

Complete Guide for Fall 2019 Admits



Oklahoma State University

INDIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

ISA is very excited to welcome you all at OSU this Fall. Indian Student Association (ISA) of Oklahoma State University is a non-profit organization run by Indian students here in Stillwater to help Indian students as well as other communities as well. It acts as a bridge between the past and future Indian students of OSU. ISA tries to promote Indian traditions, heritage, values and ethnicity by organizing various cultural events like Diwali Night, Dandiya Night, Ganesh Chaturthi, Holi, Independence Day and taking part in College events like Mr. and Ms. International, Mr. and Ms. Asia, ISO (International Student Organization) Cultural Night, International expo, Food Bazaar and ISO Olympics. ISA has been winning ISO Cultural Night for past three years and has the highest number of Sports medals.



ISA provides a platform to all Indian students by updating them with information about the campus, living and provide forums to express their concerns, doubts and clarify them on a regular basis. It will also provide pick and drop arrangements and temporary housing when you first come here (details are provided later in the document).

Now that you read a lot about us, we think it is time to take that one next step of being part of ISA, So, welcome to ISA, your home away from India. To become a part of ISA a minimal fee of \$20, this fee is just one time for next 2 years and will make you eligible to attend all the events mentioned above for fee.

For more information, please contact:

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ISA fall admit WhatsApp link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GgfosViUEfV6IYoBJkzsQK>

ISA Facebook group link:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISA.OKSTATE.PICKUP.Drop/?ref=group_header

Pick and Drop from Airport

We provide pickup from OKC (Will Rogers) Airport and Stillwater Airport.

We will be providing pickup from **12pm – 12am starting from 25th July till 5th August**. But there will be days when we might make two trips and we will accordingly adjust timings purely based on the number of students arriving at same time or nearby to each other. You might need to wait at airport to avail that pickup, though waiting at airport is voluntary and you can avail other transport to reach Stillwater. We will work our best to accommodate everyone and collaborate with you guys.

Before we pick you up from airport, you need to fill in the sheet which will have your flight details and timings and accordingly we will make separate groups of students where you will get to know who are going to pick you up and in which group of students you belong for the pickup. If any female pickup will be there, a female volunteer will be present in the car from ISA. You will also need to fill the waiver and assumption of risk form.

Temporary Accommodation

Once you reach Stillwater, we will be providing you with temporary accommodation for 2 days. In these two days, you can search for apartments, get a US number and get the Stillwater utilities once you decide on a house. Below are few of the common properties used by our students and you may contact them using *Google Hangout* as its free from India.

Orange Doors, C Star Properties (4053778740)

Stillwater Properties (West 3rd /4th Avenue, Fox Run, 304 S Jefferson, Duncan street etc) (4057432126)

Hester Apartments (4055331767)

Eagle Nest (4053721796)

Cedar Ridge (4053777773, 4055472852)

Prime Place (4057087605)

University Apartments (4057445592)

These are just few of the many available apartments near the University. Also, there are some private properties available for rent. Every place is good to live as it depends on individual's choice.

Please feel free to search other places, as these are just suggestions.

You can find more apartments at below websites:

www.zillow.com

www.hotpads.com

www.apartments.com

Few Steps to take once at OSU

Step 1 - Register at University Health Service

New international students are required to obtain a health clearance as part of the registration and enrollment process. This clearance will take place at University Health Services (UHS), 1202 Farm Road Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

There are three steps to this process:

1. **Tuberculosis testing:** All new international students must be tested for tuberculosis. When you report to UHS a blood sample will be obtained for testing. The cost of this test is \$75 and can be billed to your bursar account. No other test will satisfy this requirement.
2. **Immunization verification:** Oklahoma Law requires all new OSU students to provide evidence of having two vaccinations for measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) AND a Hepatitis B series. Please bring your immunization records with you so your status can be documented.
3. **Health Insurance:** OSU requires all international students to have health insurance. You will be automatically billed for the OSU Student Insurance Plan. For additional information about this requirement, please contact the International Students & Scholars Office in room 250 Student Union.

Upon completion of these three steps, international students will receive a health clearance card that will permit you to complete registration, orientation and enrollment.

We highly recommend doing all the three tests, but if by any chance you can't please complete at least two tests from India. Though all the tests are done here as well under your medical insurance, but that might delay your enrollment process for Fall classes, so we highly suggest completing all three vaccinations before you reach at OSU. TB test will be done at OSU and will be covered by your insurance.

Step 2 - Register with ISS

Complete your registration process at SU 270 French Lounge from 8:30 – 4:30 pm on August 6th, 7th and 8th

Note: Bring Passport, I-20, I-94 and other immigration documents

Step 3 - Make appointment with your academic department to enroll

Need to go to Graduate College at 202, Whitehurst Building and submit your college transcript and then meet your academic advisor for subjects' enrollment.

Step 4- Get your student ID at 421 Classroom Building

You will get your Student ID with your CWID, It is required everywhere on campus.

Step 5- Attend International Graduate orientation

At SU Theater on August 9th from 8:00 – 12:15 pm

International Student Orientation is MANDATORY for all new international students. Failure to complete orientation will result in:

- a hold on your enrollment for the subsequent semester
- an additional \$100.00 charge
- required attendance of make-up orientation sessions during the subsequent semester

Step 6 - Employment and Tax Session

At 108, Math Science Computer Lab on August 7th and August 8th at 1:30pm And on August 12th, 13th, 15th and 16th at 9:00am

- As an F-1 or J-1 student you may only work a maximum of 20 hours per week on campus. Violations of these restrictions could result in loss of immigration status and possible deportation.
- Everyone who works in the U.S. must obtain a Social Security Number (SSN). This is a government issued number.
- Students planning on working while at OSU must attend Employment Sessions listed on your orientation schedule which will be available at the time of registration with ISS (several times and dates will be offered for your convenience).

Note: For more information on Employment and Tax Information please visit <https://lcl.okstate.edu/iss/general-employment-and-tax-information.html>

Step 7 - Update address and contact for ISS as needed

The USCIS requires all students to report any change of address within 10 days of change. Update your address in the Student Information System at my.okstate.edu. Please remember that “local address” must be a U.S. address and cannot be a P.O. Box or the address for your academic department.

Step 8 - Take TELP and ITA Exams (if needed)

For more information please visit - <https://gradcollege.okstate.edu/prospective-students/international-teaching-assistant-test.html>

Step 9 – Fee Payment

Once you register for the courses for Fall semester, your Bursar account will get updated with the Fees. You will have time to drop and add new courses and due dates will be mailed for the same.

Additional Information

BANK ACCOUNT: Opening of bank account will require a US address proof and a working US phone number. You can update your SSN later with the bank. You can open a bank account with any bank in Stillwater once you have both the above information with you.

DRIVING LICENSE: We also recommend you have a valid Driving License from India as it will be valid in USA for one year (depend on different states in US).

THINGS YOU CAN BRING:

I) Clothes and apparel

Don't get too many t-shirts from India. Again, don't get too few either. You won't be washing your clothes for the first two weeks at least, so you need your clothes to last for at least two weeks. A general guideline for buying clothes:

1. T-shirts (round neck) - 6
2. T-shirts (collared) - 3-4
3. Jeans (stick to blue/black) - 6-7
4. Formal shirts - 3
5. Formal trousers - 2
6. Undergarments - at least 15 pairs (very important)
7. Formal suit - 1 complete set
8. Ties - 2-3
9. Shorts/three-fourths - 5-6
10. Track pants - 2-3
11. Swimming trunks - 1 (if you plan to swim after coming here)
12. One-2 traditional dress for festivals

You will get a lot of t-shirts as freebies in many places in the university. Also, you will be tempted to buy university tees (they are quite cheap at Walmart) so you won't need that many tees. About other stuff, you may need to buy these:

1. Towels - 3
2. Hand towels - 3-4
3. Leather belts - 1-2
4. Belt for jeans - 1
5. Formal leather shoes - 1 pair
6. Woodland all-weather shoes - 1 pair (very important)
7. Sneakers (optional) - 1 pair
8. Sports shoes (optional) - They are very cheap in the US. You will most probably have a pair already. Wear it and come. Wait till the black friday sales where you will get awesome pairs of shoes for cheap.
9. Sunglasses - 1 pair
10. Socks - 6-7 pairs
11. Sweater - 1-2 good warm ones
12. A light jacket (you can get a thicker one once you land in the US)
13. A good umbrella
14. Handkerchiefs - 12 nos.
15. Slippers/Flip-flops - 1 pair
17. Bedsheets - 2
18. Blanket - 1 (optional)
19. Pillow covers - 3
20. A good wallet - 1
21. A wallet for passport
22. Shoe polish - 1
23. Shoe polishing brush - 1
24. Monkey cap - 1

Electronics

Though most electronics are cheaper in the US, there are some stuff you may buy from India and come.

1. External HDD (optional)
2. USB keyboard and mouse (optional)
3. If you already have a laptop, you may bring that. Even if it is quite old, preserve it till black Friday. You will get super deals, both online and in-store.
4. A good pair of headphones with mic.
5. Indian pin to US pin converters - 2-3. (very important)
6. A scientific calculator (very important) Casio fx991MS or fx991ES - This is damn expensive in the US.
7. A good branded, decent wrist watch.

Personal hygiene products

Most of the brands available in India are available in the US too. However, you might need to bring the following items for your first few days of use.

1. Tooth paste - one large tube. Brands also available in the US - Colgate, Close-Up, Pepsodent
2. Tooth brushes - 3-4
3. Soap - 1-2 bars. Brands also available in the US - Dove, Palmolive and Pears. If you don't use any of these brands, then better get used to them. No use bringing lots of soap bars from India.
4. Shampoo - 1 bottle. Brands also available in the US - Head and Shoulders, Sunsilk, Dove, Pantene, Nizoral. Again, get used to any one of these brands.
5. Shaving razor - A couple of disposable ones.
6. Shaving foam (don't buy cream) - 1 small can
7. Cold cream - 1 bottle
8. Vaseline - 1 bottle
9. Good clean combs - 2-3
10. Comb cleaner/old toothbrush for cleaning the combs.
11. Soap cases - 2
12. Hair oil - 2 bottles
13. Deodorant - 1 can
14. Nail cutter - 2
15. Earbuds - 1 small pack
16. Sunscreen - 1 bottle
17. Lip balm - 2 tubes

Utensils and Food items

These are the most important things you need to carry from India. If you have already decided your roommates in India, then you will have the luxury of sharing/dividing items equally. All vessels should be flat bottomed, since in the US, most apartments use electric stoves. These may be the utensils you may want to carry with you:

1. Pressure cooker - 1
2. Pressure pan - 1. As far as possible, get both the cooker and the pan from the same brand so that you can interchange the gaskets and the weights.
3. Medium size kadai for cooking vegetables - 1
4. Serving spoons (of various sizes) - 3-4
5. SS Plate - 1
6. Kadai or boiling milk/water - 1
7. Knives - 3-4
8. Vegetable chopping board - 1
9. SS glasses/tumblers - 3
10. SS spoons - 3-4
11. Extra weights and gaskets for the cookers - 3
12. Chapati roller - 1
13. Butter knives - 2
14. SS forks - 2
15. Kadai for making sambar/dal - 1
16. Tea strainer - 1
17. Water bottle (preferably Tupperware) - 1

Food items

1. Ready-to-eat paste - 5-6 bottles minimum.
2. Rice - 3-4 kg for initial use
3. Maggi - 10-12 (minimum). You won't get Maggi in the US except in Indian stores. So, carry as much as you can.
4. Some home-made sweets for yourself as well as for seniors you need favors from.
5. Pickles - 3-4 bottles
6. Some snacks - how much ever you want, for the initial days
7. All powders - chilli, garam masala, rasam, sambar, asafoetida, other powders you use - 0.5 to 1 kg each
8. All dals that you use in cooking - 2 kg each
9. Salt and sugar - 0.5 kg each
10. Papads - 2-3 packs
11. Tamarind - 1 kg
12. Ginger-garlic paste - 2 bottles

Stationery items

You will get a lot of stationery items free at various places in the university (career fairs, orientation, etc) so don't bring too many stuffs.

1. Pens - 3-4
2. Notebooks - 2-3
3. Pencils - 3-4
4. Erasers - 3
5. Sharpeners - 3
6. Key chains - 2
7. Staple machine - 1
8. Pins - 2 boxes
9. Glue sticks - 2
10. Markers - 2
11. Highlighters - 1
12. A4 sheets - 1 quire
13. Small ruler - 1
14. Phone book - 1. Keep all your friends' and relatives' phone numbers written inside before you leave.
15. Cellophane tape - 1 roll

Medicines

These are very important since for getting any specialized medicine in the US, **you need a prescription.**

1. Cold, Fever - Crocin
2. Body Pain - Crocin, Combiflam
3. Indigestion, Gastric Problems - Gelucil, Zinetac
4. Throat Infection - Erythromycin
5. Allergies - Avil .25
6. Vomiting - Avomine
7. Tooth Ache - Combiflam
8. Cold, Head Ache - Amurtanjan
9. Stomach Pain - Cyclopam
10. Diarrhea - Lopomide
11. Dizziness - Diziron
12. Sprain - Esgypyrin
13. Common Cold - Coldact, Vicks Vaporub

Document list

Here is the list of documents to be carried. It is advisable to keep one of each in one piece of luggage.

- (1) Passport Xerox(5 copies)
- (2) VISA Xerox (5 copies)
- (3) IDP Xerox (5 copies)
- (4) I-20(5 copies)
- (5) Air Ticket(2 copies)
- (6) Original marksheets + Degree Certificate
- (7) Attested marksheets + Degree Certificate (3 copies)
- (8) Original transcripts + Degree Certificate (3 copies)
- (9) Immunization form(specific to university)
- (10) University specific letters like admit, aid, forms.
- (11) SEVIS fee receipt(3 copies)
- (12) GRE Original + Xerox copies(5 copies)
- (13) TOEFL Original + Xerox copies(5 copies)
- (14) Final Year Project Report
- (15) Syllabus Copies
- (16) Reco Letters.

Other things before you leave

Packing

Don't procrastinate packing till the last moment as you won't find time later, and in the tension, you may miss out on some important things. Start packing early. Make sure you make a list of all stuff you are carrying. Label all the suitcases both inside and outside with both your home address in India and your university address. Include the phone numbers also. Make sure you are within the luggage allowance.

Keep your original documents with you in the hand luggage and not in the check-in. Keep everything neatly organized so that you won't have to search for anything in case you need something during travel. Keep your passport always within reach of your hand. Get a wallet for your passport

Carrying US Currency

This is a very important issue, and many people have doubts regarding this. About \$ 1000 in cash and rest in Forex Card.

For tuition fee, you can either use your Forex card or can transfer money from forex to your Bank Account or ask your parents to wire the money directly to the university. These are the two safest options. Keep all your currency in your wallet inside the hand luggage, and not in the check-in luggage.

Hope this helped!!

