WELCOME TO RUTGERS!

The Center for Global Services conducts a mandatory and comprehensive orientation for new international students. New International Student Orientation (ISO) is an important component of your successful transition to Rutgers and will allow you to interact with the staff, faculty and student volunteers who will support you during your time at the university. The ISO program will introduce you to the Rutgers campus, and arrange for you to meet your advisors, fulfill your immigration-related obligations, learn how to maintain your legal status, obtain permission to work on campus, take your placement tests (if you haven’t already) and register for classes. Additionally, a variety of fun and social activities will help you get to know other new students. Shopping, a reception, picnics, and discounted trips to New York City and Philadelphia are all offered during the ISO!

The ISO is a five-day program – it is run conference style, with multiple sessions offered through the week and often repeated for your convenience. Learn more about the ISO program here and visit our website (http://globalservices.rutgers.edu) for the latest updates and a detailed program closer to the start of orientation.

"Orientation really helped me get familiar and feel comfortable in my new surroundings"

PROGRAM DATES & SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Orientation will begin on Monday, August 29 2016, 9am at the College Avenue Gym (130 College Ave, New Brunswick). Program schedule with a detailed explanation of orientation sessions and activities will be made available in advance on the Center’s website. Some orientation sessions are repeated multiple times during the week, some are required, while others are optional. You will also be provided with an orientation information packet which includes a printed program schedule at the Welcome Session.

PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS AND ACADEMIC ADVISING

Undergraduate international students are strongly encouraged to take their required Placement Tests remotely prior to their arrival on-campus by contacting our Testing and Placement Office at http://oirap.rutgers.edu/testplace.html. Those who have not yet taken their required placement examinations will do so during orientation week. Details of date/time/venue will be available closer to orientation. Students will get their examination results and discuss course selection and registration when they meet with their academic deans on the morning of Thursday, September 1.

PRE-ARRIVAL INFORMATION

The Center for Global Services has compiled a Traveler’s Advisory Guide for International Students to help your prepare your arrival to Rutgers. The Guide contains information including visa application, things to bring, on and off-campus housing, healthcare, and much more. Please use this guide, in addition to the International Student Resource Hub, for planning and preparation- http://globalservices.rutgers.edu/forms/prearrival.pdf.

Note: The start date on your I-20 or DS-2019 is 9/6/2016 (the date classes begin) but Orientation starts on 8/29/2016. U.S. law strictly requires all new F-1 and J-1 Students to report to the Center for Global Services, 180 College Avenue on the College Avenue Campus, no later than the end of the first week of classes to complete a check-in and document verification process.
HOUSING AND DINING OPTIONS DURING ORIENTATION WEEK

While University residence halls officially open on Saturday, September 3, international students may move into their assigned on-campus housing spaces on Sunday, August 28. This is a special accommodation so students can participate in the orientation program. Additional information will be provided via email during the summer.

Please note: We regret there will be NO temporary orientation housing available. Students who plan to live off campus are recommended to begin looking for an apartment at their earliest. Rutgers University Off-Campus Living and Community Partnerships (http://ruoffcampus.rutgers.edu/) is here to help students interested in living off-campus, by providing online resources and educational programming. They provide listings of available rentals, tips and information about off-campus living including understanding leases, security deposits, and rental responsibilities.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESOURCE HUB

The International Student Resource Hub on our website contains a lot of pre-arrival instructions as well as important information you will need during Orientation. In addition, the Hub includes many good-to-know information regarding services available for Rutgers students, getting involved on campus, and more! Visit the International Student Resource Hub: http://globalservices.rutgers.edu/content/resource_hub/resource_hub.html

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION, RUTGERS (ISA)

The Rutgers International Student Association is a platform for international undergraduate students to get involved within the Rutgers community and enrich their college experience. International students offer their unique cultural identity and experiences which contribute to a rich multicultural community and stimulate thought, debate, and awareness towards contemporary global issues. ISA organizes events together with their members all year round, e.g. Movie Night, Karaoke, Hiking trip, Barbeque, Bowling Game, Potluck Dinner, Trips to New York City, Family Weekend, Colors of Nation, Carnival of Knights, Dance Marathon, Relay for Life, Fundraisers, and much more. To find out more, email: isa.rutgers.nj@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM (IFP)

The International Friendship Program (IFP) is about bringing Rutgers international students together with Rutgers and local community members in a comfortable environment that is conducive to cross-cultural friendship and learning. Rutgers domestic students and local community members participate as the IFP hosts. The IFP is sponsored by the Center for Global Services as both a support program for Rutgers-New Brunswick international students and as a service to members of local communities interested in cross-cultural friendships. Join us on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/rutgersIFP), or contact the IFP Coordinator, Ms. Carlissa McCarthy with any questions at carissam@gaiacenters.rutgers.edu.