Complete Guide for Spring 2020 Admits

Oklahoma State University
INDIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

ISA is very excited to welcome you all at OSU this Spring. Indian Student Association (ISA) of Oklahoma State University is a non-profit organization run by Indian students here in Stillwater to help Indian students and neighboring communities. It acts as a bridge between the university and Indian students. ISA tries to promote Indian traditions, heritage, values and ethnicity by organizing various cultural events like Diwali Night, Dandiya Night, Ganesh Chaturthi, Holi, Eid, Christmas and Independence Day. ISA has been an active participant in many events organized by university and has mostly won the first place. 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 organized by ISA.

For more information, please contact:

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ISA Spring admit WhatsApp link: // it is still fall 19
https://chat.whatsapp.com/GgfosViUEfV6IYoBJkzsQK ISA

Facebook group link:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISA.OKSTATE.PICKUP.Drop/?ref=group_header
Temporary Accommodation

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

Note: Your priority should be to get SIM. Most of students here use Cricket Family Plan (4 to 5 people) which is good and cheap. You can also go for other service provider like Lyca, T-mobile etc. Till then you can use university wifi using “SU guest”, use internet to reach following locations and complete all steps.

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.

Location:
https://www.google.com/maps/place/Oklahoma+State+University+:+Health+Services/@36.1249934,97.0761179,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x87b10a0e90451ce9:0x7f5a7b01f41e5085!8m2!3d36.1249934!4d97.0739292

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 Spring 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.

Location:
https://www.google.com/maps/place/International+Students+and+Scholars/@36.1213339,97.071124,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x87b10a3f0425555:0xec60dcdd26b02c2!8m2!3d36.1213339!4d97.0689353
**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.

Location: [https://www.google.com/maps/place/Whitehurst,+Stillwater,+OK+74074/@36.1219844,-97.0727557,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x87b10a3fcdda2cc5:0x3d1374fc18f6751d!8m2!3d36.1219844!4d97.070567](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Whitehurst,+Stillwater,+OK+74074/@36.1219844,-97.0727557,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x87b10a3fcdda2cc5:0x3d1374fc18f6751d!8m2!3d36.1219844!4d97.070567)

**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. Also ask for the password for OSU Student Wi-Fi password and ask for help as you need to change some settings accordingly.

Location: [https://www.google.com/maps/place/Classroom+Building+-+OSU/@36.1222706,-97.0679113,18.75z/data=!4m8!1m2!2m1!1sClassroom+Building+-+OSU!3m4!1s0x87b10a3f014a4f55:0xec60dcdd26b0c2c218m2!3d36.121967!4d-97.0688582](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Classroom+Building+-+OSU/@36.1222706,-97.0679113,18.75z/data=!4m8!1m2!2m1!1sClassroom+Building+-+OSU!3m4!1s0x87b10a3f014a4f55:0xec60dcdd26b0c2c218m2!3d36.121967!4d-97.0688582)

**Step 5 - Attend International Graduate orientation**

At 110 Wes Watkins Auditorium on Jan 8th from 8:00 – 12:00 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

Location: [https://www.google.com/maps/place/International+Students+and+Scholars/@36.1213339,97.071124,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x87b10a34b14m5l3m4l1s0x87b10a3f04255555:0xec60dcd26b0c2c218m2!3d36.121339!4d97.0689353](https://www.google.com/maps/place/International+Students+and+Scholars/@36.1213339,97.071124,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x87b10a34b14m5l3m4l1s0x87b10a3f04255555:0xec60dcd26b0c2c218m2!3d36.121339!4d97.0689353)

**Step 6 - Employment and Tax Session**

You need to sign up during registration.

- 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](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](http://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-teachingassistant-test.html](https://gradcollege.okstate.edu/prospective-students/international-teachingassistant-test.html)

**Step 9 – Fee Payment**

Once you register for the courses for Spring 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. There are two Banks on campus in student union basement.

**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). Once you are here, try to get driving license asap because it serves as National Id or else you need to carry Passport with you which is quite risky. (you can also get OK State Id to avoid that risk)

**TRAVELING OUTSIDE USA**: Whenever you are planning to travel outside US, you must inform your academic advisor and Be sure to carry the following documents with you for travel abroad:

- Valid Visa
- I-94 (I-94 will be taken at the port of exit)
- I-20 or DS-2019 endorsed for travel by an ISS Staff member
- Official transcript (Registrar’s Office, 322 Student Union)
- "Letter of Current Enrollment" (Registrar’s Office, 322 Student Union)
- SEVIS Fee Receipt
- Proof of financial support (a personal bank statement, Research Assistant/Teaching Assistantship verification letter that includes salary and tuition payment details, or sponsor’s letter and sponsor's bank statement).
- Documentation of approval to take a reduced course load, if applicable
- Evidence of concurrent enrollment, if applicable
THINGS YOU CAN BRING (*It depends on your choice)

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
15. Slippers/Flip-flops - 1 pair
16. Bedsheets - 2
17. Blanket - 1 (optional)
18. Pillow covers - 3
19. A good wallet - 1
20. A good wallet to passport
21. Shoe polish - 1
22. Shoe polishing brush - 1
23. 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. Also, Bestbuy offers student discount till august which matches the price offered in black Friday.
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.

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**

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  (Nothing should be in seeded form)**

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

**Welcome @ Oklahoma State University**