



# GETTING STARTED IN GRAD

*Making Your Move  
to the U.S.*

May 22, 2026



# Important dates for international students

---

**July 15** – earliest you may arrive in the U.S.

**August 14** – arrive to the U.S. by this day

**August 17** – International Student Orientation - *required*  
(additional activities during the week)

**August 19** – Graduate School Welcome Session

**August 20** – Orientation for Graduate Students with Teaching Responsibilities

**August 24** – First day of Fall 2026 semester—classes begin!

# What do I need to do now?

---

- Follow Guides to Getting Started (Graduate School website)
  - Getting started checklists
  - Tutorials

# [www.ksu.edu/grad](http://www.ksu.edu/grad)

Kansas State University

Sign in Browse A-Z



Graduate School



About Admissions Academics Student success Financial support Faculty resources

## YOUR SUCCESS STORY BUILDS HERE



Apply Now



Request Info

CHOOSE FROM

165+ PROGRAMS

Explore grad studies

Find a program and get  
connected

Get ready

Guidance for incoming  
students

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

Graduate School



[K-State home](#) » [Graduate School](#) » [Admissions](#) » [Incoming Students](#)

## You're admitted! What's next?

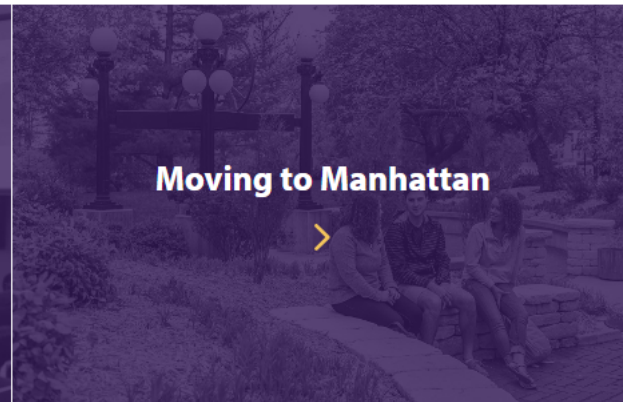
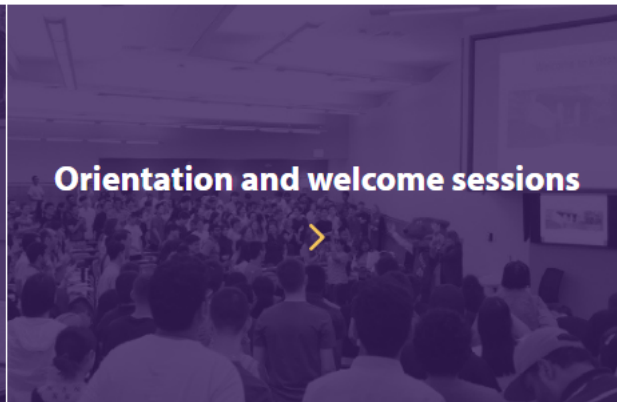
We are pleased you have chosen K-State for your graduate education and look forward to welcoming and supporting you through this exciting journey! The following will guide you through the next steps to help you prepare for your K-State graduate career.

### Let us know you're attending

If you have not already done so, make sure to officially accept your admission offer. Please visit your [application portal](#). In the "Post-Admission Checklist," submit your "reply to offer of admission."

### Get ready!

Then, use our getting started resources and participate in orientation and welcome activities to help you prepare for your first semester of graduate study at K-State!



## Guides to getting started

The checklists and tutorials below will help you prepare for your first semester as a graduate student at K-State. You may need to refer to more than one checklist, depending on your citizenship status and if you have been appointed to an assistantship.

### Checklists

[All new graduate students](#) ∨

---

[International students](#) ∨

---

[New GTAs, GRAs, and GAs](#) ∨

---

### Tutorials

[International student travel](#)

[Enroll in Courses](#)

[Technology](#)

[Tuition and Payment](#)

[Health Well-being Safety](#)

[For GTAs, GRAs, and GAs](#)

# Prepare for travel

## Utilize the International Graduate Student to the U.S. Tutorial

(<https://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/incoming-students/getting-started/travel.html>)

When to  
arrive

Air travel

Transportation  
from the airport

Housing

## New international graduate student guide



This guide is a great resource for new international graduate students! You will find information to assist you with travel, including guidance on what to bring with you, what to pack in your checked luggage and carry-on luggage, and tips for helping you navigate the steps and processes involved in international travel and entering the U.S.

[Check out the new international graduate student guide >](#)

# When can/should I arrive?

---

- August 14 is program start date in I-20
  - You are expected to arrive by this date
  - You may arrive as early as 30 days prior, July 15
- If you will be on an assistantship appointment
  - You are encouraged to arrive as early as possible—it takes time to get your SSN and get on payroll (*attend May 28 webinar for more details*)

# What airport do I fly to?

---

- We recommend you fly to Manhattan Regional Airport (MHK)
  - University shuttle available the week of August 10 (more information will be shared in the next couple of months)
  - Helping International Students (HIS) transportation, <https://hismanhattan.org/newstudents>
- Next closest airports are Kansas City International Airport (MCI) and Wichita Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport (ICT)
  - Both are about 2 hours from Manhattan
  - The university does NOT provide ground transportation from these airports

# Housing

---

## It is your responsibility to secure housing before you arrive!

- KSU Jardine Apartments recommended at least for first year
  - Close to campus
  - Strong community of other international and graduate students
  - You might be eligible for a housing payment deferment or payment plans
  - Make sure there is availability for ***when you plan to arrive***
    - Temporary housing for early arrival might be available, but could be limited

<https://housing.k-state.edu/living-options/international-students/>

# Housing

---

- Contracts typically begin August 1
- If you plan to arrive in July, it is unlikely your apartment will be ready, and there is very limited temporary housing
- What do I do if I don't have a visa yet?
  - If you plan to attend K-State in August and want to live in Jardine, you should submit an application as soon as possible
  - It is better to get an application in early to have space secured than to submit an application close to the start of the semester when there might not be space available

# Housing

---

## **K-State Housing website and Jardine staff are your best resources for information about living in Jardine**

- K-State housing information for international students:  
<https://housing.k-state.edu/living-options/international-students/>
- What you need to know about Jardine Apartments:  
<https://housing.k-state.edu/living-options/international-students/jardine-info.html>
- Ask for assistance with finding a roommate, complete this form  
[https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=cfqi2X3Wtky1QQbMqoAT-0M\\_9PJtvBJEhmyu2OL\\_tVtURU1PTDFMNEExXWTVSNU5aREowMEdiUIFaWC4u&route=shorturl](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=cfqi2X3Wtky1QQbMqoAT-0M_9PJtvBJEhmyu2OL_tVtURU1PTDFMNEExXWTVSNU5aREowMEdiUIFaWC4u&route=shorturl)

# Plan for steps after arrival

## When to Arrive to the U.S.

**As early as** 30 days prior to the program start date on your I-20 or DS-2019.

**No later than** the program start date on your I-20 or DS-2019.

**\*If you have been offered an assistantship** (GTA, GRA, or GA), we recommend that you arrive as early as possible, up 30 days prior to the program start date on your I-20.\*

If you are unable to arrive by the program start date, please notify us at [gradapply@ksu.edu](mailto:gradapply@ksu.edu) prior to the arrival deadline.

## Prepare for travel to the U.S.

We have information to help you plan your travel and prepare for your move to Kansas!

[Guide for international student travel to the U.S.](#)

# Plan for steps after arrival

---

## Check-in with International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

- Have your immigration documents scanned and saved for uploading purposes. Documents include passport (pages with photo and expiration date), I-94, I-20, or DS-2019. You will upload these documents in the ISSS check-in survey.
- Know the U.S. address where you will be currently staying, even if it is a temporary address.

**Complete the ISSS check-in survey**

**Also refer to ALL NEW STUDENTS checklist and GTA/GRA/GA checklist**

# What do I need to do now?

---

- Follow Guides to Getting Started (Graduate School website)
  - Getting started checklists
  - Tutorials
- Know where to ask for help
  - Your graduate program – provides guidance about your academic program
  - Graduate School – high-level guidance on grad student experience
  - International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) – support for policy and process specific to international students

<https://www.k-state.edu/grad/academics/program-contacts.html>

---

## Graduate Program Contacts

<b>Agriculture</b>	▼
<b>Architecture, Planning and Design</b>	▼
<b>Arts and Sciences</b>	▼
<b>Business Administration</b>	▼
<b>Education</b>	▼
<b>Engineering</b>	▼
<b>Health and Human Sciences</b>	▼
<b>Leadership</b>	▼
<b>Olathe</b>	▼
<b>Salina-Aerospace and Technology Campus</b>	▼
<b>Veterinary Medicine</b>	▼

# Other resources

---

- Current graduate students – ***one of your BEST resources!***
  - Students in your graduate program
  - Students from your home country
    - ***International student associations at K-State:***  
[https://www.k-state.edu/iss/resources/intl\\_assoc.html](https://www.k-state.edu/iss/resources/intl_assoc.html)
- Helping International Students (HIS), <https://hismanhattan.org/>
  - A community organization
  - Provides furniture to international students
  - Can provide transportation from MHK airport, and sometimes from Kansas City
  - Organizes events to support community building

# Other resources

---

- What is life like in Manhattan, Kansas?
  - Explore resources on our Moving to Manhattan page: <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/incoming-students/manhattan.html>
- How to get around Manhattan
  - ATA Bus system – ride for free around campus with your K-State ID card (<https://www.k-state.edu/parking/services/shuttle/>)
  - Bicycles from Helping International Students (HIS)

# Attend upcoming webinar

---

## **May 28 – Preparing for Your Assistantship**

9:30am U.S. central time

## **June 4 – Enrollment, Billing, and Making Payments**

9:30am U.S. central time

**Learn more and register on the Graduate School website:**

<https://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/incoming-students/orientation/fall.html>