Congratulations on your admission to the University of California and welcome to the Riverside campus!

Please plan to arrive in Riverside by Wednesday, September 7, 2016.

The Mandatory International Student Orientation for reciprocity students will take place on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 in Pentland Hills Bear Cave B107/C101. Check-in at 8:30 AM.

Register via the Highlander Orientation Database!

Continue to check your email account for further updates.
The International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO) is on campus to help make your experience in Riverside as rewarding as possible.

Please read **everything** in this letter carefully so that you can arrive better prepared for life at UCR as an international student. Any further questions that you have can be directed to our office by email. Please send your message to [InternationalCenter@ucr.edu](mailto:InternationalCenter@ucr.edu).

The UCR International Students and Scholars Office and the University of California, Riverside campus will be closed on **Monday, September 5, 2016** in observance of Labor Day. No one will be here to assist you during this period.
You should arrive in Riverside by Wednesday, September 7, 2016.

If you are in F or J status and entering from outside the United States, regulations allow you to arrive up to 30 days in advance of the program start date on your initial attendance I-20 or DS-2019 form. Please do not try to arrive earlier as you will be refused entry.

Caution! Plan your arrival carefully! Public transportation from the airports and bus terminals can be limited, especially at night and on weekends. Please refer to the Transportation pages for more information on how to get to Riverside from LAX International Airport or from Ontario International Airport. Also, please note that we will not accept any packages delivered due to space limitations.
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## Important Dates for New Reciprocity Students

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| Wednesday, September 7   | Early Residence Hall Move-in Day *(additional fees required for early move in)*  
                          | Campus Apartments move-in Day  
                          | Medical insurance begins (F-1 and J-1 International Students) |
| September 7-25           | New International Student Activities and Welcome Events               |
| Saturday, September 10   | Shuttles to area stores for groceries, sheets and other necessities   |
| Wednesday, September 14  | **Mandatory International Student Orientation for Undergraduate Transfers & Reciprocity Students**  
                          | 9:00 AM; Check-In at 8:30 AM, **Pentland Hills Bear Cave, B107/C101** |
| Friday, September 16     | **J-1 Student Check-In**  
                          | Report between 8:30 and 10:30 AM; **Surge 308**                     |
| Friday, September 16     | **Mandatory Reciprocity Student Meeting**  
                          | 11:00 AM; **Surge 308**                                            |
| September 11-22          | Settling-in Trips and Activities with the International Peer Advisor Team |
| Thursday, September 22   | Instruction begins – First day of classes                             |
| Friday, October 14       | All fees must be paid **in full**. DO NOT WAIT until October 14 to pay your fees. Please make sure to pay them as soon as possible. *(Note: Late fee payment only allowed for international students in their FIRST term. You must make sure to pay your fees in full by the date listed on the UCR calendar each subsequent term in order to avoid your classes being dropped and/or being subject to late fee charges.)* |
Pre-Departure Orientations

EducationUSA is an organization sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

The International Students and Scholars Office suggests attending a Pre-Departure Orientation Program to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have about the departure from your home country to the United States.

Find out when and where Pre-Departure Orientations will be held in your home country!
Applying for a Visa & Entering the U.S. – Important Facts

• You must use your DS-2019 from UC Riverside to obtain your visa and to enter the United States.

• Remember that you must enter the United States in the 30-day period before the program start date on your Form. **You will not be allowed to enter if you arrive earlier.**

• As you will be entering the United States with an initial attendance DS-2019 Form, you will be required to pay a $180 SEVIS fee. Please see the next page for further information.

• Do not enter the U.S. using a B-1/ B-2 (tourist) visa or visa waiver. You will not be able to change your status in the U.S.

  ▪ Consulates require an in-person interview for most visa applicants. We recommend that you apply for a visa as far in advance as possible. Please review the following information designed to assist you with the visa application process.
You will need to apply for a visa at the United States Consulate in your home country.

Please review the information about visa applications and fees at the Department of State’s website.

You will be required to present your Admissions Letter, your DS-2019 Form, proof of financial support and a receipt for the SEVIS Fee (if applicable) when applying for a visa. Other items may also be requested. Be prepared to show that you have significant ties to your home country and that you will return there after completing your studies in the United States.

If you are preparing to study in a field that the consular officer may consider sensitive to the national security of the United States, please plan to apply for a visa well in advance and be prepared for potential delays. Students in fields such as biochemistry, cell & molecular biology and electrical engineering, for example, are sometimes subject to these security clearances. In our experience, students from the People’s Republic of China, India, and Iran are often subject to such clearances.
How do I pay the SEVIS Fee?

You must complete and submit Form I-901 with the $180 payment.

The easiest way to pay the SEVIS Fee is online with a credit card at www.fmjfee.com. You must print out and keep your receipt. This proves that you have paid the SEVIS Fee.

You can also pay the SEVIS Fee by mail with a check or money order drawn on a U.S. bank and payable in U.S. dollars.

In some locations, you may be able to pay the fee through Western Union in local currency. You may find instructions here.

Questions? Ask us or review the frequently asked questions online.

Take your receipt with you when you apply for a visa and when you enter the United States. You cannot pay the SEVIS fee at the border or at the airport when you arrive.
Contracts and leases are **binding documents. It is important to read and understand the details of a contract or lease prior to signing it.** There may be strict penalties associated with cancelling a contract or lease.

We encourage you to review the [International Student Handbook](#) and review the “What You Need to Know Before Renting an Apartment” article (Chapter 8) for further information and guidance.
On Campus Housing

Living in student housing provides you easy access to campus and allows you to take advantage of special programming and the opportunity to meet many other students. UCR offers many on-campus housing options.

You may access further information, as well as take a virtual tour of the residence halls, campus apartments and family housing by visiting the Housing Options page of the Housing Services website.

Housing contracts may be submitted online. Use your NetID and password (find them on your "Identifiers" tab in your MyUCR account) to access the online Housing contract for your housing option. If you will not be here for a full year, make sure to indicate that on your housing contract.

If you have any questions regarding housing or the application process, you may contact Housing Services at housinginfo@ucr.edu.
The Early Campus Apartment move-in day is Wednesday, September 7th. If you apply to live in the campus apartments, you will receive further information from housing regarding your assignment and check-in time.

The EARLY Campus Residence Hall and Apartment move-in day (International Students ONLY) is Wednesday, September 7th. When completing your residence hall contract, make sure to indicate that you are an international student who will require the early move-in date.

If contacting the University Housing Services with any questions, make sure to identify yourself as an international student, as the early move-in date of September 7 is only available to incoming international students.
If you have not made housing arrangements and need a temporary arrangement, the following are some options:

**UCR Extension Residence Center**
1200 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507  
Single $65 per night per person including breakfast  
Double $35 per night per person including breakfast  
Contact: Riko Toyoda at (951) 827-1708 or rtoyoda@ucx.ucr.edu

**Dynasty Suites**
3735 Iowa Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507  
1-800-842-7899 (free call within the U.S.)  
(951) 369-8200  
FAX: (951) 341-6486  
*When you submit your reservation, please identify yourself as a UCR student to receive UCR discounts.*
Rooms have a microwave oven and a small refrigerator.

**Comfort Inn**
1590 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507  
1-800-228-5150 (free call within the U.S.)  
(951) 683-6000  
FAX: (951) 782-8052  
*When you submit your reservation, please identify yourself as a UCR student to receive UCR discounts.*
A 15-minute walk from campus.
All international students are required to have medical insurance. You will be enrolled in a UCR policy and the fee for the insurance is included in your quarterly fee statement.

**Medical Insurance coverage for incoming international students in F & J status will begin on Wednesday, September 07, 2016.**

If you are arriving before September 7, 2016, we recommend that you purchase short-term temporary insurance to cover the period of time before September 7th.

UCR may accept medical insurance coverage from an outside agency if the coverage meets UCR requirements. However, you must apply for a waiver immediately. **Do not purchase health insurance in your home country without first contacting the Student Health Office.**

**NOTE: J-1 students and their dependents must carry health insurance that meets the U.S. Department of State requirements at all times.**

Waivers will be available online in June. You may review [waiver policy information](http://www.campushealth.ucr.edu/) on the Insurance website.

For any questions regarding the waiver policy, contact the Student Insurance Office at (951) 827-5683 or send your email message to: marsha.tolson@ucr.edu, or visit the web site at [http://www.campushealth.ucr.edu/](http://www.campushealth.ucr.edu/). The Student Insurance Office is located on the 2nd floor of the Student Services Building, in room 2221.
Required Health Immunizations

You may be required to have certain Health Immunizations either prior to your arrival or upon arrival.

Please review the [Immunizations page](#) of the Student Health Services website for details.

Contact the Campus Health Insurance Office.
Tel: 951-827-5683
Email: health@ucr.edu.
Before you enroll in classes, you should contact your respective academic advisor. The advisors for EAP Reciprocity Students in the School of Business (SOBA), Bourns College of Engineering (BCOE) and College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (CNAS) are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Program</th>
<th>Advisor Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bourns College of Engineering (Bioengineering)</td>
<td>Ms. Evelyn Luna</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Evelyn.luna@ucr.edu">Evelyn.luna@ucr.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Natural &amp; Agricultural Sciences (Biology, Physics)</td>
<td>Ms. Denise Correll</td>
<td><a href="mailto:denise.correll@ucr.edu">denise.correll@ucr.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Business Administration</td>
<td>Mr. Kazi Mamum</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kazimamun@ucr.edu">kazimamun@ucr.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If your major is in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS), you may look up your advisor on the [CHASS Advisors, Majors and Minors](#) page.

Be sure to identify yourself as an Education Abroad Program Reciprocity student when contacting your advisor.
1. **Prepare a list of class choices, including alternates.** You may view the list of classes [here](#).

2. **Contact your academic advisor for advising.** *(Remember to introduce yourself as an EAP reciprocity student.)* Be aware that some classes may not be suitable or are available only if you have met specific prerequisites. Be prepared to explain previous coursework that you have taken. It would be helpful to obtain course descriptions/syllabi in English in case you need to present it. Any prerequisite requirements must be met before you may enroll in a course. Make sure you contact your advisor before online registration opens. To find your enrollment date, log onto [www.growl.ucr.edu](http://www.growl.ucr.edu) then click on “advising and enrollment”.

3. **Your academic advisor will indicate if you should enroll in your classes via GROWL or if he/she will manually enroll you in classes.** If your advisor indicates you should register online, use your PIN and Net ID to register for classes on GROWL (beginning 08/29.) The university-wide EAP office will provide you with your PIN.

*We encourage you to complete the [Pre-Orientation Tutorial](#) for incoming undergraduate students which will help acquaint you with GROWL and class registration.*
Your tuition fees will be paid for by UOEAP, however, please be aware of the following expenses that you will be responsible for as a reciprocity student. You will see these items on your GROWL student account after you arrive.

1. International Student Orientation ($40)
2. UCR Student ID Card ($25)
3. Technology Fees (Varies depending on the number of units you are enrolled in)
4. Health Insurance Fee (Health insurance is MANDATORY for J-1 students.)

You may pay your fees online with a MasterCard, Discover, or American Express credit card. Note that UCR does not accept Visa payments. Check or money order payments are accepted by mail or in person. It is not recommended to use a check or draft in foreign currency, even from a non-California bank, since access to your money will be restricted for up to one month until the check is cleared. This is also true for any wire transfers as you will not have immediate access to the money.

“Late” fees are not charged for your first quarter of enrollment, however, if you continue your studies at UCR for more than 1 term, make sure that you note payment deadlines on the UCR Calendar in order to avoid late fees and/or having your classes being dropped.

Your first quarter fees must be paid in full by the end of the third week (10/14) or your student status will lapse and you will be dropped from all of your courses. Do not wait until the deadline to pay your fees; make sure to pay your fees as soon as possible to avoid lapsing.
Entering the U.S.

- All incoming reciprocity students should arrive by Wednesday, September 7, 2016.
- The earliest you may apply for entry to the U.S. is 30 days prior to your DS-2019 start date (September 19, 2016).

Make sure to have the following documents with you upon entry:

1. Your original form DS-2019
2. Your passport with J-1 visa
3. Your original acceptance letter to UCEAP program
4. A copy of your paid SEVIS fee receipt
5. A copy of your financial eligibility documentation

After arriving at UC Riverside, make sure to visit the Custom and Border Patrol website at https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov to verify and print your I-94 record of arrival.
Shuttle Transportation to Riverside

There are a variety of options you may use for transportation from the airport to Riverside. We recommend that new students use Super Shuttle, as it is a convenient, easy and safe method of transportation.

Super Shuttle: Toll Free: 800-258-3826
www.supershuttle.com

From Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)
• Super Shuttle provides a 24-hour service directly from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to UCR at a cost of approximately $77 for one person (shared ride van service at $9 each additional person). A reservation must be made 2-3 days before arrival. Super Shuttle requires payments with credit cards or cash.
• To call for your van, after claiming your baggage, go to the center island towards the orange sign that reads “Share Ride” and give your confirmation number to the Shuttle Representative wearing a blue cap and jacket.

From Ontario International Airport (ONT)
• Super Shuttle provides a 24-hour service directly from Ontario Airport to the Riverside’s Campus at a cost of approximately $39 ($9 each additional person). A reservation must be made 2-3 days before arrival. Super Shuttle requires payment with credit card or cash.
• To call for your van, after claiming your baggage, you can use the courtesy phone to call #2897 to speak to a Super Shuttle agent or you can go directly to the right end of the center island. Look for the sign that reads “Transport Service” and give your confirmation number to the Shuttle Representative wearing a blue cap and jacket.
MANDATORY EVENTS FOR RECIPROCITY STUDENTS
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

J-1 STUDENT CHECK-IN
Report to the Surge Building, room 308 between 8:30 and 10:30 AM with the following:

- A completed International Student Personal Record Form.
- Original documents and legible copies of:
  - your passport picture page with validity dates
  - Your J-1 visa
  - Your DS-2019
  - Your I-94 print-out (After entering the U.S., visit https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/ to print your I-94 record.)
  - Your passport page stamp that shows your most recent date of entry into the United States
- Your local contact information and emergency contact information
  One emergency contact should be a family member or legal guardian.
- If you have a J-2 dependent, you will also need to bring copies of their pertinent information (DS-2019, passport, J-2 visa, and I-94 card print-out) and a completed dependent record form.

RECIPROCITY STUDENT MEETING (Surge 308)
11:00 AM Lunch will be provided.
The International Students and Scholars Office hosts this mandatory orientation program. The orientation will inform you about the academic system, student services, and organizations at UCR. We will cover immigration regulations, health insurance and services, registration and enrollment procedures, and cross-cultural adjustment.

We will also provide special assistance for personal needs such as finding permanent housing, opening a bank account, going shopping, etc. The cost of the orientation is $40.00. (Your student account will be billed for this amount). The orientation program also includes lunch.
Fall temperatures range from 24-29 C in the daytime to 7-13 C at night. In the winter we have occasional rain showers, and temperatures range from 10-21 C in the daytime to 0-5 C at night. Spring temperatures range from 16-27 C in the daytime to 10-16 C at night. Summer temperatures can be hot, ranging from 32-38 C in the daytime to 16-21 C at night. Bring a variety of clothing, mostly for warm weather, but bring sweaters or jackets. You may want to visit nearby mountains which have snow in the winter.
The University of California is Tobacco-Free.

**Smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, e-cigarettes, and unregulated nicotine products are strictly prohibited on the UCR campus.**

**Non-permitted Items and Activities:**
**All forms of tobacco**, including but not limited to:
- cigarettes
- cigars
- pipes
- hookahs
- electronic cigarettes
- all forms of smokeless tobacco

**Tobacco use** includes smoking, chewing, dipping or any other use of tobacco products.

**Smoking** refers to inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying of any lighted or heated tobacco product, as well as non-tobacco smoking substances and smoking instruments.
The Child Development Center at UC Riverside accepts children from age 2 months through five years of age (Kindergarten).

Immunization records are required. Please see the information under school-age children. The waiting list can be one year or longer so contact them as soon as possible if you need child care.
For families with school-age children, ages 5-18, bring all previous academic records, original and English translation, and any records of immunization issued through the World Health Organization (WHO), or you can get records from your private physician.

Children in Day Care Centers and preschool must also show records of immunization. Before your child can be enrolled in an American school, records of immunization have to be shown, or the child will have to get the required inoculations again.
Every year we have a group of dedicated students volunteering to help you. One of the members of our IPA Team will be contacting you soon to say hello.
Friendship Family Program connects students with a UC Riverside Faculty or Staff family for an exchange of culture. Students are not expected to live with their friendship family; unlike a homestay program, the Friendship Family Program is designed for both parties to meet once each month for an activity of their choice, based on mutual interest and need (e.g. dinner, Thanksgiving Day, exploring Riverside).

Global Connections Partner Program pairs international students with a trained peer in order to facilitate international friendships and foster a mutual exchange of culture and language. GCP partners are selected based upon mutual hobbies or areas of interest; new partners are matched each term.

International Discussion Group is a weekly program of informal discussion that covers a wide range of topics. Discussion topics stem from relevant local and world news stories, hot university issues, and the personal inquiries and interests of the group. Examples of previous topics include cultural adjustment, the impact of stereotypes, holiday traditions across the globe, second language acquisition and study preparation techniques.

International Spouses & Partners Program is a free program designed to provide spouses and partners of all nationalities an opportunity to exchange friendships, culture and ideas. Students, spouses and children are welcome to participate.

Information regarding further activities will be provided at Orientation and in weekly emails!
There are a number of student organizations on campus, many of them international.

Visit [Highlander Link](#) to learn about the different organizations here at UCR!

- Academic/Professional/Honor Organizations
- Arts and Expressions
- Associated Student Board
- Cultural
- Fraternity/Sorority
- Graduate Student Associations
- Political/Action
- Recreational
- Service
- Spiritual/Religious/Atheist
Useful Links

EMERGENCIES
In case of an emergency, when the International Students and Scholars Office is closed you may call Campus Police at (951) 827-5222 or 9-1-1.

International Students and Scholars Office
GROWL (Payments and Registration)
Class Schedules
UCR Housing Options
Department of Homeland Security
Department of State
Study in the States
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
UCR Email (R'Mail)
Blackboard iLearn (Class Portal)
Health Center
Recreation Center

BCOE Undergraduate Guide
CHASS Student Guide
CNAS Student Guide