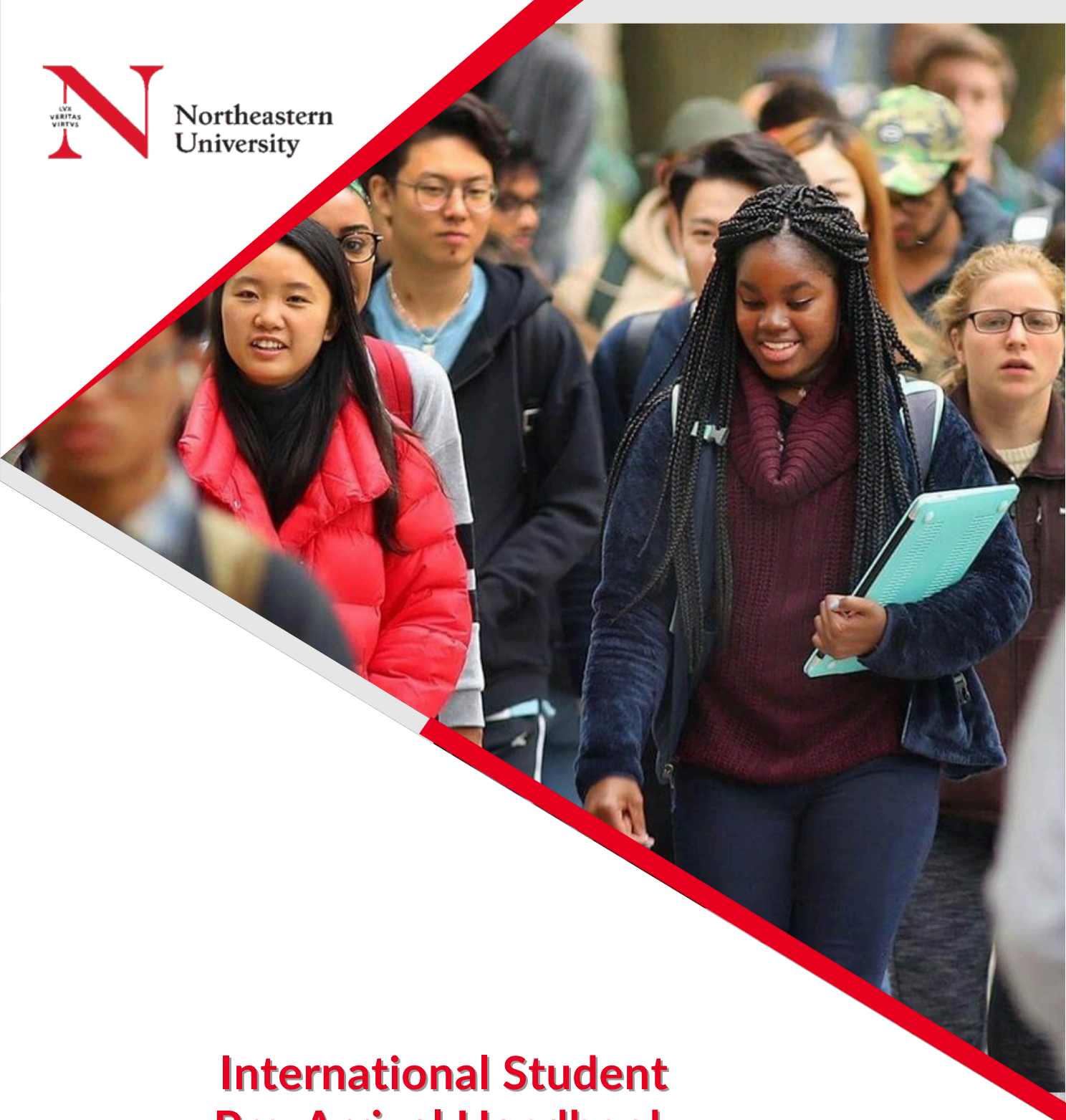




Northeastern
University



**International Student
Pre-Arrival Handbook
BOSTON**



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Welcome Message

Senior Director of the Office of Global Services (OGS) Jenn Christ (She, Her, Hers)



Welcome to Northeastern University! The Office of Global Services (OGS) provides support to over 20,000 international students and scholars throughout our Global Campus Network. Building a diverse and inclusive community is central to Northeastern University's mission because diversity of thought, culture, and viewpoint is essential to learning and growth. We have a strong tradition of engaging with the world, creating a distinctive approach to education and research, helping thousands of learners become global citizens. We are looking forward to your engagement with our community.

Through our programs, services, and advising, OGS is here to assist you with your transition to the United States and advise you on maintaining your status as an F-1 student. We are excited to welcome you to our engaging global community and to support you in finding your home-away-from-home at Northeastern University.

We have developed this pre-arrival guide to assist you with this transition, so that you are well prepared for the tasks and journey ahead. In addition to reading through this document, be sure to regularly check your Northeastern Email as you prepare to arrive on campus. We will send you additional information about upcoming webinars and information about preparing to arrive in the U.S. We will share with you key information about our mandatory International Student Orientation and share with you all the ways that OGS is here to support you during your academic journey at Northeastern.

We wish you safe travels and we look forward to welcoming you to Northeastern.

Sincerely,

Jenn Christ
Senior Director, Office of Global Services
Principal Designated School Official (PDSO) | Responsible Officer (RO)
Office of the Chief Enrollment Management Officer



Photo by: Alyssa, Stone; Northeastern University

Welcome to the Husky Pack!


Office of Global Services (OGS) supports international students on campus studying on an F-1 nonimmigrant visa.


- OGS provides support for international students related to maintaining their F-1 nonimmigration status as well as resources for academic success and cultural adjustment.
- Students are encouraged to attend our programs throughout the year to meet new people and learn about other cultures represented on campus.
- Students can utilize walk-in advising services for simple immigration questions and can schedule an appointment with OGS advisors for more complex situations.
- For the most up to date information and event schedule please bookmark [OGS HOME PAGE](#).

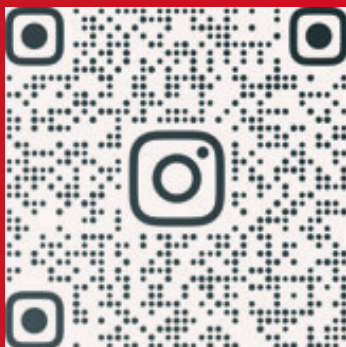
Follow our social media accounts:

 @NU_OGS  @OGS_NU

 @Northeastern OGS

 @officeofglobalservicesnort4254

 facebook.com/NortheasternOGS



NU_OGS

*The school colors of
Northeastern are red and black.*



The Northeastern University mascot is Paws the Husky. A mascot is a symbol of unity and good luck to connect the students and alumni of an institution.



SO, YOU'VE BEEN ADMITTED!

WHAT COMES NEXT?

1 Confirm your enrollment. This often is done by paying an enrollment deposit

2 Claim your Northeastern Account

3 Complete your Duo two-factor authentication setup

4 Complete all required actions in your admissions portal

4 Request your I-20 through myOGS

5 Receive your I-20 in your Northeastern Email

6 Pay the I-901 SEVIS fee

7 Schedule your visa appointment

8 Receive visa

9 Send in your University Health Report to University Health and Counseling Services

10 Submit your official transcripts to admissions

11 Search for roommates and apartments

12 Pay tuition and submit Student Financial Responsibility Agreement (SFRA), available on the Student Hub

13 Enroll in courses via the Student Hub

14 Book your flight and prepare for a successful journey to Northeastern!

15 Complete International Student Orientation via Canvas

16 Attend orientation for your academic department

USA
Student Visa



VISA STEPS & TIMELINE

What is the I-901 SEVIS fee?

A SEVIS I-901 fee payment is required for F-1 students and the receipt must be included with all F-1 visa applications. Those seeking an F-1 visa are subject to a SEVIS fee of \$350. Students should be prepared to present the SEVIS I-901 fee payment receipt at the U.S. port of entry. Students with a country of citizenship or country of birth of Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, or Gambia must pay by money order, Western Union Quick Pay or certified check drawn from a U.S. bank. All other students also have the option to make a credit card payment. Click [here](#) to pay the SEVIS fee.

Paying the I-901 SEVIS fee

1

Pay online at fmjfee.com. The fee for F-1 visa applicants is \$350 as of June 1, 2022. This fee remained unchanged for over a year, since June 1st, 2022.

2

This fee must be paid before your visa appointment and before entering the U.S.

3

Pay the fee using the SEVIS ID in the top left of your Northeastern I-20

4

Print a copy of your payment receipt to bring to your visa appointment and bring with you when you travel to the U.S. Transfer students and F-2 dependents do not need to pay the SEVIS fee.

5

For technical questions regarding the SEVIS fee/ fee transfers, see [FMJFee](#) website contact information.



Office of Global Services



Office of Global Services

Office of Global Services (OGS) is an active resource to over 20,000 international students from 147 different nations across the world. We provide the professional expertise and support you need to maintain compliance through immigration, academic, and your employment experiences— helping you remain a valuable member of the Northeastern community.

OGS Events

Throughout the school year, OGS offers fun opportunities on and off campus to get involved! From Dancing with the Huskies, to kayaking on the Charles River, OGS makes it a priority for our international students to feel acclimated and welcome to life on Boston's campus. Please join us during the school year for engaging events on and off campus. A list of our upcoming programs can be found in the [OGS events page](#).

OGS WEBSITE RESOURCES

PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

Northeastern University

OFFICE OF GLOBAL SERVICES

E-FORMS NEW STUDENTS • CURRENT STUDENTS • EMPLOYMENT • EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM • STUDENT SUPPORT • CANADIAN CAMPUSES • Q

HELPING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS,
SCHOLARS, AND THEIR FAMILIES FEEL
WELCOME AT NU

Search

Go

Recent Updates

Changes to OGS

SEVP Update: Sign and Send

Academic and Cultural Support

OGS supports international students in more than just immigration -let us know how we can help!

Services include:

- Academic skills support
- Academic tools & tips
- International student programming
- Events
- Global Student Mentor Program





I-20 Process



What is an I-20?

An I-20 is a U.S. immigration document issued by a university to certify that an F-1 student has met admission requirements and has proof of sufficient financial resources for his/her studies. An I-20 is required to apply for an F-1 student visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad. Please keep copies of all I-20s issued to you for your records. Current processing time for initial I-20s is 15 business days. This can fluctuate during peak times. We recommend submitting your I-20 request as early as possible.

I-20 Process

What Comes Next?

1

After confirming your enrollment, you will be able to submit an electronic I-20 request through MyOGS.

2

Required documents for the I-20 request e-form. They must be in digital format of PDF or JPEG.

- Copy of the identity page of your valid passport
- Financial documents meeting your academic program's estimate of expenses
- Currency conversion:
 - If you are submitting financial documents that are not in U.S. Dollars, please provide a currency conversion from a currency conversion calculator and upload it to the e-form.
- Sponsor letter or affidavit of support (*only required when your sponsor is a non-blood relative*)

3

Access the I-20 request e-form.

- Click [here](#) to submit your I-20 request

Transfer Students

- Additional documentation is required for F-1 students who are transferring to Northeastern University from another U.S. institution.
- You must also complete the Transfer in Verification Form.

Non-Transfer Students

- Students currently in the U.S. on a nonimmigrant status other than F-1, who are applying to change to F-1 visa status, must also submit a copy of current immigration status documents.

Receiving Your I-20 What Comes Next?

1

Your I-20 will be emailed to your Northeastern student email address.

- You will receive a separate email with the password to open the I-20 document.

2

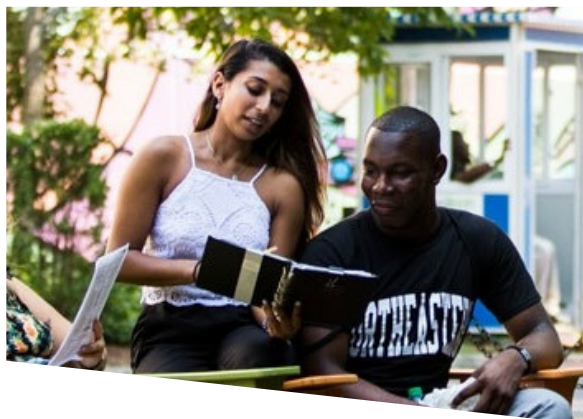
Please review your I-20 to ensure your information is accurate. Contact OGS as soon as possible if you find an error.

3

Print the I-20 using a high quality, color printer and sign in the appropriate section on Page 1. Please read the information on Page 3.

4

Your unique SEVIS ID is the number beginning with "NO" in the top left . You can find the "School Code" in the "School Information" section.





Applied for an I-20 & looking for a status update?

- OGS will contact you directly if any additional information is needed to process your I-20 request.
- You are welcome to contact OGS if your I-20 request is still pending past the typical processing time.
- However, typically the only update to provide is that we are continuing to process a large number of requests as quickly as possible.
- Please do not send duplicate emails with the same questions or requests.
- Please do not add staff members from multiple offices on the email as it will slow down processing time.
- We are unable to expedite I-20 requests due to upcoming visa appointments.
- You should not make a visa appointment until receiving Northeastern University I-20.

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1615-0048

SEVIS ID: **W0004720633**

SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME JONES	GIVEN NAME JAMES	Class of Admission F-1 ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE
PREFERRED NAME James Jones, Jr.	PASSPORT NAME JAMES JONES, JR.	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH USA	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP USA	
DATE OF BIRTH 01 MAR 1990	ADMISSION NUMBER 1234567890	
FORMER REASON FOR ENTRY ATTACHMENT		

SAMPLE

SCHOOL INFORMATION:
SCHOOL NAME: Northeastern University
SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL: International Student Services

PROGRAM OF STUDY:
EDUCATION LEVEL: MAJOR 1: Business Administration, MAJOR 2: International Management
PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY: Programmed

FINANCIALS:
STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR 12 MONTHS: Personal Funds, Family Funds, etc.

SCHOOL ATTESTATION:
I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct.

STUDENT ATTESTATION:
I have read and agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay.

What is an F-1 Visa?

International students, who are admitted to a Student & Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) approved school and are issued a Form I-20, are eligible to apply for an F-1 visa. This is a student visa that permits studying in the U.S. in full-time degree programs. You will find out more about the requirements to maintain your F-1 status during orientation.

Applying for a visa to the U.S.

1

Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application (DS-160) confirmation page.

2

Visa application fee payment receipt (visit the U.S. Embassy or Consulate website for specific instructions).

3

Form I-20 issued by the Office of Global Services at Northeastern University.

4

Valid passport (must be valid at least 6 months into the future).

5

Evidence of financial support (proof of sufficient funds for estimated cost of one academic year) SEVIS I-901 fee payment receipt.



To provide time for visa processing, students are encouraged to apply for their visa as soon as they receive their I-20 issued by Northeastern University. U.S. Embassies or Consulates can issue F-1 entry visas up to 365 days before the program start date listed on your I-20. In most countries, student visa applicants must appear in person for the visa interview. However, each U.S. Embassy or Consulate sets its own interview policies and procedures. Students should consult the specific embassy website or call for application instructions. List of U.S. Embassies is linked here. <https://www.usembassy.gov/>

The Visa Interview

- You will meet with a Consular Officer for a few minutes.
- You may be asked questions about the following:
 - Your studies
 - Your university choice
 - How you are planning to pay for your education
 - Your post graduation plans
 - And more!
- The Officer will want to see that you have sufficient English to be successful, and that you can clearly demonstrate your intention to go to the U.S. to study.
- The F-1 visa is a nonimmigrant visa, so you must establish ties to your home country (family, jobs, school, property, plans to return home).

Be yourself, be honest, answer questions clearly and concisely.



Questions You May Be Asked in the Visa Interview

- What is your purpose for going to the U.S.?
- Why did you choose to study in the U.S.?
- Have you ever been to the U.S. before?
- Why did you choose Northeastern University?
- Who will support you financially while you are in the U.S.?
- What do your parents do for a living?
- What are your plans after you finish with your studies in the U.S.?

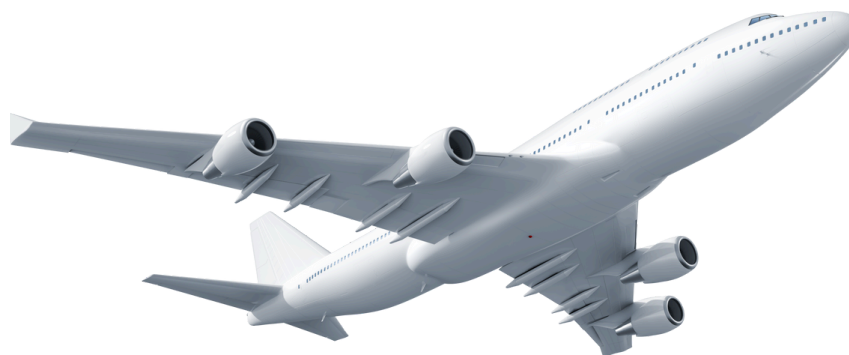


PREPARING TO TRAVEL
TO THE U.S.



Preparing to Travel to the U.S.

- We DO NOT recommend making any travel or housing arrangements until you have received your visa.
- Please check your Northeastern University email address daily for any important information and updates as your start date arrives.
- You will receive instructions from OGS about what documents to bring, and completing our online immigration clearance after your arrival in the U.S.
- In the meantime, you can find more information on the OGS website under the "[New Students](#)" section.





ARRIVING IN

THE U.S.



Arriving at Boston Logan Airport

Arriving at Boston Logan Airport

- Download the Uber and/or Lyft app before you travel.
- You can log onto WiFi at the airport to use the app and communicate with your driver.
- In general, ride share apps must be linked to a credit card, debit card or bank account, (if your prepaid card is linked to a bank, you can use this for rideshare apps as well).
- Most airports have free WiFi, but you may also want to ensure that you have a phone plan that can access data internationally!
- Some airports, such as Boston Logan, have a designated Ride App pickup area.
- After collecting your luggage from baggage claim, follow signs and go to the ride share pick up area before you order the ride.
- Always check that the license plate of the car matches the information in the app to make sure you are getting into the correct car.

If you or family members are arriving at Boston Logan Airport (and you don't have too many bags) and are traveling to Northeastern's Boston Campus:

- Board a FREE Massport shuttle bus (Route 22, 33 or 55) at any airline Terminal to the Blue Line Airport Station.
- Buy a ticket and take the Blue Line and connect to either the Orange Line (at "State Street") or the Green Line (at "Government Center").
- The Blue Line runs from approximately 6:00 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. seven days a week.
- Northeastern University is directly accessible from both the Green Line and Orange Line subway routes as well as bus routes.
- On the Orange Line (In the direction of Forest Hills) and the Commuter rail: the "Ruggles" stop will drop you off at Centennial Commons which is on the Northeastern campus.
- On the Green Line: (In the direction of Heath Street) the "Northeastern" stop drops you off directly at Huntington Ave in front of Krentzman Quad on the Northeastern Campus.

Taxi Cabs

- You can pay with cash or credit/debit or a prepaid card (ex. a Forex card)
- All taxis should take any form of payment, but when calling you can ask the company to doublecheck what form of payment they accept.
- Boston Airport Cab: 617-576-9800
- Logan Airport Car: 617-997-4777
- Boston Logan Taxi Cab: 617-499-4800
- Premier Logan Taxi Cab: 781-558-0222

Car Service

- A car service is great way to pre-arrange a convenient and safe ride from the airport to your destination. OGS recommends Boston Carriage. [Click here to visit their website and enter your reservation details.](#)

Tips for using Boston Carriage

- Book your ride in advance as soon as possible to guarantee that there is availability on your date of travel.
- You will receive detailed instructions about where to meet your driver upon your arrival.
- Make sure to account for a 60 minute delay for clearing Customs & Border Protection and, baggage claim after your flight arrival time.
- Traveling with friends or family? Consider booking a van instead of a car so there is enough room for your luggage.



Public Transportation

- Depending on your destination, public transportation can be a great way to get around your new city!
- Review the following guides to navigate getting around Boston:
 - ["Beginner's Guide to the Subway"](#)
 - ["Beginner's Guide to the Bus"](#)
 - ["Beginner's Guide to the Commuter Rail"](#)
 - ["Beginner's Guide to the Ferry"](#)
- Consider downloading the app "CityMapper".
 - It is a free app that integrates data for all urban modes of transportation: including walking, cycling, driving, and taking public transportation (such as the bus or subway).

Boston Public Transport

- The subway in Boston is referred to as "The T" you will often see big white signs with the letter "T" over them indicating a subway stop; (or smaller T signs indicating a bus stop.)
- The RIDE:
 - This is available for people who cannot use the subway, bus, or trolley all or some of the time due to temporary or permanent disability.
 - Call The RIDE Access Center (TRAC) at 844-427-7433 during the hours of 8:30 AM- 5:00 PM.
- These transportation types fall under the [MBTA Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority](#) website.





Buying Tickets for Public Transportation in Boston

- To buy a Subway ticket "Charlie Card", you can purchase them from any "T" subway stop at electronic kiosks and you can pay with cash or card. Bus fares can be paid with cash at the front of the bus where the driver is.
- A one way subway ticket costs \$2.40 and a bus ticket costs \$1.70
- A Ferry ticket costs \$2.40 \$9.75 A Commuter Rail Train ticket costs: \$2.40-\$13.25
- Each Commuter Rail station is located in a fare zone
- Your Commuter Rail fare depends on which zones your boarding and exiting stations are located in.
- Find your fare using our trip planner or zone maps.
- Ferry fares are also based on how far you are traveling:
- Zone maps and fares. You can download the MBTA mTicket app to buy commuter rail and ferry tickets in advance.



TRANSPORTATION AROUND BOSTON

ENTERPRISE/ZIPCAR

- These are companies that allow you to rent and drive cars, if you have a valid driver's license; an international license works too.
- This is a great idea if you want to take a trip outside of the city, or to another state or even country!

BICYCLES

- Blue Bikes
 - A bike sharing system that provides more than 1,500 bikes at 180 stations throughout Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, and Somerville.
 - A fun and healthy way to travel, grab a bike near your home, office, or school and pedal your way to your next lunch meeting, class, activity, or errand.
 - There are four convenient Blue Bikes stations around Northeastern campus.
 - Please wear a helmet and exercise caution while biking.
- Northeastern Police Department allows you to register your bicycle for free. To enroll or learn more information click [here](#).
- The MBTA offers many options for those wishing to use their bicycle while commuting to work. For more information please click [here](#).

PARKING

- Pay garages are available for visitors and/or members of our campus community.
- Renaissance Park Garage:
 - 835 Columbus Ave Boston MA 02120
- Gainsborough Garage:
 - 10 Gainsborough St. Boston MA 02115
- For more information, and for students considering the purchase of a parking permit, please explore the website. <https://masparc.com/products/>

Immigration Clearance



IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE

Once you have your I-20, visa, and booked your flight, it is time to start thinking about what happens when you get to campus.

When you have arrived in the U.S., Office of Global Services will email your Northeastern student email account (xxxx@northeastern.edu) with a link to the mandatory immigration clearance e-form at the beginning of the academic term. This mandatory check-in will allow us to register your SEVIS record, which will officially begin your F-1 status. Immigration clearance cannot be submitted before arriving in the U. S.

Requirements to complete this form include:

- Valid passport
- Electronic copy of your Visa Stamp (PDF recommended)
- Electronic copy of your I-94 (PDF recommended)
- Valid address in the U.S.

ORIENTATION

International Student Orientation

- To help with your transition to Boston, **OGS hosts international student orientation** to welcome you to campus and to help you learn more about being an international student at Northeastern.
- Due to the importance of information covered, **attendance** at International Student Orientation is mandatory and your attendance will be recorded in your SEVIS immigration record.
- **Failure** to complete orientation will result in a hold on your student record.

Orientation

- You may also have an orientation for your college, and or academic department.



Photo by: Alyssa, Stone; Northeastern University

CAMPUS LOGISTICS

CAMPUS LOGISTICS



GETTING STARTED

Once you have claimed your Student Hub account, you can access, me.northeastern.edu, which integrates students' class schedule, network with other students, view financial information, pay bills, and access other Northeastern resources such as Outlook, [Canvas](#), Teams, and more.

CANVAS

Familiarize yourself with [Canvas](#), which is the learning management system for courses, assignment, and communication with professors. Review this [Quick Guide for Students](#) to learn more about Canvas.

1. Log in to Canvas.northeastern.edu
2. Download the Canvas Mobile application
3. Customize your profile: add a picture, bio
4. Customize your settings, set your pronouns, me zone, and language Customize your default notifications preferences
5. Connect the calendar to your Outlook calendar
6. Customize your dashboard
7. Customize your course list
8. Take a [Self Guided Tour](#) of Canvas

NORTHEASTERN STUDENT EMAIL

Upon acceptance, admitted student are provided with a Northeastern student email account. This is the account where ALL official university communication will be sent. It is important to check this account daily.

HUSKY CARD

- This is your official identification card at Northeastern University.
- The Husky Card is used for many purposes including:
 - Access to resident halls and buildings
 - parking, printing, gym access, vending machines, dining services, on and off campus vendors, discounts, library book checkout and more.
 - The card can be used as a debit card where you can add money on it and pay for food and services around campus.
- Where can I pick up my Husky Card?
 - Students can pick it up at the Husky Card Services Office on the Boston Campus.
 - 10 Speare Place, Boston MA, 20115
 - A government issued photo ID must be presented when receiving your Husky Card.
- Is there a mobile ID app for the Husky Card?
 - Yes, you can download the Mobile App



iPhone Users

1. Open the App Store
2. Search for cbord mobile id or use this link.
3. Download the free app Mobile ID.
4. Launch the Mobile ID app.
5. Enter huskycardcenter.neu.edu into the Server URL text field.
6. Press the red Authenticate my device button.
7. You will be redirected to the Northeastern Enterprise Authentication Service.
8. Enter your myNU username and password and press Login.
9. Press the green Authorize button.
10. Allow Mobile ID to use your current location.

Android Users

1. Open Google Play.
2. Search for cbord mobile id or use [this link](#).
3. Download the free app Mobile ID.
4. Launch the Mobile ID app.
5. Enter huskycardcenter.neu.edu into the Server URL text field.
6. Press the red Authenticate my device button.
7. You will be redirected to the Northeastern Enterprise Authentication Service.
8. Enter your myNU username and password and press Login.
9. Press the green Authorize button.
10. Allow Mobile ID to use your current location.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT (ITS)

Many support questions are covered in the FAQs for this service. For detailed, specific or technical email help questions, visit the ITS Knowledge Base. You may also contact the ITS Service Desk at 617.373.4357 (xHELP), email help@northeastern.edu or initiate a chat session if you have questions regarding your account.



CAMPUS SAFETY

Boston is a safe city although there is occasional crime, as in all populated areas. Please check with the Northeastern University Police Department for special concerns or questions.

Northeastern University Police Department phone numbers

- NONEMERGENCY: 617-373-2121
- EMERGENCY: 617-373-3333

General safety tips for walking and exercising:

- Avoid walking or jogging alone (especially at night).
- Use well lit, familiar streets. Never take poorly lit shortcuts through alleyways or wooded areas.
- Be aware of your surroundings Avoid using cell phones or listening to music with headphones.
- Plan your route and walk confidently.

SAFEZONE APP

- Through a mobile safety app called SafeZone, students, faculty, and staff can now connect directly with the Northeastern University Police Department to immediately report emergencies, request medical assistance, or simply stay in touch during late hour work assignments.
- Users can instantly get in touch with NUPD to report the nature of the emergency and the location.
- From the main screen, users must only press one of three tabs— First Aid, Help, or Emergency. All the alerts go directly to NUPD, and dispatchers are immediately notified and shown the user's location on a campus map. Also from the main screen, users can "checkin" at any time to share their locations with NUPD—if, say, they are on campus late at night or are working alone in a lab or office.





NU ALERT

- Northeastern has NU ALERT, a service that allows the administration to reach all students and staff with information during unforeseen events or emergencies.
- The system uses voice, email, and text messaging to broadcast pertinent information and, when appropriate, provide directions.
- Your Student Hub information is your link to NU ALERT, so please keep your information up to date.

SCAMS

Unfortunately there are some people that try to take advantage of international students by scamming them. These scams are most commonly disguised as fake phone calls from the US government, and fake realtors or apartment ads.

To avoid scams:

- Do not send money to any government agency without speaking to OGS
- Do not send money to a landlord or realtor without seeing the apartment first
- If you think something seems weird, please contact NUPD



REDEYE

The RedEye is an off campus safety escort that is available for students who live within two miles of the center of campus.

- This service is available from 5 p.m. until 6 a.m.
- You can catch the RedEye van at Egan Access Road behind Snell Library.
- A ride can be booked via the RedEye App or you can stop by the RedEye dispatch center at the Northeastern Security Office in Ruggles Station.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH AND COUNSELING SERVICES (UHCS)



- Full-time and part-time students at Northeastern University are required to submit documentation of immunizations.
- University Health and Counseling Services is partnering with Sentry MD to provide immunization compliance. Sentry MD provides a streamlined process for managing your health requirements.

- If UHCS does not receive your complete immunization record, you are at risk of being held out of classes and university activities.
- All incoming students are required to upload their vaccination documentation to Sentry MD and demonstrate compliance with all required immunization, in accordance to local and state laws.



SUBMITTING IMMUNIZATIONS TO SENTRY MD

1.) Go to the student hub

2.) Click on the “Sentry MD Required Immunizations” link, found under Health and Wellness. Or visit <https://mysentrymd.com/SAML/SP/Login/NU>

3.) Gather the Required Health Documents

- Start by carefully reviewing each immunization, titer, and additional document requirement listed in this Health Requirement Packet. It is important that you review this material carefully. Upload all documents to your Sentry MD account.

4.) Log in to your Sentry MD account to upload your documents and view your compliance status.

- Log in to your Sentry MD account via the Sentry MD Icon
- <https://mysentrymd.com/SAML/SP/Login/NU>. The Sentry MD portal is smart phone friendly, and documents can be uploaded from the comfort of your phone.
- Details on how to log-in and navigate your account are in Part I of the packet.
- Students should submit the completed University Health Report with a provider signature affirming verifying information.
- If you have any questions about the immunization requirements or the contents, please contact us at northeastern.immunizations@SentryMD.com.

5.) Remember the deadline to upload immunization requirements, as listed below

- July 31, 2024 – For UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS entering the University in Fall 2024.
- December 1, 2024 – For all UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS entering the University Spring 2025.
- GRADUATE STUDENTS must return the form no later than one month before entering the University.

6.) What should I do if I need help navigating Sentry MD?

A welcome packet is sent to the Northeastern email address of all new students. For additional questions, you can contact them at northeastern.immunizations@SentryMD.com.



BANKING

BANKING

Commercial banks near campus:

- Bank of America, 133 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA 02115
- Citi Bank, 532 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215
- Santander Bank, 279 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA 02115
- Citizens Bank, 141 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA 02115

What do banks offer?

- Banks offer checking accounts
 - Checking accounts can be used to write paper checks to pay bills or to pay bills online.
- Savings accounts
 - Savings accounts do not usually have check writing privileges.
- Debit cards
 - Debit cards draw immediately on the funds in your checking account and can be used for cash withdrawals at automatic teller machines
- Credit cards
 - When considering a U.S. credit card, international students should check the credit terms carefully.
 - You will most likely need a Social Security number to complete the application process.

Please notify the credit card company before you travel to avoid a sudden lack of credit.

BANKING

When opening a bank account in the U.S., consider the following:

- Look at the location of the branch offices and ATM
- Compare banks' monthly fees, fees for writing checks, whether the bank requires a minimum balance. Minimum balance requirement should be waived for active students under 23 by presenting a student identification or visa.
- Most banking operations are done online; however, to open an account you should go to the nearest bank office and speak to a customer service representative.
- Present two forms of identification to open an account your passport, visa, or foreign identification are examples of accepted documents, and proof of a local address bill, bank statement.
- Ask for an international operations sheet that includes the American Bankers Association (ABA) Routing, Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) code, and an address to receive foreign wire transfers.





LIFE ON &

OFF CAMPUS



LIFE ON & OFF CAMPUS

OFF CAMPUS HOUSING

Off Campus Engagement and Student Support at Northeastern provides support and education related to off-campus housing, renter's rights knowledge and off-campus responsibilities.

How to find an apartment:

- Understand the Boston apartment search process. Review our [‘Get Started’ page](#), research [Boston’s neighborhoods](#), and watch our off campus [video series!](#)
- Use the Northeastern Housing [Database-Links to an external site](#). to find apartment listings, rooms available, verified agencies, and potential roommates. We recommend that you create a roommate profile.
- View [Boston rental cost by neighborhood](#).
- Do you need a co-signer? Many landlords/property managers will require a co-signer. A cosigner is someone with an income that agrees to cover any unpaid rent. We recommend you take the following steps:
 - Let your realtor or property owner know that you are an international student. Some applications are automated and co-signing may be waived if they know you are a student with a visa.
 - [Learn about](#) and use third-party [co-signing companies](#).
 - These services charge a fee to serve as a co-signer and may be the right choice for you.
 - Discuss your application with the landlord/property manager. Most landlords/property managers know that international students may not have a co-signer and will opt to charge a fee instead.
 - If there isn't much flexibility, consider using a different realtor or renting a different property.
 - Many students live with roommates and choose to use the T (subway) to get to/from Northeastern.

Our International Student Guide is also available for download [here](#).



Temporary Housing:

- The University Housing and Residential Life's Your Guide to Living Off Campus covers useful topics for renting off campus.
 - You may need housing that does not fit within the standard lease terms of September 1st-August 31st.
- Temporary apartments, guest houses, and homestays
 - Cater to international students and are often furnished and do not require a long term contract.
- Try Nesterly!
 - Nesterly pairs local homeowners with a spare room with graduate students willing to exchange help around the house such as walking the dog or helping with groceries for cheaper rent.

Living Off Campus Recorded Session from Spring 2024: <https://youtu.be/iG2dJysMJUs>



Photo by: Alyssa, Stone; Northeastern University



Resources for Settling In:

- Apartment Condition Checklist
 - Used to take note of any pre-existing damage.
 - Students should take pictures of the condition of their apartment on the first day they arrive.
 - This protects your security deposit for any damages that already exist when you move in.
- Roommate Agreements
 - We have an online Roommate Agreement that students can create together, and send copies to each other.
 - Since students living off campus are jointly bound by their lease agreement, these are very important for successful living experiences.

Best Practices:

- Lease Education and Checklist
 - Learn what to look for in your lease, including specific clauses or restrictions.
 - Remember, you need your name on the lease to legally be a tenant of the property.
- Steps to Subletting
 - Important guidance on how to sublet should students need to request permission from their landlord (summer vacation, co-ops, roommate changes).

General Info:

- Parking and Transportation
 - Good info for commuting, traveling locally, or exploring biking options.
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HOUSING SCAMS

Web Sites and other third party rental resources are great for searching for roommates, apartments, and subletting. However, this is no guarantee they are free from scams. Learn about common scam techniques and avoid becoming a victim. Here are some guidelines to help keep you scam free.

- Be careful: If you choose to use platforms outside of our database, visit our [Rental Scams](#),
- Never rent a place you or a friend can't view in advance.
- Never wire or send funds to someone you have not met via Western Union or MoneyGram or other services.
- Never make payments in the form of cash. Use a credit card or bank check that can be tracked. Many credit cards offer fraud protection.
- Never give out financial or personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card information until you know the identity of who you are speaking with.
- Be mindful of fraudulent checks and money orders.
- Keep in mind, if it feels wrong it probably is!

REPORTING HOUSING SCAMS

- Get guidance from Northeastern. Contact Northeastern University Police Department's non-emergency line (617-373-2121) and Off Campus Engagement and Support (617-373-8480) to let us know you have experienced a rental scam.
- Report the scam to your [state consumer protection office](#). If you lost money or other possessions in a scam, report it to your local police too.
- Report the incident to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). FTC is the main agency that collects scam reports. [Report the scam to the FTC online](#), or by phone at 1-877-382-4357 (9:00 AM – 8:00 PM, ET). The FTC accepts complaints about most scams.
- Report fake websites, emails, malware, and other internet scams to the [Internet Crime Complaint Center \(IC3\)](#). Some online scams start outside the United States. If you have been affected by an international scam, report it through [econsumer.gov](#). Your report helps international consumer protection offices spot trends and prevent scams.

