

ISTUDENTS | WINTER 2024

ARRIVAL & ORIENTATION



TODAY

- Travel
- Arrival
- Orientation
- Reminders
- Questions





TRAVEL



PACKING RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry-on:

- Documents
- Medications
- Adapter (US outlet 120V)
- 1 outfit
- Toiletries - travel size (toothbrush)
- electronics & chargers

Checked bag:

- clothing, all seasons
- favorite food items (ex. tea)
- minimal household items (blanket)

TRAVEL ADVICE

Documents with you

- passport
- I-20/DS-2019
- class schedule
- US address
- contacts

Let family know your plan

- contact upon arrival within 24 hours

Contact GVSU if needed:

- Public Safety +1-616-331-3255





ARRIVAL



FLIGHTS!

Nearest Airport

- Gerald R. Ford International
- Grand Rapids, MI [GRR]

Flight Details

- All students submit online

<https://www.gvsu.edu/istudents/cms-form-edit.htm?formId=DC65687A-E943-932D-45B5A2AB1F2CB3B0>

Airport Transportation

- Uber/Taxi
- All students need to organize own transportation

? INFORMATION

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ISS WELCOME!

Designated Arrival Date

- Jan 4, 2024
- 12pm - 6pm

Information desk to assist you!

- Finding ground transportation and more!



MOVE-IN

ON-CAMPUS

- Earliest move-in Jan 4
 - Early arrival, cancellations, delays may need to stay overnight in hotel or organize own transportation
- Designated Arrival Date & time: Jan 4, 12-6pm
- Transportation: Uber/Taxi
- iHouse Move-in Service
 - ISS will have key/ID and assist with move-in
 - ISS will take you to supermarket for supply shopping

<https://www.gvsu.edu/istudents/cms-form-edit.htm?formId=DC65687A-E943-932D-45B5A2AB1F2CB3B0>



MOVE-IN

OFF-CAMPUS

Please have a plan for yourself!

- transportation: uber/taxi/other
- key collection
- food/supply shopping
- temporary accommodation



TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

GVSU does not offer nightly rooms on campus. Choose an option that works best for you:

- Hotel (ideally, with free airport shuttle)
- AirBnb
- Motel (cheaper than hotel, limited amenities)
- Family/Friends
- No Hostels in Grand Rapids





ORIENTATION



WELCOME!

JAN 5, 2024

ISTUDENT ORIENTATION

International Student Orientation is
AMAZING!!

International Student Orientation is
mandatory for all new iStudents!

Look out for our email invite to RSVP

Compulsory fee of \$150 billed to student
accounts in November

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

iStudent Orientation includes:

- Helpful sessions
- Form submission
- Grad lunch with AVP
- Returning iStudent Panel
- Resource Fair



ORIENTATION SCHEDULES



GRADUATE International Student Orientation Winter 2024

THU, JAN 4

ARRIVAL + WELCOME

Pew Campus

Graduate Orientation

Allendale Campus 12pm - 6pm
6pm - 8pm

Arrival, on-campus move-in, shopping
Movie & popcorn with new friends

FRI, JAN 5

ISTUDENT ORIENTATION

All sessions 9am-10am
Pew Campus 10am-10:30am
10:30am-11am
DeVos Bldg 11:30am-12pm
12pm-1pm
Loosemore Auditorium 1pm-2pm
122 E 2pm-3pm
3pm-4pm
4:30pm-5:30pm
6pm-8pm

Check-in & Breakfast
Welcome & Introductions
Immigration Regulations
Required Forms (Bring Passport)
Lunch with Dr. Potteiger, AVP
Living Like a Laker & Academics
Safety, Title IX, Health Insurance
Academic Advising & Graduate Panel
Resource Fair
Dinner



International Student Orientation is required for all first semester F-1 and J-1 Students.
The Orientation Fee of \$150 will be billed to students' accounts.
For students who do not attend fully, a make-up Orientation will be held on Jan 12.

(616)331-3898 | iSTUDENTS@GVSU.EDU



UNDERGRADUATE International Student Orientation Winter 2024

THU, JAN 4

ARRIVAL + WELCOME

Allendale Campus 12pm - 6pm
6pm - 8pm

Arrival, on-campus move-in, shopping
Movie & popcorn with new friends

FRI, JAN 5

ISTUDENT ORIENTATION

All sessions 9am-10am
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PEEPS



o o o o

the fun, friendly people !

PEEPS are volunteers
(returning international &
domestic)

PEEPS want to welcome
you and make your first
days at GVSU fun and
memorable

PEEP dinner Jan 5th after
orientation!

EMAIL TO RSVP FOR ORIENTATION - COMING TODAY!



Please confirm your attendance

Will ask for dietary restrictions and accommodations

We will conduct check-ins to track attendance

SSN

SSN required to get paid!

To receive your SSN application packet and secure an invitation to the SSN event on campus:

- 1. Attend iStudent Orientation*
- 2. Have Job Offer Letter*
- 3. Submit Required forms***

Not working? Exchange student? Might not need SSN

SHOULD I ATTEND STUDENT ORIENTATION?



- It's amazing!
- Best introduction to GVSU
- No Schedule conflicts
- Compulsory \$150 fee
- Learn important information
- Earliest access to SSN application
- You'll make friends!

COMPLETED TASKS

by Dec ...hopefully!



- ✓ **HOUSING**
- ✓ **VISA APPROVED**
- ✓ **REGISTER FOR CLASSES**
- ✓ **RSVP FOR ORIENTATION**
- ✓ **FLIGHTS BOOKED**
- ✓ **TRANSPORTATION**
- ORGANIZED**

- ✓ **1ST PAYMENT MADE**
- ✓ **INSURANCE WAIVER***
- ✓ **LOOKING FOR JOBS***
- ✓ **GETTING EXCITED!**

*optional**

Important Dates

Item	Date
GVSU Housing Application	As soon as possible
Request for Expedited Visa Appointment Letter	December 8, 2023 we will begin sending letters
LewerMark Insurance Waiver Deadline	December 8, 2023
Sign up for On-Campus Move-in & Student ID Deadline	December 8, 2023
Earliest Entry to USA (30 days prior to program start)	December 9, 2023
Final Payment Deadline	December 15, 2023 - 5:00 pm (EST)

Item	Date
Designated GVSU Housing Move-in	January 4, 2024 - 12pm-6pm
Graduate School Resource Fair & Orientaton	January 4, 2024 - 3pm-6pm
Graduate International Student Orientation *Required*	January 5, 2024
Undergraduate International Student Orientation *Required*	January 5, 2024
First Day of Classes	January 8, 2024
Make-up Orientation	January 12, 2024
Registration Deadline	January 12, 2024 at 5:00pm
Latest Date new International Students can join GVSU in-person	January 15, 2023
SSN Processing On-Campus	January 24, 2024

REMINDERS

International Student Orientation is
Mandatory on Jan 5

All students will be billed \$150

Make-Up Orientation will take place on
Jan 12

ISS TEAM



istudents@gvsu.edu



+1 (616) 331 - 3898



www.gvsu.edu/istudents



QUESTIONS!

