International Students: What You Need to Know

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Domestic vs. Internationals
Admission Application (Freshman)

- SAT/ACT
- Transcripts
- Fee ($55)
- Valid email address

- SAT/ACT
- Secondary School Academic Records
- Fee ($65)
- Financial documentation (usually ~ $40K)
- Valid email address (not all internationals have email)
- 2012 – TOEFL (not offered in every community)
Domestic vs. International
Pre-arrival to Campus

- Housing arrangements
- Enrollment deposit
- Travel (maybe)

- Receive I-20 from OIA
- Pay SEVIS fee ($200)
- Schedule visa appointment ($100)
- Get visa
- Get passport
- Housing arrangements
- Enrollment deposit
- Travel – LONG flights (4-36+ hours)
Domestic vs. International Arrival

- New student orientation (2 days)
- Academic testing
- Move in
- Immunizations
- Start classes

- May need to secure temporary housing (up to 1 month stay)
- Summer orientation (3-4 days, strict arrival timing & schedules, IEPE & other academic testing)
- Possibly still need to arrange housing
- Schedule classes (late arrivals, or no open classes)
- TB test & immunizations
Domestic vs. International Enrollment

- Can enroll full or part-time
- Can enroll in online credits or dual/concurrent enrollment at another school
- Can enroll in anything they want, with no specific progress toward degree completion

- Must enroll in at least 12 credits (undergraduate) or 8 credits (graduate)
- Can only drop below full-time with OIS permission first
- Only 3 credits/semester of online class counts toward full-time
- Must be making “adequate progress towards degree completion”
Domestic vs. International Employment

• Can work anywhere, anytime

• Can ONLY work on-campus, 20 hours/week OR off-campus (in field of study) with permission FIRST, after completion of one academic year
Domestic vs. International Funding/Scholarships

- Can pretty much apply for and receive money from anyone (bank loans, federal/state loans, federal/state aid, private lenders, scholarships, etc.)
- VERY limited scholarship opportunities (http://www.indiana.edu/~intlserv/students/financial/index.php?l=1)
- ARE eligible for IU Merit scholarships
- Can take private loans but need US citizen co-signer
Domestic vs. International
Bureaucratic Steps to Maintaining Status
as a Student

- Maintain GPA (don’t get dismissed)
- Pay bursar bill
- Maintain GPA (don’t get dismissed...leaving US if they do)
- Pay bursar bill
- Maintain I-20/DS-2019
- Get signatures
- Update address information
- Be enrolled
- Additional paperwork for employment
- Visiting home = visa renewal, passport update, signatures, etc.
International Bureaucratic Steps
Include Using:

Welcome to the iStart Services Login Page

Technology is key to our proactive approach. Our information services and experienced staff enable efficient management of student and scholar data, and our iStart portal provides individualized, web-based services. The following are the types of iStart online services available for international students, scholars, & staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full iStart Client Services for Students &amp; Scholars</th>
<th>Limited Services for Students &amp; Scholars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secure services requiring login with your institutional Network ID and password. These services include:</td>
<td>Limited services requiring login with your University ID number and date of birth. These services include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. View and update information on file</td>
<td>1. Limited student services like registration for orientation or SEVIS transfer-in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Submit electronic form (e-form) requests for travel signatures, reduced course load authorization, program extensions, etc.</td>
<td>2. Limited initial intake forms for J-1 scholars or H-1B employees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Access alerts and notes on file that require action in order to maintain legal status</td>
<td>These services will NOT provide all the functionality of the full iStart client services.</td>
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The following are additional iStart services:
International Student & Scholar Statistical Reports
Anonymous Feedback (surveys, evaluations, etc)
Administrative Services for University Departments
Domestic vs. International
Basic Knowledge/Cultural Understanding

- Raise hand in class
- May address some professors by first name
- Really big classes or maybe really small
- Can change major
- Semester = a semester
- Culture shock of being at IU exists but at least amongst others like themselves
- Plagiarism - likely resulting from not knowing proper citation format

- Classroom behavior differs worldwide
- Most cultures address teachers with formal titles
- Really big classes might be very overwhelming, ditto with really small
- Might not be able to change major due to regulations (J-1s), sponsorship, lack of understanding choice/autonomy, family pressure
- What is a semester? (other university terms...bursar, registrar, finals, etc.)
- Culture shock – October = hard
- Plagiarism - likely resulting from cultural differences wherein citing someone within a paper is disrespectful
When Collaboration Between Academic Advising & OIS Happens

• Support for e-forms through iStart:
  – Reduced Course Load Request (RCL)
  – Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
  – Optional Practical Training (OPT)
  – Scholarship Assistance
  – Extensions
  – New Degree Program
• Returning to IU after an absence
• Changing majors
• Transferring to new school
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Questions?

It's QUESTION TIME!!