods.

For the latest updates, visit [http://issss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=new_students](http://issss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=new_students)
The Globe Trotter: Office of International Programs

PRE - DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

Immigration Documents: (see page 2)
- Passport valid at least six months from the date you plan to enter the U.S.
- Valid visa for the school you will attend.
- I-20 or DS2019 with a report date of your planned enrollment.
- Copy all documents prior to departure.
- Hand carry all originals and put copies in a separate place.

Financial: (see page 3)
- Bring enough accessible money in cash, debit cards or travelers checks for initial living expenses such as housing and food. Please note that while traveler’s checks are a safer way to bring money, they are hard to cash in shops and usually need to be cashed in a bank.
- Make plans on how you will pay for your tuition and fees by the designated deadlines.
- Textbooks are expensive. Budget for US $300-600 per semester.

Academic: (see page 6)
- Fully admitted undergraduate students should:
  - Take the Composition Exam before arriving. http://compexam.colostate.edu/.
  - Complete the Pre-Orientation Online Module. https://ramct.colostate.edu.

Fully admitted graduate students should contact their departments to gain information about their pre-arrival academic needs.

Sharing:
- Music, crafts, videos, picture books, recipes and clothing from your home country

Health Documents: (see page 3 and 4)
- Travel insurance to cover you until the first day of classes.
- Immunization records in English submitted or bring with you
- CSU Student Health Insurance waiver considerations
- Prescription medication for chronic medical conditions.
- Health history and tuberculosis screening results submitted through Health History and Tuberculosis Screening Portal at www.health.colostate.edu or bring with you tuberculosis skin test or IGRA blood test result and chest x-ray result
- Alcohol Edu and Haven: Sexual Assault Prevention Program completed

Health Care:
- Visit your eye doctor and get an extra pair of glasses.
- Visit your dentist.
- Visit your medical doctor for a check-up.

Transportation: (see page 4)
- Schedule your travel plans so that you arrive in time to attend orientation on the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before classes begin. We prefer that you arrive the Monday before orientation.
- If you are flying into Denver International Airport, schedule a shuttle through Greenride or Super Shuttle to take you from the Denver airport to Fort Collins.

Housing: (see page 5)
- Apply for Housing as soon as possible at www.housing.colostate.edu.
- If your move-in date is after your arrival date, apply for temporary housing. (see page 5).

Register for Orientation: (see page 6)
- All international students must attend the International Student Orientation. Please register at: tinyurl.com/internationalCSUorientation

ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

- You must check-in at the Office of International Programs in Laurel Hall soon after your arrival to Fort Collins. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00am—5:00pm. See enclosed campus map for directions to Laurel Hall.

Bring These Documents to Check In:
- Your passport
- Form I-20 or DS2019
- The name and address of an emergency contact in the U.S.A. and in your home country
- Current U.S. address and phone number

Upon check in you will receive an information packet containing:
- A campus map
- A Fort Collins map
- A bus schedule
- An orientation schedule
- A detailed arrival checklist

ARE YOU READY?

We hope this guide has been helpful and provided you with valuable information to aid in your pre-departure preparations. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have additional questions. You can reach us at ISSS@colostate.edu. For additional information please visit our website: www.international.colostate.edu

We wish you a safe and pleasant journey and we look forward to meeting you!

The CSU International Student and Scholar Services Staff:
Mark, Lisa, Paul, Christy, Cynthia, Courtney, Linda, Aimee, Weltha, Christina, Scot, and Leah

For the latest updates, visit http://isss.colostate.edu/index.asp?url=new_students