The MSU OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS is responsible for advising on F-1 international student regulations. The following is a list of important steps to prepare for your arrival on the Minot State University campus. We look forward to meeting you!

**Carefully review the MSU Office of International Programs Website**
It has answers to most of your questions, including detailed information on arriving in the U.S., health insurance, taxes, and social security numbers.
www.MinotStateU.edu/international/services.shtml

**Pay the SEVIS Fee**
SEVIS (Student Exchange Visitor Information System) is an internet-based system in which the U.S. Department of Homeland Security maintains information on non-immigrant visitors holding F visas. You can pay the SEVIS fee to the Department of Homeland Security by mail or online. The fee can be paid by you or by a third party, inside or outside the U.S. **The fee must be paid at least 3 business days BEFORE applying for your visa.**

To pay the SEVIS fee online:
• Find the Form I-901 at www.Fmjfee.com.
• Complete the form online and pay the fee. Be sure to write your name on the form I-901 exactly as it appears on your I-20.
• After paying the fee, print your SEVIS fee receipt by entering your SEVIS ID number, last name, and date of birth. Your SEVIS ID number can be found at the top of your I-20.
• Make copies of your receipt, and keep it with your other important immigration documents.

**Sign and date your I-20 on the bottom of page 1**
Review the regulations on page 3.

**Apply for a Student Visa**
A visa can only be issued by a U.S. embassy or consulate. Contact the nearest embassy or consulate in your home country for detailed instructions; requirements for processing the visa will vary by location, and many offices will require a visa interview. Allow a minimum of 4 weeks for this process to be completed. Find tips for applying for a visa in the immigration procedure section on the MSU Office of International Programs website.

**Provide Immunization Records**
Official immunization documentation must be submitted to the MSU Student Health Center prior to your arrival in Minot. For more information regarding immunizations or health records, contact the MSU Student Health Center at +1-701-858-3371 or visit their website at www.MinotStateU.edu/health.

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Entry into United States
You must bring all of your documentation regarding Minot State University in order to successfully obtain entry into the U.S. Without proper documentation and identification, you will be denied entry until all documentation is present.

- Form I-20
- Passport
- Visa
- Admission letter – sent by Enrollment Services with your I-20
- I-901 SEVIS fee receipt
- Financial documentation – the same documents you sent to Enrollment Services to prove eligibility to receive an I-20.

When to Arrive
You may enter the United States up to 30 days before the Program Begin Date listed on your I-20. We recommend that you arrive in Minot at least 1 to 2 days before the beginning of CONNECT orientation so you have time to get settled and begin to recover from jet lag.

If you will live on campus, please note that you are responsible for informing the Housing Office of your arrival date and time. International students are given a special allowance to arrive prior to the official check-in dates so that you can attend CONNECT and to get settled over the weekend. However, you MUST notify the Housing Office of your expected arrival date and time AT LEAST 3 DAYS IN ADVANCE in order to ensure that staff will be available to assist you when you need them. As soon as you know your arrival details, contact the Housing Office at msu.housing@minotstateu.edu or +1-701-858-3363.

If you need a ride from the Minot Airport to MSU, reserve a spot at www.MinotStateU.edu/shuttle.

Attend the Mandatory International F-1 Regulations Workshop
This meeting typically takes place on the first Monday of the semester in the morning (classes commence after 4:00 pm that day). You will receive an email from the International Student Coordinator approximately one month before classes start to confirm the workshop date, time, and location.

Enjoy Life as an MSU Student!