

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



The Office of International Affairs welcomes about 1,000 new international students to the Ohio State campus every year and helps them make a smooth transition to the university community and to life in Columbus. By guiding students through the immigration process, and providing them with opportunities to participate in social, cultural, and educational programs, international students are off to a well balanced and successful start to their new life in the United States.

Office of International Affairs

■ oia.osu.edu

The Office of International Affairs engages Ohio State students and faculty in international educational and research experiences; facilitates the integration of international students and scholars into Ohio State's world of knowledge; fosters excellence in the study of languages, international security, and the history of arts and cultures and their societies; and provides access to Ohio State's academic expertise for the benefit of communities throughout the world.

Through its International Students and Scholars unit, the Office of International Affairs (OIA) provides advising and assistance with the following:

- Immigration regulations and paperwork
- Social and cultural adjustment
- Personal and financial concerns

Advising is available Monday through Friday at 100 Oxley Hall. For more information, please visit oia.osu.edu.

Office of International Affairs
International Students and Scholars
100 Oxley Hall
1712 Neil Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210
(614) 292-6101
oia.osu.edu
iss@oia.osu.edu

International Student Staff

Giftly Ako-Adounvo, director, International Students and Scholars

Suat Albulut, SEVIS data analyst
Kimberly Anthony, immigration coordinator
Maria Bibler, immigration coordinator
Obraad Budic, SEVIS policy analyst and compliance officer
Nidhi Kak, systems analyst
Miriam King, office associate
Dorie Lowe, receptionist
Megan McCarthy, immigration coordinator
Caroline Meyer, immigration coordinator
John Prescott, immigration coordinator

New Student Checklist

Things To Do Before Classes Begin

- 1. Look for a place to live if you haven't already arranged housing.**
Temporary and on-campus housing (residence halls or Ohio State's family housing): contact Ohio State's Housing Services, 350 Morrill Tower, 1910 Cannon Dr., (614) 292-8266.
Off-campus housing (private apartments): contact Off-Campus Student Services, 15 East 15th Ave., (614) 292-0100.
- 2. Register your Columbus address.**
Visit the registrar's web site at buckeyelink.osu.edu. Go to "Change Address," log in, and update your address under the "Local/Dorm" tab.
- 3. Take required tests and attend an orientation program.**
(Refer to the schedule you received at check-in.) The mathematics test has multiple-choice questions. You may use a calculator. You will write an essay for the English test.
- 4. Get a university identification card (BuckID).**
The ID center is on the second floor (room 219) of Lincoln Tower near the bursar's office. Your photo will be taken and an ID card will be issued to you.
- 5. Register for classes.**
- 6. Go to the bursar's office. Visit 220 Lincoln Tower to pay fees.**
Bring your fee statement and enough money to pay the total amount, including the required student health insurance. Students whose tuition and insurance fees will be paid directly to Ohio State by governments or organizations should take the billing letter from their sponsor to the sponsored students window in Lincoln Tower. Call (614) 292-3337 if you have any questions.
Note: The university does not print billing statements; bills are available on the Web only. Therefore, failure to receive a bill does not nullify the student's responsibility to pay fees by the due date.
- 7. Open a U.S. bank account.**

Housing

■ housing.osu.edu; offcampus.osu.edu

For all types of housing, you will need to provide your own pillows, sheets, blankets, towels, dishes, silverware, and pots and pans.

On-Campus Housing

For information about Ohio State's residence halls and family housing, please reference the "Beyond the Classroom" tab of this guide.

Off-Campus Housing

For information about private houses, apartments, rooms:

Off-Campus Student Services

15 East 15th Ave.

(614) 292-0100

offcampus.osu.edu

When choosing an apartment, consider the following:

- Furnished or unfurnished
- Private or shared kitchen and bathroom
- Availability of laundry facilities
- Lease length. Many landlords require that you rent the apartment for a minimum number of months.
- Deposit. In addition to the first month's rent, a deposit is usually required, which is returned to you if you leave the apartment in good condition.
- Utilities. Gas, electricity, and water may be paid by you or by the landlord.
- Safety is an important concern, so before signing the lease, check with friends, nationality club members, or Off-Campus Student Services to ask if the apartment is in a safe area.

Housing Web Sites

universityvillage.com

rentnet.com

roommateclick.com

move.com

offcampus.osu.edu

Apartment Listings

thelantern.com

dispatch.com

columbus.craigslist.org

Student Housing Legal Clinic

University Legal Assistance

Student Housing Clinic

33 W. 11th Ave.

(614) 247-5853

shlc@osu.edu

Setting Up Utility Services

- Telephone service for residence halls:
You will be given information in the residence halls about how to sign up for service.
- Telephone service for apartments:
Contact AT&T (local service) at 1-800-660-1000 or visit att.com. (The company can also provide the numbers for long-distance service companies.) For long-distance service, you may use calling cards.
- Water service: Columbus Division of Water, (614) 645-8270
- Gas service: Columbia Gas, 1-800-344-4077
- Cable service: Time Warner Cable, (614) 481-5050; WOW Cable, 1-866-496-9669
- Electric service: American Electric Power, 1-800-277-2177
- Cell (mobile) phones and phone cards: Phone cards can be purchased at any U.S. post office, bookstores, pharmacy stores (including the CVS pharmacy on Neil Avenue, one block south of the Office of International Affairs), and most grocery stores. They can be used to make local, long-distance, or international calls. You will pay a set amount of money for a card, which represents a certain number of minutes of telephone time. You can call the company on the card to find out how many minutes of international calling the card purchases. If you do not have a Social Security number, cell phone prepaid service plans are available with a deposit of \$400–\$800.
Customer service numbers:
AT&T/Cingular: 1-866-CINGULAR
Sprint: 1-800-877-7746
Verizon Wireless: 1-800-922-0204
T-Mobile: 1-800-T-MOBILE

See the Columbus phone book for a complete listing of these services.

Academics

■ buckeyelink.osu.edu

Class Registration

Undergraduate Students

Class registration will take place after new international student check-in. If you have received transfer credit for courses taken at another college, have all courses that have transferred to Ohio State as general credit evaluated by the transfer credit coordinators of the appropriate departments. (You have received a list of the coordinators with your transfer credit evaluation.) Take copies of the final evaluations with you when you register for classes.

Graduate Students

Call or visit your academic department for an appointment with your academic advisor. Your advisor will either enter your course requests for you or will send you to the Graduate School (247 University Hall) to receive registration materials so you can enter your course requests yourself.

Role of an Academic/Faculty Advisor

Advisors partner with students at the university as students explore education and professional opportunities, set appropriate goals, and decide strategies for accomplishing those goals. In addition, advisors can provide a friendly ear, share in students' achievements and disappointments, answer questions, and direct students to other appropriate university services.

Cultural Differences in the Classroom

Educational systems vary from country to country. Here are some things you need to know about academic life at Ohio State.

In many cultures, there is a great difference in status between students and teachers. Students listen quietly, not questioning what the teacher says. In the United States, it is acceptable for students to ask questions and discuss topics with the instructor.

During the first class meeting, your teachers will give you a syllabus, which lists office hours and when and how the professor can be reached. If you have a problem with the material presented in class, it is expected that you will see the teacher during office hours and ask for help. The syllabus also tells when assignments are due.

Dress is informal in U.S. classrooms. Smoking is not permitted in classrooms or in university offices. Some professors permit students to have food and beverages in the classroom.

Participation

You are expected to talk in class. How often? A good rule to follow is to raise your hand to ask a question or to make a comment each week. If a professor calls on you to answer a question, you should say something—you could even say that you do not know the answer. In most classes, it is okay to give a wrong answer. Participation may be included in your grade.

Missing Class

You are expected to go to class on time, to notify your teacher ahead of time if you will be absent, and to participate. It is better to be late to class than to skip class. If you must miss class because of illness, you may need a doctor's excuse, especially if you have a long illness and you must miss several classes. You can ask for a doctor's note at the Student Health Center after you have seen the doctor. Ask your professors for their policies on missing class. Those policies may also be included in the syllabus.

If you are feeling stressed about your course work:

Continue to go to class

Attendance records are kept for some classes, while in other classes attendance is optional. The biggest mistake that international students can make in the classroom is to stop attending class because they feel overwhelmed. This will make your situation even more difficult.

See your professor

Many professors complain that, although they have office hours, none of their students visit them. You can make Ohio State seem like a much smaller place if you visit your professors throughout the quarter. You don't have to wait until you feel overwhelmed.

Hire a tutor

Some departments and even residence halls have tutors for free. If you need help with writing, you can go to the Writing Center (485 Mendenhall Lab) or hire (pay for) a tutor. There is a list of academic resources in Oxley Hall.

Take time to enjoy your life

International students often feel a great deal of pressure to succeed or excel in classes. However, it is not possible to succeed if you feel too much stress or anxiety. Try to spend time meeting new friends and enjoying sports, movies, and other activities at Ohio State or in Columbus.

Academic Conduct

Americans value originality and individual achievement. These values are reflected in the rules of academic honesty, and students are evaluated academically based only on their original work. What constitutes academic honesty varies from culture to culture, and it is important to understand the rules of academic conduct at Ohio State.

Consequences

Failure to adhere to the Code of Academic Conduct has serious implications for international students' immigration status. A professor who believes that academic misconduct has occurred in his or her class will refer the student or students involved to the University Committee on Academic Misconduct. A hearing will take place, and if the student or students are found guilty, any of the following sanctions will be applied:

- Formal reprimand
- Failing the assignment or course
- Placement on disciplinary probation
- Suspension from the university
- Dismissal from the university

Sanctions will be noted on the student's permanent disciplinary record at Ohio State. In the case of academic misconduct by a group of students, all members of the group will be tried by the University Committee on Academic Misconduct.

Academic Misconduct (Cheating)

In many cultures, it is common for students to collaborate on papers and projects. In the United States, it is forbidden to do so unless the professor states that the paper or project is to be worked on in groups. Ohio State defines academic misconduct as any of the following behaviors:

- Violating course rules as contained in the course syllabus (including getting or providing unauthorized assistance from another student or students on a paper or project)
- Providing or receiving information during quizzes and examinations
- Falsifying, fabricating, or dishonest reporting of research results
- Taking the place of another student or enlisting another student to take your place in an examination
- Altering grades or marks by the student in an effort to change the earned grade of credit
- Plagiarizing

Plagiarism

In the United States, ideas are considered the property of their author. It is considered stealing to use the ideas of another in a paper or presentation without giving credit to the originator of the idea. Types of plagiarism include the following examples:

- Word-for-word copying of someone else's work without attributing the source. (This would include using the words of an author or another student without indicating that they are not your own.)
- Changing a few words of someone else's work but not acknowledging that the ideas are not your own. When using the ideas of another person, give that person's name and the publication in which the ideas were published. If you have any questions about this, contact your instructor.

To learn more about avoiding and preventing academic misconduct: oaa.osu.edu/coam/ten-suggestions.html.

To read the Code of Student Conduct: studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp.

Ask your professor about how he or she wants you to cite sources that you use in your work. For a guide to the different citation styles: library.osu.edu/sites/guides.

Glossary of Academic Terms

academic year

The academic year at Ohio State is divided into four quarters of 10 weeks each (autumn, winter, spring, and summer). At the end of each quarter, there is a final exam period and then a break.

advising reports

Unofficial transcripts that can be downloaded from the registrar's web site (buckeyelink.osu.edu).

assignment

Out-of-class work required by a professor is called an assignment—for example, reading books or writing a paper or a lab report. Be sure to turn in assignments by the due date.

course load

International students on F and J non-immigrant status are required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to carry a full course load (12 credit hours for undergraduates; 10 credit hours for graduate students; and 9 credit hours for graduate assistants). See an immigration coordinator in Oxley Hall before you drop below the minimum course hours. Not doing so can cause you to fall out of immigration status.

credit hours

Each course at Ohio State is measured in credit hours, based on the number of hours it meets each week. To complete your degree, you must have accumulated the specified number of credit hours.

final exam

A test given at the end of a quarter, usually an important part of your grade. The final exam schedule is published on the Ohio State student web site. Always check with the instructor for the time and place of the exam. (This is usually stated in the syllabus.)

hold

A hold on a student's record usually means that the student owes money to some unit at the university. If the hold is in place at the time the student uses the web registration system, he/she will be told who has placed the hold and warned that the obligation must be cleared by a given date or the student will not be scheduled for the courses requested. A hold on a student's record will also prevent him/her from receiving grades at the end of the quarter, a transcript, or certification to receive a degree. It is important that students take care of holds as soon as possible.

major

The concentration of study for undergraduate students.

master schedule

The Office of the University Registrar publishes the quarterly *Master Schedule of Classes* online at www.ureg.ohio-state.edu/courses. The *Master Schedule of Classes* contains registration and fee payment information; listings of courses offered; the course hour and number, credit, call number, days and times offered; building and room; and instructor's name. Students need this information to schedule classes.

midterm

One or more tests given around the middle of the quarter.

syllabus

The most important document in an American college course is a syllabus. The syllabus contains the following: a list of due dates

for all assignments; your professor's name and office hours; and an explanation of the way your grade will be calculated.

transcript

A record of courses taken and grades received by a student. For a fee, you can have official copies of your transcripts from the Office of the University Registrar, 3rd floor, Lincoln Tower. It takes five business days to get these copies.

Cultural Awareness

Cultural Adjustment

Experts believe that cultural adjustment often occurs in three stages:

- Honeymoon stage—excitement about being in the new country.
- Uncomfortable stage—frustration, confusion, and negative feelings about the new culture, homesickness, illness. This stage is often called culture shock.
- Adjustment stage—understanding many aspects of the new culture, making friends, and discovering helpful people at the university; ability to keep core values of the home country but operate within the values of the new country.

Coping with the Adjustment Process

Understand that it is normal for anyone in a new country to experience some challenges adjusting to the new culture.

- Learn about and experience the new culture.
- Meet people and make new friends, both from your culture and from other cultures, including Americans to help you better understand American culture. Meet Americans by talking to them in the classroom or workplace or by joining clubs or organizations. Find trusted Americans to talk to about cultural questions.
- Expect differences and similarities.
- Maintain contact with family and friends back home. Phone or write home, watch a video from your home country, eat in a restaurant that serves food from your home country.
- Take care of yourself physically: get plenty of rest and exercise and eat well.
- Get involved in an activity or with a group that you find interesting.
- Work towards feeling comfortable in the new culture.
- Work on enhancing English skills, especially your conversational skills.
- Enjoy nature. Sit by Mirror Lake, walk along the river across from Lincoln Tower, or go to the Whetstone Park of Roses on High Street north of campus.

If you need help with the adjustment process, or if you have questions or concerns, please contact an immigration coordinator at (614) 292-6101 or call the Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) at (614) 292-5766 or visit ccs.osu.edu. All information is confidential.

Advice from other international students:

- Don't stay alone in your room every night.
- Go out with a friend to see the city or shop.
- Get involved with nationality clubs or other organizations on campus.
- Travel around the United States.
- Laugh at yourself if you make a mistake.
- Do not be afraid to try new words or to practice your English.

U.S. Culture

(This information is meant to provide some generalities about people in the United States, but it does not apply to all people from the U.S.)

Friendship

Many people in the United States have a number of friends with whom they share something in common. A U.S. student may consider you a friend, but he or she may invite you to do something only once or twice a quarter. This is not because he or she does not like you. It simply means that life in the United States is very busy and U.S. students tend to have many more commitments (work and family, for instance, in addition to their studies) than students in other countries.

Superficial?

Sometimes international students feel that U.S. students are superficial because they act very friendly but do not wish to build a friendship. Acting friendly is a U.S. custom. It is intended to create positive feelings. Some new international students feel confused when someone they do not know says hello to them on the street. This casual greeting is not intended to encourage a conversation or express a romantic interest. It is just another form of American friendliness.

"Hi! How are you?"

This is a common greeting in the United States, but very often the person who asks the question, "How are you?" does not wait for a response. Some international students think this is very rude, but it is not intended to be. It is not customary for the person asking this question to wait for a lengthy answer. It is customary to reply, "Fine" or "Okay." You may also want to ask how the other person is. She or he will most likely answer with the same brief response.

Talking with Americans

Because the United States is a nation of immigrants, international students look as American as students from the United States. U.S. students are very sensitive about differences, and some do not want to risk offending someone by asking an ignorant or insensitive question. For that reason, some U.S. students may feel shy about approaching you. If they do notice that you have a foreign accent, they may be unaccustomed to talking with someone who is not from the United States. They may wait for you to take the initiative to talk with them first. Many students at Ohio State may never have met anyone from another country! Although it may seem awkward, you may find that saying hello to someone in your class and explaining that you are a new international student will give you an opportunity to meet Americans.

Independence

The United States was founded by people who valued independence. An independent spirit is still evident in this culture. Many people from the United States believe that they are responsible for their own destinies. Being self-reliant is considered more important than relying on family and friends. Many people from the United States believe that individuals reach maturity at age 18 and should be ready to make independent decisions. Privacy is valued for many of the same reasons. Even among members of a family, issues such as money, marriage, and career decisions may not be discussed out of respect for a person's privacy.

Work Ethic

People from the United States tend to value hard work. We value being busy, and we often make lists of what we hope to accomplish in a day! You may notice that people in the United States walk quickly, talk quickly, and pay little attention to manners and politeness. We want to “get down to business” rather than make polite conversation. We don't mean to be rude! We just have a lot to do (or think we do).

Race, Ethnicity, and Gender

Many people in the United States like to think that all people are equal—race, color, religion, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexual orientation are unimportant to our value as human beings. Words like “tolerance” and “appreciation” are words that we may use to describe our relationship with people different from ourselves. For this reason, racist and sexist jokes and comments are not tolerated in many social and business settings. In fact, people who make such comments could lose their jobs.

However, despite these principles, many inequalities still exist in the United States. You may hear people make negative comments about other groups. You may even experience discrimination because you are an international student. If this happens to you and you wish to talk about it, go to Oxley Hall or contact the police if you feel threatened. An advisor who is familiar with these issues will try to understand the situation and make some suggestions for dealing with it.

Many international students have seen American movies, many of which portray black communities as violent and poor and portray American women and men as having many sexual partners. These are just a few of the stereotypes in American films. Remember that many people do not fit the stereotypes in these movies.

Some international students are surprised to hear men and women say they are gay, lesbian, or bisexual. There is a growing community of Americans who identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender and do not believe that it is necessary to keep this a secret. This community has become more visible and accepted, and people who are part of this population form a respected part of U.S. society. You will most likely have a professor, classmate, roommate, or friend who is gay. Remember to treat the people you meet with the same respect and openness that you would expect of them.

Get Involved

English Conversation Partners Program

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) English Conversation Partners Program (ECP) matches an American student with an international student. The program allows students to practice their conversational English skills and provides both partners an opportunity to share and learn about each other's culture. Contact OIA for information.

International House

The International House (IH) is an environment where international and American students live together. Its educational and social programs are designed to enhance cross-cultural communication and build a sense of community and leadership. The IH is located in an on-campus residence hall. For more information, contact Housing Services at (614) 292-8266.

Phi Beta Delta Honor Society

Phi Beta Delta is the nation's first honor society dedicated to recognizing individuals who have demonstrated scholarly achievement in international education and exchange. By developing a campus network of students, staff, and faculty involved in international endeavors, the society enhances international programming. Contact OIA for information.

Student Organizations

There are several hundred registered student organizations on campus including academic, social, recreational, religious, political, and special interest groups. Ohio State has many international organizations, including nationality clubs, made up of students from several different countries. Joining an organization is one way many Americans make new friends. For more information, contact the Student Activities Office in the Ohio Union, 1961 Tuttle Park Place, (614) 688-INFO (x4636), or visit ohiounion.osu.edu. For a complete listing of student organizations, visit ohiounion.osu.edu/studentorgs.

Project Community

If you are interested in volunteering to help with worthwhile projects, call the Ohio Union at (614) 688-INFO (x4636). Project Community is the volunteer center of the university. For more information, visit communityconnection.osu.edu.

Just Say No!

The freedom of speech to which Americans have become accustomed has established a way of communicating that is sometimes seen as very **direct**. There is a certain amount of flexibility that Americans have when speaking with each other. Directness while communicating with others is very acceptable and sometimes expected. **Do not feel bad about saying no!**

In some countries, open rejection or disagreement may be considered rude. This is not the case in the United States. Here it is quite normal

to disagree openly. Therefore, the following scenarios have been provided in order to give you a better idea of how to say no when you find yourself in one of these situations.

Telemarketing

You may get phone calls from people wanting to sell you things or wanting you to give money to a charity. The people who call may ask for your personal information without telling you why they are asking. They may also keep talking without giving you the chance to talk or explaining things that you don't understand. They will also do their best to keep you on the phone as long as possible. This is their job.

What you can do is say, "No, thank you!" and hang up the telephone. Don't stay on the phone any longer once you have said it. If these people come to your door, just say, "No thanks!" and close your door. Don't worry—they are used to it!

It is possible to have your phone number removed from most of the telemarketers' lists by registering your phone number on the National Do Not Call List, donotcall.gov.

Religion

People you have met or people you see on the Oval may try to get you to visit or join their church. They may invite you to one of their organization's events or give you books and magazines about their religion. What you can do if you don't wish to attend their meetings or church services is simply say, "No, thank you." It is not rude and they should not get angry. Even if the person has been a good friend or helped you in some way, you have the right not to attend a church service or meeting if you don't want to.

Begging

As classes get underway, it is very possible that you will have an encounter with a beggar. Beggars usually ask for money from students walking along High Street or other nearby streets. As poor as they may seem, you have the right not to give them anything if you don't want to. If you don't wish to give them anything, you can say, "Sorry, I don't have any change" or "No, thanks." When you have said what you want to say, keep walking to wherever it is you want to go.

Dating

When you first start interacting with Americans, it may seem a little awkward in the way they joke around and socialize. Someone you meet may find an interest in you, or you may find an interest in him or her. So, if you are interested, how do you make the first move? If you are not interested, how do you tell that person?

- If you like someone:
Tell him or her that you are interested and ask him or her to have dinner or coffee with you sometime. It is all right to be direct in these cases. Don't worry—even most Americans find this difficult. Do not go out alone with someone you've just met. If someone asks you on a date and you wish to accept, agree to meet in a public area with other people around.

- If you don't like someone:
When he or she asks to see you sometime, simply say, "Probably not, but thank you."
- If you want to break things off or if you are not interested in having sex with someone who is pressuring you:
Tell him or her directly what you want. Don't be afraid to state your mind or else he or she may assume you are still interested. If someone behaves aggressively or threateningly, end the relationship. You do not need to be polite if someone makes you feel pressured or scared.

Drugs

Recreational drugs are common in the United States. You are most likely to be offered drugs at a party, a night club, or a bar. It's all right to say no.

Drugs in the United States:

- Marijuana (weed, a joint), ecstasy (X), mushrooms (shrooms), nitrous oxide (usually in a balloon), ketamine (K, Special K) are the most common.
- Some highly addictive drugs, such as cocaine/crack, heroine, and methamphetamine are deadly and can lead to lifelong addictions.

All of these drugs are all illegal. Also be aware that many of these drugs are made in people's homes and cut, or mixed, with deadly substances.

Never set your drink down at a party or bar! People can slip drugs into your drink this way. If you happen to set your cup down, get a new cup.

Remember that you always have the right to say no to anything you encounter that makes you feel uncomfortable.

Health Care

■ shs.osu.edu

Medical Insurance

In the United States, the government does not pay for health care. Students must pay for every doctor or hospital visit. Health care in the United States is very expensive. A visit to the doctor's office may cost \$50–\$150. A trip to the hospital for a broken arm can cost \$400–\$500. Childbirth expenses cost approximately \$6,000. Medical problems can result in debt so extensive that a student may not be able to continue his or her studies. Because of this, it is necessary to buy health insurance and make monthly payments to the insurance company. The company then pays the medical bills. International students are required to have health insurance through Ohio State. All family members also need to have health insurance. Family members in J-2 immigration status are required by law to have insurance.

Take your BuckID with you for all appointments at the health center.

Student Health Center: shc.osu.edu

Information: (614) 292-4321

Wilce Student Health Center : (614) 292-4321

Dental Care : (614) 292-4321

Advice Nurse: (614) 292-3301

Student Wellness Center : (614) 292-4527

Student Health Insurance

The quarterly cost for student health insurance is added to students' tuition and fee statement. The costs listed below are for comprehensive coverage:

| Covered Individual(s) | \$ per quarter | \$ per semester |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Student | \$479 | \$719 |
| Student and spouse/ domestic partner | \$1,397 | \$2,095 |
| Student and child(ren) | \$1,415 | \$2,122 |
| Student and spouse/ domestic partner and child(ren) | \$1,910 | \$2,864 |

For the most up-to-date rates and information, visit shi.osu.edu.

You will receive an insurance ID card and a booklet describing the policy's benefits four weeks into the quarter. For detailed information about the policy call 1-800-254-2461 or (614) 292-0113. Ohio State's student health insurance policy coverage begins seven days before the first day of the quarter. If you are here earlier than seven days before the first day of the quarter, visit the Student Health Center to purchase interim health insurance.

Obtaining a Waiver from the Student Health Insurance Policy

All international students are required to have health insurance. You can receive a waiver only if you already have health insurance through a government or international organization sponsor or a U.S.-based employer of your spouse or parent.

Immigration

Legal Information, Documents, and Regulations

Duration of Status (D/S)

Duration of status, the notation that should be on your I-94 card, allows F-1/J-1 students who are pursuing a full course of study to complete any educational level or series of programs and practical training (if qualified). In addition, students are given a grace period to depart from the United States. The grace period for F-1 students is 60 days, during which they may facilitate a change of educational level, transfer, or change of non-immigrant status. The grace period for J-1 students is 30 days. All students must see an international student advisor prior to the expiration of your form I-20 or DS-2019 or completion of program of study to facilitate a change of educational level, transfer, or change of non-immigrant status.

SEVIS

SEVIS is the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System that all colleges and universities in the United States use to report electronically to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) information about F-1 students and J-1 students and visiting scholars since January 30, 2003, as mandated by U.S. Federal Regulations.

Reporting requirements include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Change in legal name and address
2. Enrollment status
3. Course load reduction authorizations
4. Any failure to maintain status, such as failure to enroll, unauthorized drop below a full course of study, unauthorized employment
5. Disciplinary action taken by Ohio State as the result of the student being convicted of a crime
6. Student's graduation prior to expected end date as listed on the I-20 or DS-2019

You are responsible for maintaining your status with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Failure to do so could jeopardize your ability to remain in the United States. See an immigration coordinator if you do not understand anything related to immigration. DO NOT rely on advice from your friends.

Immigration Document Requirements

1. Your passport must be valid at least six months into the future.
2. I-20: The Certificate of Enrollment form issued for students in F-1 status by the school to which you intend to go. You must report to the school that issued your I-20.
3. DS-2019: The form you receive from the school/sponsoring organization that allows you to apply for a J-1 visa and to use to enter the United States. You must report to the school that issued your DS-2019.
4. F-1/J-1 Visa: The student visa, which is placed in the passport at the American embassy or consulate. The expiration date on the visa is the last day you can use it to enter the United States. Once you enter the U.S., the date does not matter unless you leave and plan to re-enter the country.
5. I-94: The white card that is attached to your passport when entering the country. Do not lose this card! The Form I-94 will usually have the terms "F-1" or "J-1" and "D/S" written on it. If yours does not, bring your passport and I-94 to Oxley Hall during advising hours. If you lose your card, please see an immigration coordinator.

Protecting Documents/Replacing Lost Documents

Never throw away any I-20 or DS-2019 after receiving an updated form. ICE/USCIS may request to see these forms in the future. Likewise, U.S. embassies and consulates abroad may ask to see these documents when reviewing a future visa application. You should keep copies of all the above documents.

Travel

If you plan on traveling outside the United States, you must go to Oxley Hall during advising hours for a travel signature for re-entry. If you have dependents, each one must have his or her own SEVIS I-20 or DS-2019 with a recent travel signature in order to get a visa and/or enter the United States. Travel signatures are good for one year. (They are valid for only six months if on post-completion optional practical training [F-1s only]).

Travel to Canada, Mexico, and Adjacent Islands

If you will be visiting Canada, Mexico, or an adjacent island and will stay less than 30 days, you will not need to renew your F-1/J-1 visa if it is expired in order to re-enter the United States because of automatic visa revalidation. You will need to travel with your most recent DS-2019 or I-20 with a valid travel signature. For a list of adjacent islands, please visit oia.osu.edu.

You may need a visa to enter these countries depending upon your citizenship. To find out if you do, contact the country's consulate in the United States. Contact information for Canadian consulates can be found at oia.osu.edu.

If you choose to apply for a U.S. visa while in Canada, you are not eligible for automatic visa revalidation. You will need to re-enter the United States on your new visa. If you are denied a new visa, you will need to travel **directly** to your home country to obtain a new visa in order to re-enter the United States.

Practical Training (F-1) or Academic Training (J-1)

Practical training and academic training are opportunities for students to gain actual work experience in their field of study. Meet with an international student immigration coordinator to discuss your options.

Permission to Work

F-1 and J-1 students cannot work more than 20 hours per week while school is in session. J-1 students must obtain permission to work on campus or off campus from their program sponsor. (The program sponsor is identified in #2 of the Form DS-2019). J-2 visa holders must receive USCIS permission to work. F-2 visa holders are not permitted to work under any circumstances.

Foreign Embassies/Consulates in the United States

state.gov/s/cpr/rls/fco

Transfer of Schools

F-1 status holders: Students must notify an immigration coordinator no later than 60 days after the program end date on their I-20s.

J-1 status holders: Students must notify an immigration coordinator prior to the program end date listed on their DS-2019.

See an immigration coordinator for more information on transferring your SEVIS record.

Assistance with Immigration Regulations

1. Immigration coordinators are available in 100 Oxley Hall.
2. Requests to prepare Form I-20 and Form DS-2019 must be made at least five business days in advance of when they are needed.
3. Take your passport and all relevant immigration documents (I-20, DS-2019, I-94) and financial documents when you visit an immigration coordinator with immigration questions.
4. Always see an immigration coordinator regarding any question you may have concerning your immigration status. Do not contact the DHS directly unless instructed to do so by an immigration coordinator.

Finding Employment

On-Campus Employment

Look for job notices on the jobs bulletin board on the third floor of Lincoln Tower. Check the Student Employment web site at sfa.osu.edu/jobs. Also check job listings in the *Lantern* and on bulletin boards in campus buildings. Ask your classmates, professors, and friends if they know of any jobs available on campus. Also, go to any office on campus and ask if they are hiring students (libraries, computer labs, residence halls, traffic and parking services, etc.).

Note: Jobs listed as work-study jobs are available only to U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Off-Campus Employment

Talk to an immigration coordinator at Oxley Hall before working off campus. You may work off campus only if you have permission.

Immigration Web Sites

For updates to immigration regulations visit the following web sites:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service: uscis.gov

U.S. Embassies/Consulates Abroad: travel.state.gov

Department of Homeland Security: dhs.gov

U.S. Customs and Border Protection: cbp.gov

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement: ice.gov

Department of State: state.gov

Office of International Affairs: oia.osu.edu

Information for Spouses

The spouse and unmarried children (under the age of 21) of F-1 students or J-1 students may either accompany them to the United States or come alone on a later date by entering the United States on an F-2 or J-2 visa. In order to apply for an F-2 or J-2 visa, the dependent(s) should have the following:

- A valid passport
- Proof that they and/or their spouse have sufficient funds to meet all of their expenses while in the United States (bank statements, affidavits of support, etc.)
- A valid form I-20 or DS-2019

- A marriage or birth certificate showing the relationship to the F-1 or J-1 student. Please make sure to have an English translation if necessary.

Please contact an immigration coordinator to obtain an I-20 or DS-2019 for a dependent.

When the family members arrive at a U.S. port of entry, they will present their passports containing the F-2 or J-2 visa and the Form I-20 or DS-2019 to the border patrol inspector. Upon admitting them to the United States, the inspector will stamp the Form I-94 (Arrival-Departure Record), which will show the date and place of entry, and the authorized period of stay. This period of stay should be the same as that of the F-1 or J-1.

Reasons for denial of a visa include lack of proper documentation (such as lack of evidence of sufficient financial support), suspected excludability (such as criminal activity), or, most often, the inability to convince the consular officer that they will return to their home country after the authorized stay has ended.

Visa issuance decisions are made by the Department of State employees at U.S. embassies or consulates abroad. United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) personnel are generally not involved in these matters. By statute, a consular official has absolute authority to determine the facts that will govern the issuance of a visa and the applicant has no statutory or constitutional right to review or appeal. The regulations do allow, however, for informal review of a consular officer's adverse determination. An individual who is denied a visa must be advised of the specific reasons for denial and given an opportunity to present evidence to overcome the stated objections. Applicants can reapply for a visa.

The Office of International Affairs is not able to assist dependents to reverse adverse decisions made by U.S. embassies or consulates abroad.

Work Authorization

Work authorization for those in F-2 and J-2 status (spouses and children of F-1 and J-1 students) is extremely limited. F-2 visa holders are not permitted to work under any circumstances. J-2 visa holders must receive USCIS permission to work.

Taking Classes

USCIS regulations state that, as an F-2 visa holder, a person is ineligible to be a full-time university student and is not able to take courses on a part-time basis that can be applied toward a degree-granting program. F-2 visa holders are eligible to take classes that are vocational or recreational in nature. F-2 children may study full time in elementary or secondary school (kindergarten through 12th grade).

Therefore, if an F-2 visa holder wishes to study full time, he or she must apply for a change of status from F-2 to F-1. F-2 visa holders may start school only after they have been granted a change of status to F-1. Also, they may not receive wages or compensation of any kind until the F-1 status is approved.

J-2 dependents are allowed to take classes without changing their status to J-1.

As a dependent you are eligible for...

BuckID Card

buckid.osu.edu, (614) 292-0400

The BuckID card is available for children and spouses of Ohio State faculty and staff and currently enrolled students. The BuckID may be used in various places, such as the RPAC (recreation) facility, the libraries, or as a debit card in certain area stores.

Recreation and Physical Activity Center (RPAC)

recsports.osu.edu

Dependents are eligible for membership. Child care is available at the RPAC.

OSU Libraries

library.osu.edu

Sign up at the library for a library card. Bring your BuckID.

International Families Program

The goals of the program include the following:

1. Promoting friendship and understanding among U.S. and international families.
2. To provide a friendly environment in which Americans and internationals can get to know one another.
3. To provide information about educational and cultural opportunities in the community.
4. To assist international spouses in becoming involved in the community to the extent they wish to.

More information can be obtained in Oxley Hall.

International Neighborhood Coffee Hour (INCH)

The International Neighborhood Coffee Hour offers free small-group English classes and opportunities for women and children to make friends and enjoy activities. This group meets at the University Baptist Church, 50 W. Lane Ave., Wednesday mornings from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. For more information, call (614) 291-8337.

The Men's Conversation English Group

The Men's Conversation English Group stresses conversational English in an informal style. It meets at the Indianola Presbyterian Church, 1970 Waldeck Ave., on Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. For more information, please call (614) 801-0283, (614) 848-9986, or (614) 358-3908.

Help in Cases of Domestic Violence

In the United States, any form of abuse between spouses (husbands and wives), or between partners living together, is not tolerated. In general terms, this pattern of behavior is called domestic violence. Domestic violence is defined as violence toward or physical abuse of one's spouse or domestic partner.

There are laws against such behavior, and shelters and services exist to protect and support a spouse who is being abused, regardless of immigration status. If you or someone you know is seeking help, please do not hesitate to contact one of the following sources:

- Office of International Affairs, Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave., (614) 292-6101. Ask to speak with an immigration coordinator.
- Sexual Violence Education and Support, Recreation and Physical Activity Center (RPAC), room B130, 337 W. 17th Ave., (614) 292-4527, sves@osu.edu.
- University Police (if on campus) or Columbus Police Department (if off campus). In case of emergency, dial 911 and you will reach the appropriate department.

Life in the United States

Money and Banking

Currency

American currency, regardless of denomination, is almost the same color and has a similar design. Be sure to check the amount of your bills before you use them to pay.

Checks Drawn on Foreign Banks

If you deposit a check drawn on a foreign bank in your U.S. checking account, it may take several weeks before the money is credited to your account. A faster method is to have the money wired to your U.S. account.

Using Cash

For safety and convenience reasons, Americans do not carry a lot of cash. They often pay by check, debit card, or credit card.

Note: Some fast food restaurants and taxis may require payment by cash.

Debit Cards

Debit cards are issued by your bank. You can use debit cards to make payments at locations that accept credit cards, but, unlike credit cards, the money is taken directly out of your bank account.

Credit Cards

Credit cards allow you to pay for things without cash or checks, then you pay the credit card company monthly. You are charged interest for any charges you do not pay back that month. If you do not pay the bill in full each month, you may build up considerable debt. Shop around for cards with low interest rates, stay within your budget, and pay your credit card bills in full each month.

Cashing Checks

You may be asked to show some documents of personal identification when you pay for something with a check or get cash at your bank from a check. Forms of identification include a driver's license, Ohio State ID card, State of Ohio card, or credit card.

Banking Services

You will need to set up an account at a bank in order to deposit money and write and cash checks. Banks offer a variety of services and charge varying amounts for those services. If you are new to the United States, explain that to the bank representative when you set up an account. Ask him or her to explain the services available to you and to explain terms you may not understand. Ask American friends or colleagues for advice. Ask about checking accounts, savings accounts, bank cards, debit cards, and credit cards. If you overdraw from your checking account you may be charged a fee.

U.S. Holidays

January 1 – New Year's Day

Beginning on the evening of December 31, Americans celebrate the new year.

Third Monday in January – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

This holiday celebrates the life of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., a leader of the U.S. civil rights movement.

Third Monday of February – Presidents' Day

This is a day to remember past U.S. presidents George Washington, the first U.S. president, and Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president who led the country during the Civil War and is credited with abolishing slavery. Both were born in this month.

February 14 – Valentine's Day

This holiday is a celebration of love and romance. Valentine cards, candy, or gifts are exchanged.

Last Monday in May – Memorial Day

This holiday is a time when Americans remember all of those who died in war for the United States.

July 4 – Independence Day

On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence, a document the United States used to declare its independence from England, was signed. Americans celebrate this holiday with picnics and fireworks.

First Monday in September – Labor Day

This holiday recognizes the efforts of American workers.

Last Thursday in November – Thanksgiving

According to legend, the first European settlers of the United States gave thanks for their first harvest season by eating a feast with Native Americans. This is a traditional time for families and friends to eat a big turkey dinner together.

December 25 – Christmas Day.

This holiday, at one time a traditionally Christian one, is now a time for most people to exchange gifts, decorate homes, and attend gatherings and parties for the few weeks preceding December 25.

Driving in the United States

Getting an Ohio Driver's License

Get a copy of The Digest of Ohio Motor Vehicle Laws from 100 Oxley Hall. This book contains directions on how to obtain a driver's license and lists offices where you can go to get tested and receive your license. The booklet is also available at the license agency at 4503 Kenny Road, (614) 459-4441, or from other license agencies listed in the "License Services" section of the yellow pages of the telephone book.

You will need the following documents in order to obtain a temporary permit: proof that you have or will reside in Ohio (a letter of admission from Ohio State will meet this requirement for new students); a valid, unexpired passport; a valid U.S. visa; an I-94 card; and ONE of the following: I-20, DS-2019, I-9, or letter from an employer stating that you are working in a valid non-immigrant status. Students who hold a valid driver's license from another U.S. state should surrender their old driver's license and take the written test and eye exam. No road test is required.

If you would like to take driving lessons, find a driving school under "Driving Instruction" in the yellow pages of the telephone directory.

Buying a Car

- Find automobile dealerships in the telephone directory yellow pages under "Automobile Dealers." (New and used cars are available.) Check newspapers for used cars being sold by owners. If you buy a used car from the previous owner, take a friend who knows something about cars with you when you go to look at the car. Check the annual *Consumer Reports Car Buying Guide* for information about different models of cars. The guide is available at libraries.
- After buying a new car, the car dealer will send you the car's title and registration paperwork. If you buy a used car from the previous owner, you'll need to transfer the title from the previous owner to you.
- Call (614) 752-7800 for title and registration information.

Driving in Ohio

- You are required by law to carry automobile insurance. See the telephone book yellow pages under "Insurance" for insurance agents who can sell you a policy. Policies range from \$600 to \$1,200 per year.
- Seat belt use is mandatory.
- It is illegal to drive without a valid driver's license, proof of automobile insurance, proof of the car's registration, and valid license plates.
- It is required by law that children who are under age 4 or who weigh less than 40 pounds must be secured in an approved, properly used child safety seat. Car seats cost between \$40 and \$120.

The American Automobile Association (AAA), (614) 431-7878, provides services to members, including road service (fixing flat tires,

towing a car to a service station), traveler's checks, written travel plans, and road maps.

Parking spaces for cars at Ohio State are limited. You'll need to buy a university parking sticker. Call (614) 292-9341 for information.

State of Ohio Identification Card

This card is available to non-drivers who want a form of identification to use in place of a driver's license. Take the same documents required for a driver's license to the 4503 Kenny Road or another license agency. You need to have lived in Ohio for 30 days to be eligible to get this card.

Taxes and Social Security Number

Taxes

International students need to file a form with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) every year in either mid-April or mid-June. Forms required and the deadline dates for filing depend on individual circumstances. Individuals considered nonresidents by the IRS must file Form 8843, even if they did not earn income in the United States during the previous year. Students receiving a U.S. source of income must also file federal and state returns.

Every year, usually after February 1, most students receive either Form W-2 or Form 1042S indicating the amount of money received during the previous year. The amount of taxes withheld will also be shown. Students use this information to complete the appropriate federal and state tax forms.

Information about tax preparation resources and where to get help will be available through the Office of International Affairs (OIA) after February 1 of each year. Please check the OIA web site for updated information. All students are encouraged to create an account in GLACIER in order to take advantage of tax treaty benefits. Depending on your home country, a tax treaty may reduce your tax liability. Please visit Ohio State's Payroll Services web site for more information about GLACIER.

In past years, CINTAX has been made available to Ohio State students who are nonresidents for tax purposes. CINTAX is a web-based program that completes your tax forms for you to print and mail to the IRS. If Ohio State chooses to make CINTAX available for the upcoming tax filing season, access to CINTAX will be through your individual GLACIER account. For more information contact Payroll Services at (614) 292-2311.

Other Tax Resources

- The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) provides information through free publications, a web site, and a telephone information line. The phone number for general tax information is 1-800-829-1040. The web site is irs.gov. IRS Publication #519, "U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens," can be especially helpful.
- Tax compliance information can be found on the Ohio State controller's office web site. The web site also contains information

about obtaining a Social Security number.

- VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) volunteers are sometimes available to assist individuals with tax return preparation. Please check the OIA web site in the spring for additional information.
- Paid tax preparers will complete your tax return for a fee. If you consider this option, please make sure the preparer has training and experience with individuals considered nonresidents by the IRS.

Social Security Card

OIA provides forms and information about how to get a Social Security number from the Social Security Administration. F-1 students MUST have a job to be eligible for a Social Security number.

Social Security cards are for work purposes only. If you can't get a Social Security card, you can apply for an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) from the IRS by completing form W-7.

Public Assistance

In most cases, international students and their families are not eligible for any type of public assistance (low-income/subsidized housing, food stamps, Medicare/Medicaid, W.I.C. program, subsidized utilities, etc.). If you or any member of your family accepts public assistance of any kind, it may jeopardize your F-1 or J-1 status. You may be denied renewal of your non-immigrant visa and/or be required to pay back any assistance you received before your application for a new visa will be considered. See an immigration coordinator and do not rely upon advice from friends.

Life in Columbus

Transportation

Campus Area Bus Service (CABS)

No pass is needed to ride a CABS bus, which provides 24-hour service, seven days a week. Call (614) 292-6122 for information and routes or visit tp.osu.edu/cabs.

Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) (Columbus public bus system)

Students are charged \$9 per quarter (\$13.50 for professional students) for unlimited rides. Just show a valid BuckID to the bus driver when boarding. Bus route information are available at Oxley Hall, or call (614) 228-1776 or visit cota.com.

Taxis

Yellow Cab, (614) 444-4444
Acme Taxi, (614) 777-7777

Out of Town Bus Service

Greyhound Bus Station, 111 E. Town St. (downtown Columbus); for reservations, 1-800-231-2222 ; for schedule and cost information, (614) 228-2266, greyhound.com.

Mega Bus; discount fares to limited cities. Stops for arrivals and departures are located at the loop at the end of Neil Avenue, adjacent to the McCorkle Aquatics Pavilion of the RPAC; Neil Avenue is northwest of the intersection of W. 12th Avenue and Neil Avenue. For more information, call 1-877-462-6342 or visit megabus.com

Air Travel

The main airport for Columbus is Port Columbus International Airport, port-columbus.com. A COTA bus route goes to the airport. Taxi companies also provide service to the airport, (614) 228-1776 or cota.com.

Health Care Services

Emergency Services

Emergency Medical Squad 911

Trained paramedics will come in a special medical van to your home. They will give advanced first aid and/or take you to the nearest hospital. **Call only in an emergency.**

University Hospital Emergency Room
450 W. 10th Ave.
(614) 293-8333

Use for emergencies only.

Gynecology and Maternity

Planned Parenthood of Central Ohio
plannedparenthoodcentralohio.org
18 E. 17th Ave.

For appointments call 1-800-230-7526 or (614) 222-3604
Annual gynecological examinations, infertility, family planning counseling, birth control, and sexually transmitted disease testing.

OB-GYN Clinic
osumedcenter.edu/health_services
456 W. 10th Ave., University Hospital Clinic, second floor, 2C
(614) 293-8045
Appointment required.

Riverside Methodist Hospital OB-GYN Clinic
500 Thomas Lane, 2nd floor (just north of the hospital)
Community medical department (614) 566-5456
Appointment required for maternity and gynecology. Medical and other specialty clinics available.

Children

Children's Hospital Pediatrics (Primary Care Clinic)
columbuschildrens.com
700 Children's Dr. (off Livingston Ave.)
(614) 722-5750

Appointment required.

Other clinics: (614) 722-6200

Services: newborns to 18 years, general medicine, WellBaby Clinic, emergency room, Poison Center, dental clinic, eye clinic
Call (614) 461-2000 for specific information about these services.

General Family Practice

Rardin Family Practice Center, 2231 N. High St.

(614) 293-2700

Appointment required.

Services: all ages, general medicine, international travel immunizations

MedOhio, Arlington

1615 Fishinger Road (also other locations)

(614) 293-7417

Emergency and regular medical care available for ages 13 and up.

Fast Trac

OSU Emergency Department

450 W. 10th Ave.

(614) 293-8333

Urgent Care Services

Riverside Family Practice Center

697 Thomas Lane (one street north of North Broadway)

(614) 566-5414

Appointment required. Health care for all ages. Emergency care is available for established patients.

Riverside Community Medicine Program

500 Thomas Lane 2nd floor, Suite C

Riverside Hospital Health Center

(614) 566-5456, (614) 565-5000

Sliding scale for fees

Dental Care

Ohio State Dental Clinic

College of Dentistry

Postle Hall, 305 W. 12th Ave.

(614) 292-2751

Appointment required, except for emergencies.

Family Dental Clinic

Columbus Public Health

240 Parsons Ave.

(614) 645-7487

Appointment required. Exams, extractions, cleaning, fillings, sealants, X-rays, dental repairs and relines, and root canals on front teeth only (for children and adults).

Columbus Public Health Department Centers

St. Steven's Community Health Center

1500 E. 17th Ave.

(614) 645-8000

Appointment required. Full health care for all ages.

Columbus Health Department

Immunization Services

City Health Department

240 Parsons Ave.

(614) 645-8137

Please bring shot records. Call (614) 645-7955 if you have questions.

For information about other services available through the Columbus Health Department and other clinic locations, call

(614) 462-3089. For tuberculosis skin tests, call (614) 645-2199.

Daycare/Preschools

Call for details about each program. For additional information contact Action for Children, (614) 224-0222, 78 Jefferson Ave.

Calumet Christian School

(614) 261-8136, 2774 Calumet St.; pre-school through 8th grade;

9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; latch key

ECOLE Française

(614) 451-1309, 5120 Godown Rd.; Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.;

3 years through grade 2, to grade 4 in the summer; latch key

Gingerbread House

(614) 299-2005, 67 W. Fourth Ave.; 6:30 a.m.–6 p.m.;

ages 6 weeks to 5 years

Indianola Children's Center

(614) 262-1090, 1970 Waldeck Dr.; Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.;

ages 2½–5

North Broadway Children's Center

(614) 262-6222, 48 E. North Broadway; 6:30 a.m.–6 p.m.;

ages 6 weeks to 5 years. Also cooperative preschool: 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

four days a week; ages 2½–5

Northside Child and Family Development Center (Turning Point)

(614) 299-1131, 94 E. Third Ave.; Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–6 p.m.;

24 hours, 7 days a week. Child care ages: potty trained to 10 years.

Crisis ages: birth to 12 years.

OSU Child Care Center

(614) 292-4453, 725 Ackerman Rd. (limited to Ohio State students, staff, faculty); 6 a.m.–midnight; 2 months to kindergarten

School for Young Children

(614) 267-0254, 93 W. Weisheimer Rd.; September to May; half day

a.m. or p.m., 9 a.m.–3 p.m.; 2½–5 years; school year + 8 weeks summer

St. Joseph's Montessori

(614) 291-8601, 933 Hamlet St. (Summit, between 1st and 2nd); 8

a.m.–4 p.m.; ages 3 to 14; school year + summer (9 a.m.–1 p.m.);

preschool; latch key

West Second Avenue Presbyterian Preschool

(614) 299-2444, 237 W. Second Ave.; three mornings, 3 and 4; 3 afternoons, 4 and 5

English Classes

For a complete list of private tutors, contact Columbus Literacy Council, (614) 221-5013.

Columbus State Community College

(614) 287-5374, 550 E. Spring St. (downtown); 4 levels; call for schedule

Dublin Baptist Church Conversation

(614) 889-2307, 7195 Coffman Rd.; all levels; Sept.–May

Dublin Schools

(614) 764-5913, (614) 873-7377, 2400 Sutter Pkwy.; Davis Middle School; 5 levels; Tuesday and Thursday evenings

Franklin University

(614) 341-6309, 201 South Grant Ave.; 4 levels; call for registration

Grace Brethren Church

(614) 888-7733, 8225 Worthington Galena Rd.; conversation Monday evenings

Lane Avenue Baptist Church in Upper Arlington

(614) 488-7709, 1610 W. Lane Ave. (opposite West Lane Shopping Mall); 3 levels; Sunday mornings 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Maize Road Baptist Church

(614) 263-9901, 4251 Maize Rd.; beginning and intermediate conversation: phonics, survival English (practice situations); Tuesdays, 6:30–8:30 p.m.; classes begin first Tuesday after Labor Day; (614) 292-9870 or (614) 436-9241

Ohio Dominican University

(614) 251-4646, 1216 Sunbury Rd. (east Columbus); all levels, daily 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

OSU American Language Program

(614) 292-1364, 1945 N. High St., 60 Arps Hall; full-time intensive; 6 levels, beginning through advanced

OSU Continuing Education: Language and American Culture (non-credit)

(614) 292-8571, 225 Mount Hall, West Campus; 2-level classes are two hours long and held four times a week

Stowe Baptist Center

(614) 443-1120, 911 Parsons Ave. (near German Village); all levels

Ethnic Grocery Stores

Asia Market

3456 Cleveland Ave., (614) 261-6118. Fresh seafood, vegetables and fruits, noodles, magazines, and music. Some Latin and African food and drinks.

Bangkok Grocery

3277 Refugee Rd., (614) 231-6878. Southeast Asian vegetables, noodles, spices, curries.

Berekum African Market

1979 Morse Rd., (614) 268-8487. West African rice, grains, spices.

Crestview Market

2950 N. High St., (614) 267-2723. Chinese, Thai, Indian, Malaysian, Vietnamese, Filipino, Indonesian, African foods.

El Mercado

5445 Bethel-Sawmill Center, (614) 336-2606. South American and Caribbean foods.

Flavors of India

North Market, 59 Spruce St., (614) 228-1955. Indian ingredients, spices. Carry-out available.

Four Seas Emporium

3275 N. High St., (614) 261-0154. Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Filipino products. Fresh seafood on Tuesday evenings.

Luc's Asian Market

3201 Sullivant Ave., (614) 274-6757. Vegetables from Cambodia and Thailand. Asian foods.

Mediterranean Food Imports

2647 N. High St., (614) 263-9400. Ingredients of Greece, Turkey, Israel, North Africa, Egypt.

North Market

59 Spruce St., (614) 463-9664. Open stalls featuring foods from different parts of the world.

Patel Brothers

1170 Kenny Square Mall, (614) 273-1376. South Asian groceries.

Tensuke Market

1167 Old Henderson Rd., (614) 451-6002. Fresh meats, Asaki beer, radishes—gobo and daikon.

Terra Brasil

5183 North High St., (614) 785-9773. Brazilian food and goods.

Yao-Lee Oriental Supermarket

2848 N. High St., (614) 262-7631. Korean and Southeast Asian foods.

International Shipping Companies

The Brown Van & Storage Company

(614) 866-9111; 1-800-333-9309; info@brownvan.com

Executive Transfer and Storage

(614) 870-3371; 1-800-331-0696; executivetransfer.com

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Note: Most of these companies provide free estimates.

Measurement and Equivalents

Weight

1 kilogram = 2.2 U. S. pounds = 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ cups = 1000 grams

454 grams = 1 U. S. pound = 16 ounces = 1 cup

100 grams = 3.5 ounces

28.3 grams = 1 ounce = 2 tablespoons

Capacity

1 liter = 4 cups = 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons = 1.06 quarts (liquid)

1 cup (liquid) = 2.4 deciliters

1 deciliter = 7 tablespoons

1 cuillère à café (coffee spoon) = 1 teaspoon = 2 grams

1 cuillère à dessert (dessert spoon) = 2 teaspoons

1 cuillère à soupe (soup spoon) = 1 tablespoon

Yard Goods

90 centimeters = 36 inches

140 centimeters = 55 inches

Length

1 meter = 1.0936 yards = 3.3 feet = 39.37 inches

100 centimeters = 1 meter

91.5 centimeters = 1 yard

30.5 centimeters = 1 foot

2.54 centimeters = 1 inch

1 centimeter = .3937 inch (approx. $\frac{3}{8}$ inch)

1 kilometer = .62137 mile (approx. $\frac{5}{8}$ mile)

1.6093 kilometers = 1 mile

1 hectare = 2.47 acres

1.4 hectares = 1 acre

Ohio State Fun Facts

Origins of the Buckeye Name

The use of the term Buckeyes to refer to the university's sports teams derives from the even wider use of the term to refer to all residents of the state of Ohio.

The university's Athletic Council officially adopted the term in 1950, but it had been in common use for many years before—certainly it was firmly established by 1920, and most records indicate that it had probably been used with some frequency to refer to Ohio State and its athletic teams since before the turn of the 20th century.

As with many such terms that seem to have evolved rather than been decreed, the history of “buckeye” is a bit fuzzy. The buckeye (*aesculus glabra*) is a tree, native to Ohio and particularly prevalent in the Ohio River Valley, whose shiny dark brown nuts with lighter tan patches resemble the eye of a deer. The nuts, although inedible, are attractive and folk wisdom has it that carrying one in a pocket brings good luck. However, in general, the trees and their nuts are of little practical use: the wood does not burn well, the bark has an unpleasant odor, and the bitter nut meat is mildly toxic. Still, the tree has grit. It grows where others cannot, is difficult to kill, and adapts to its circumstances. The first recorded use of the term to refer to a resident of the area is in 1788, some 15 years before Ohio became a state. By the 1830s, writers were commonly referring to locals as “Buckeyes.”

It was the presidential election of 1840, though, that put the term permanently in the vocabulary. William Henry Harrison adopted the buckeye tree and buckeye nuts as campaign symbols. The buckeye nut was a precursor to today's campaign buttons. The buckeye became indelibly linked with Ohio.

The Ohio buckeye tree's five-fingered leaflet, along with the nut, is sometimes used as a symbol for Ohio State and is incorporated in its Alumni Association's logo. Buckeye leaf decals are awarded to Ohio State football players for outstanding efforts on the field; players with many buckeye leaves on their helmets are indeed honored.

It is rare for an athletic team to be named after a tree; but the Buckeye name is so ingrained in the history and lore of the state and the university that few stop to consider how unusual it is. It is native, tenacious, attractive, and unique—traits that Ohioans and Ohio State alumni are proud to be associated with.

Ohio State Songs

Across the Field

Fight the team across the field,
Show them Ohio's here
Set the earth reverberating with a mighty cheer
Rah! Rah! Rah!
Hit them hard and see how they fall;
Never let that team get the ball,
Hail! Hail! The gang's all here,
So let's win that old conference now.

Buckeye Battle Cry

In old Ohio there's a team
That's known thru-out the land;
Eleven warriors, brave and bold,
Whose fame will ever stand.
And when the ball goes over,
Our cheers will reach the sky,
Ohio field will hear again
The Buckeye Battle Cry—
Drive! Drive on down the field,
Men of the scarlet and gray;
Don't let them thru that line,
We have to win this game today,
Come on, Ohio!
Smash through to victory.
We cheer you as you go:
Our honor defend
So we'll fight to the end for O-hi-o.

Carmen Ohio

Oh! Come let's sing Ohio's praise,
And songs to Alma Mater raise;
While our hearts rebounding thrill,
With joy which death alone can still.
Summer's heat or winter's cold,
The seasons pass, the years will roll;
Time and change will surely show
How firm thy friendship O-hi-o.

School Colors: Scarlet and Gray

A committee of three students decided on the colors for the university during the 1878 spring term. The original colors selected for Ohio State were orange and black. However, because Princeton had already chosen those colors, the committee decided to change their decision to scarlet and gray. Alice Townshend, one of the committee members, reported that the colors did not signify anything. Instead, the committee wanted to choose something that was a nice combination and had not been used by any other college.

The Oval

The original campus design did not include the Oval or anything similar. However, in 1893 the master plan for the campus proposed a group of buildings around a central open space. The first reference to this space as "the oval" was in 1910. Since then the Oval, approximately 11 acres, has been the scene of a great variety of student, faculty, and alumni activities.

Mirror Lake

Originally, a spring supplied much of the water for Mirror Lake and was a source of drinking water for both the campus and people living nearby. A city sewer was constructed in the ravine in 1891 on the south side of the lake, but it was so poorly built that the lake and spring disappeared. The sewer was reconstructed in 1892 and water once again flowed through the spring. The increasing coverage of the ground surface by campus buildings and paved areas permanently dried up the spring in the 1920s. After that time, well water, river water, and city water became the sources used to feed water into the lake. The lake holds 91,000 cubic feet of water.

Ohio State v. Michigan

The Ohio State University/University of Michigan rivalry in football began with their first game in 1897. UM won that game 34 to 0 and dominated the series until 1919. That year the tables were turned and the Buckeyes won 13 to 3.

The Ohio State/Michigan game has always been important, but it was not always the last game of the season. This practice began in 1935 and, except for one year, the tradition has continued. Often the game has determined the winner of the Big Ten. An ESPN poll rated the rivalry as the greatest of all time.

"Ohio State/Michigan Week" has grown beyond the football game to include the annual blood battle, which benefits the Red Cross, food collection for food banks, and spirit events such as banner contests. Ohio State and UM have turned the rivalry into an event that helps people across school lines.

Brutus Buckeye

Brutus was first displayed at the Homecoming game on October 30, 1965, and was made out of 40 pounds of fiberglass. The original Brutus was one large head, almost completely covering the person inside. During the 1970s, the "Block O" cheering section chose the person who became Brutus. In 1981, Brutus was redesigned so that the individual underneath could have a chance to use his/her arms to help the Buckeyes cheer. A few years later, Brutus was altered again so that the design was similar to the one used today.