# Welcome to Georgia Tech! Fall 2022 Pre-Arrival Webinar

https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/ info@oie.gatech.edu







# **OIE International Welcome Series**

https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series

- OIE's Welcome Series is designed to offer various immigration and informational sessions
- Attendance is strongly encouraged
- We look forward to seeing you at our Fall Semester Welcome Party August 18<sup>th</sup>!



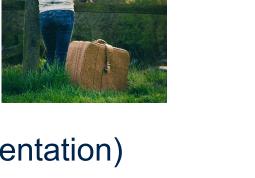
# Webinar Agenda

Welcome to our Pre-Arrival Webinar for new students!

#### We will cover:

- International Student Check-In
  - Prior to Arrival
  - Upon Arrival
- U.S. Travel Restrictions & Guidance
- Arriving in Atlanta & Getting to GT
- First Days at GT





Find information at <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/ISSS">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/ISSS</a> Pre-Arrival



- All virtual (you do not need to come to OIE Office)
- E-forms available 30 days prior to start of Fall Semester
- Log-in to iStart: istart.gatech.edu
- Go to F/J Student Arrival and Check-in
- Select OIE Check-In
  - Complete Arrival Confirmation (before arrival)
  - Complete ImmigrationRegulations Acknowledgement
  - Complete Immigration Document
     Upload (as soon as possible after arrival to U.S.)





International Student Check-In

**Prior to Arrival** 

**Upon Arrival** 

Preparing for Arrival

Arriving in Atlanta

**Getting to GT** 

**First Days at GT** 

Q&A



#### Prior to Arrival to U.S.

- Log-in to iStart to access Check-In e-forms
   (F/J Student Arrival and Check-In > OIE Check-In)
- Submit the Arrival Confirmation e-form as soon as plans confirmed and no later than August 22

**Arrival Confirmation** – Choose one of the following options:

- ➤ Arrive in Atlanta to start my program at Georgia Tech
- ➤ Arrive to Atlanta this term to attend Georgia Tech but would like support with late arrival
- Will not start program this term and will defer admission
- ➤ Will not come to the Atlanta campus to attend GT



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#### Prior to Arrival to U.S.

#### **Request for Late Arrival:**

- Students not able to arrive by the start of classes (August 22) must request support with late arrival by submitting the Arrival Confirmation e-form by August 22.
- Your request will be shared with your academic department.
- Students will receive an email confirming if the academic department can support late arrival and will be notified of latest arrival date. Students must arrive on campus by that date and complete the OIE Check-In as soon as possible after arrival.
- Students approved for late arrival must complete the Check-In no later than September 19.



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# **Arriving at U.S. Port of Entry**

Customs and Border Protection Video available on OIE website: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/video-series">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/video-series</a>

- Documents Required to Enter the U.S.
  - o I-20 or DS-2019
  - Valid Passport
  - Valid F-1 or J-1 Visa
  - Copy of I-901 SEVIS Fee Receipt (strongly recommended)
  - Pro tip! Carry these documents on-board with you. Do not pack in luggage.
- You will be issued an electronic I-94 record upon entry into the U.S.
  - Find your electronic I-94 record at <u>cbp.gov/i94</u>. It may take 2-3 days to show up in the system.
  - You will upload your electronic I-94 record as part of international student check-in. More info: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/electronic-i-94-record">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/electronic-i-94-record</a>



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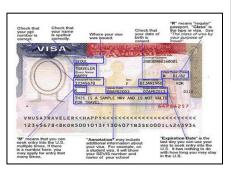
**First Days at GT** 



#### After Arrival to the U.S.

- Log-in to iStart to access Check-In e-forms. Complete:
  - Immigration Regulations Acknowledgement
  - Immigration Document Upload
- Upload copies of signed I-20 or DS-2019, U.S. visa and most recent I-94 record.
- Students who have transferred from another U.S. school with a SEVIS transfer are also required to upload a copy of their Travel History, available on the CBP site: <a href="https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/l94">https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/l94</a>.
- Provide a U.S. physical address and phone number.









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#### After Arrival to the U.S.

- ✓ Complete all steps in the OIE Check-In process online in the iStart portal.
- ✓ After all required check-in e-forms have been submitted, an advisor will review your submission and activate your SEVIS record. You will receive email confirmation when your SEVIS record has been activated.
- ✓ Students arriving on-time must complete Check-In **by August 26**. Students who do not meet this deadline will have an OIE Check-In hold placed on their record and risk violation of immigration status and removal from courses.

Your SEVIS record will not be activated until you complete OIE check-in after arrival to the U.S.



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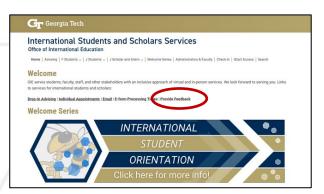


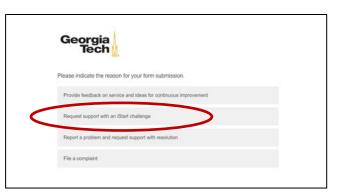
# International Student Check-In Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting tips are available at <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/isss/istart-help">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/isss/istart-help</a>.

# If you have any challenges with completing the International Student Check-In process, please try the following:

- Make sure the file you are uploading is a PDF or JPEG file
- Make sure the file size of the PDF or JPEG is under 1 MB
- Upload the PDF or JPEG file using a different browser
- Upload the PDF or JPEG file using a different computer
- If you are still having trouble **after completing the above steps** please submit the OIE Feedback report available on the website and request support with an iStart challenge.







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\*For support with IT or Georgia Tech account issues, please contact OIT.

# **U.S. Travel Requirements**

#### **Traveling to the U.S. from Abroad:**

- Travel requirements for entering the United States are subject to change. You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with the requirements and guidance outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- "Noncitizens who are nonimmigrants" including
   F and J visa holders who are traveling to the United
   States by air from an international
   destination, are required to show documentation that they
   are fully vaccinated or documentation that supports
   an exception to the vaccination requirement. Entry
   requirements for those entering by land ports at the U.S.
   and Mexico border are the same.
- Find out more about <u>international travel and U.S. entry</u> requirements and recommendations outlined by the CDC.



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# **U.S. Travel Requirements**

#### **Traveling to the U.S. from Abroad:**

#### If you are fully vaccinated:

- Get tested for Covid-19 within 3-5 days after arrival in the U.S.
- Travel with proof that you are fully vaccinated against Covid-19.
- While you are not required to quarantine upon arrival, monitor for symptoms of Covid-19 and get evaluated if you develop symptoms.

#### If you are not fully vaccinated:

- <u>Limited exceptions</u> apply to the vaccination requirement, so you may not be allowed to enter the U.S.
- If you meet the criteria for exception, travel with this documentation

Prior to departure, please review the CDC website for the most current guidance on entering the U.S. Visit the CDC site for recommendations before and after international travel as well as considerations before domestic travel.

Do be aware that public health guidance is subject to change.



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# **Covid-19 Vaccine and Testing Resources on Campus**

https://health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/health-information



#### **Covid-19 Vaccines**

- Available for free on campus
- Students may make a vaccine appointment at <u>mytest.gatech.edu</u> using these instructions: <u>health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/vaccine/appointm</u> ents.



### **Covid-19 Testing**

- Surveillance testing available for free on campus
- Check <u>health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/testing</u> for campus testing hours, locations, and options



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# **Tech Moving Forward**



- Tech Moving Forward:
   https://health.gatech.edu/tech-moving-forward
- Find the latest updates regarding Covid-19
   Vaccines, Testing, and Quarantine guidance



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# **OIE Video Series**

https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/video series

- Created to help international students prepare for life at GT and in the U.S.
- Available videos
  - Arriving in the U.S.
  - Academic Transitions: Successful Interactions with Faculty & Staff, Academic Expectations, A Student's Role in the U.S. Classroom
  - Cultural Transitions
  - Safety in the U.S.
  - Health insurance in the U.S.
  - GT Videos
  - Community organizations





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# **Getting to GT from the Airport**

\*GT is located in Midtown Atlanta: 12 miles north of the airport

#### **Transportation to Georgia Tech**

#### Taxi:

- Available outside baggage claim at airport
- Typically a flat rate of \$32, but may differ a bit
- Before putting luggage inside, agree upon how price will be determined (meter or flat rate)

MARTA: http://www.itsmarta.com/

- Follow signs at baggage claim
- Purchase a Breeze Card: re-loadable card that you can use again
- Card is \$2 plus additional fare for trip (\$2.50)
- Closest stops to GT: North Avenue and Midtown

#### **Ride Share:**

- Uber and Lyft are available if you have the app downloaded to your phone
- Be sure to verify the car, license plate and driver match the details given in the app before entering a car



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# First Days at Georgia Tech

#### **Orientation**

- Undergraduate students: FASET - https://transitionprograms.gatech.edu/content/faset-orientation
- Graduate students: Graduate Orientation and Academic Department orientations http://www.gradadmiss.gatech.edu/orientation-gradexpo

   GradHiring <a href="https://hr.gatech.edu/gradhiring">https://hr.gatech.edu/gradhiring</a>
- OIE's Welcome Series <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series</a>

#### **Getting a Buzzcard (GT identification)**

- Used to enter buildings, check out books from library, access your meal plan, etc.
- After you have confirmed your acceptance to Georgia Tech, you are eligible for a BuzzCard.
  - Submit your BuzzCard photo online. Contact the BuzzCard Center for BuzzCard pick-up instructions: <a href="https://buzzcard.gatech.edu">https://buzzcard.gatech.edu</a>



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# **Additional Information**

#### **Public Transportation on and around Campus**

- GT has multiple transportation services and parking available on campus: <a href="http://pts.gatech.edu">http://pts.gatech.edu</a>
- MARTA around Atlanta: www.itsmarta.com

#### **Health Insurance & Immunizations Requirements**

- F-1 and J-1 students are automatically enrolled in the mandatory student health insurance. Students with comparable health insurance coverage can request a waiver to opt out. Instructions on how to apply for a waiver of the insurance is also available through <u>Stamps Health</u> <u>Services</u>.
- Students who need non-COVID immunizations can receive these immunizations at the STAMPS health center after arrival in the U.S.
- Student Health Insurance:
   <a href="https://health.gatech.edu/finance/insurance">https://health.gatech.edu/finance/insurance</a>
- Immunization Requirements:
   <a href="http://health.gatech.edu/immunization/requirements">http://health.gatech.edu/immunization/requirements</a>
- Insurance Waiver Website: www.studentinsurance.com



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# **Important Dates**

#### **First Official Day of Classes**

Monday, August 22



August 13 – August 26 (4:00pm)

#### **OIE Check-In E-form deadlines**

Monday, August 22 - Arrival Confirmation (*on-time & late arrival students*)
Friday, August 26 - Immigration Document Upload (*on-time students*)
Monday, September 19 - Immigration Document Upload (*late arrival students*)

#### **Tuition and Fees Payment deadline**

Monday, August 29 at 4:00pm (<u>www.bursar.gatech.edu</u>)

#### School Holidays - GT will be closed

Monday, September 5 (Labor Day Holiday)
Thursday, November 24 & Friday, November 25 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Find important dates at the Academic

Calendar: <a href="http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/calendar/">http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/calendar/</a>



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# 🔼 Important Scam Information 🕰



- Be aware of phone scams where callers claim to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or Atlanta PD and threaten to have a person arrested or ask for money related to taxes or other allegations.
- Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies will never call and demand immediate payment over the phone, ask for your credit card info, or threaten to call the police or immigration authorities to have you arrested or deported.
- Remember these tips:
  - Never give out your personal information to individuals who call you on the phone.
  - Do not respond to threats of deportation by wiring cash, buying gift cards, etc. Federal officials will never ask you to send money to resolve immigration or tax violations.
  - If you feel the call is unexpected or suspicious hang up and contact GT Police

**OIE Scam** 

Information: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/scams-101">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/scams-101</a>



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# **Questions & Answers**

- Sample topics for your questions
  - International Student Check-In
  - Preparing for Arrival
  - Arriving in Atlanta
  - Getting to GT
  - First Days at GT





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Q & A

#### Example:

Is MARTA a safe option?

#### Additional Resources:

International Student Welcome & Resources: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series</a>

OIE Check-In: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/isss-check-in">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/isss-check-in</a>

Advising: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/isss-advising">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/isss-advising</a>

Email: info@oie.gatech.edu

Follow us on Instagram: instagram.com/gt isss





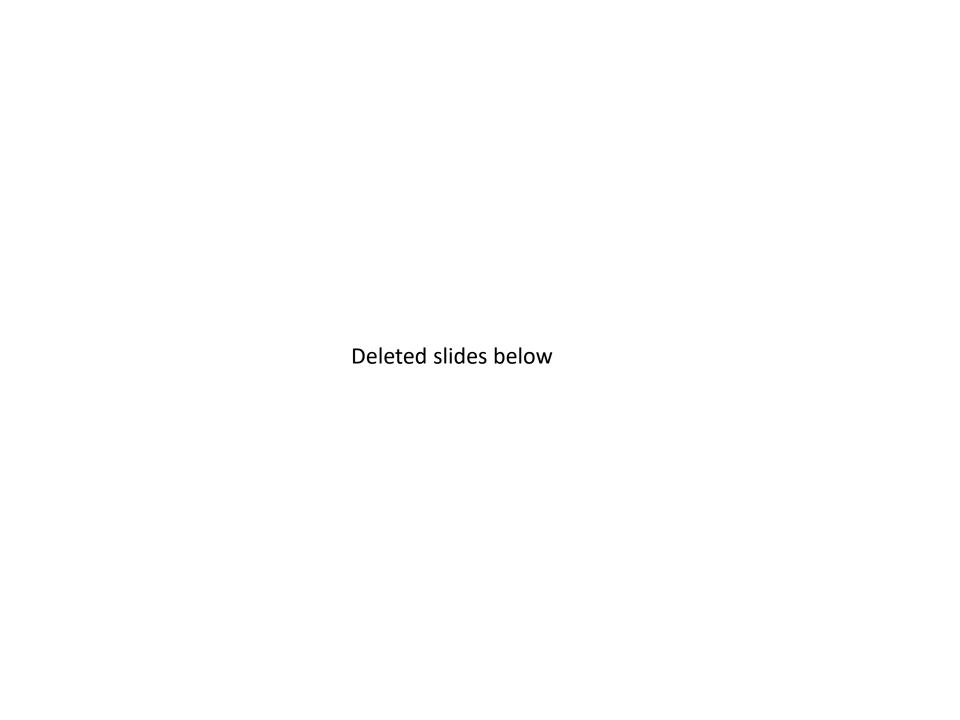














# Welcome to Georgia Tech! Fall 2022 Pre-Arrival Webinar

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# **OIE International Welcome Series**

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- OIE's Welcome Series is designed to offer various immigration and informational sessions
- Attendance is strongly encouraged
- We look forward to seeing you at our Fall Semester Welcome Party August 18<sup>th</sup>!

# Webinar Agenda

### Welcome to our Pre-Arrival Webinar for new students!

#### We will cover:

- International Student Check-In
  - Prior to Arrival
  - Upon Arrival
- U.S. Travel Restrictions & Guidance
- Arriving in Atlanta & Getting to GT
- First Days at GT
- Q & A (immediately after the webinar presentation)



Find information at <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/ISSS">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/ISSS</a> Pre-Arrival



**Prior to Arrival** 

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Q & A

## International Student Check-In

- All virtual (you do not need to come to OIE Office)
- E-Forms available 30 days prior to start of Fall Semester

#### **iStart**

Home

1. F/J Student Arrival and Check-In

2. F Students

3. J Students

4. OPT (Optional Practical Training)

- Log-in to iStart: istart.gatech.edu
- Go to F/J Student Arrival and Check-in
- Select OIE Check-In Fall 2022
  - Complete Arrival Confirmation (before arrival)
  - Complete Immigration Regulations Acknowledgement
  - Complete Immigration Document Upload (after arrival to U.S.)



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# International Student Check-In Prior to Arrival to U.S.

Log-in to iStart to access Check-In e-forms

(F/J Student Arrival and Check-In > OIE Check-In)

 Submit the Arrival Confirmation e-form as soon as plans confirmed and no later than August 22

**Arrival Confirmation** – Choose one of the following options:

- > Arrive in Atlanta to start my program at Georgia Tech
- Arrive to Atlanta this term to attend Georgia Tech but would like support with late arrival
- ➤ Will not start program this term and will defer admission
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# International Student Check-In Prior to Arrival to U.S.

#### **Request for Late Arrival:**

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- Your request will be shared with your academic department.
- Students will receive an email confirming if the academic department can support late arrival and will be notified of latest arrival date. Students must arrive on campus by that date and complete the OIE Check-In as soon as possible after arrival.
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# Arriving at U.S. Port of Entry

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- Documents Required to Enter the U.S.
  - I-20 or DS-2019
  - Valid Passport
  - Valid F-1 or J-1 Visa
  - Copy of I-901 SEVIS Fee Receipt (strongly recommended)
  - Pro tip! Carry these documents on-board with you. Do not pack in luggage.
- You will be issued an electronic I-94 record upon entry into the U.S.
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# International Student Check-In

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- Upload copies of signed I-20 or DS-2019, U.S. visa and most recent I-94 record.
- Students who have transferred from another U.S. school with a SEVIS transfer are also required to upload a copy of their Travel History, available at CBP site <a href="https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/194">https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/194</a>
- Provide a U.S. physical address and phone number







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## International Student Check-In

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- ✓ Students who have not completed Check-In by August 26 will have an OIE Check-In hold placed on their record and risk violation of immigration status and removal from courses.

Your SEVIS record will not be activated until you complete OIE check-in after arrival to the U.S.



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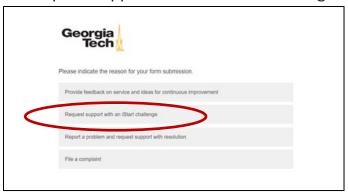
# International Student Check-In Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting tips are available at https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/isss/istart-help.

If you have any challenges with completing the International Student Check-In process, please try the following:

- Make sure the file you are uploading is a PDF or JPEG file
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For support with IT or Georgia Tech account issues, please contact OIT.



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# U.S. Travel Requirements

#### **Traveling to the U.S. from Abroad:**

- Travel requirements for entering the United States are subject to change. You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with the requirements and guidance outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- "Noncitizens who are nonimmigrants" including F and J visa holders who are traveling to the United States by air from an international destination, are required to show documentation that they are fully vaccinated or documentation that supports an exception to the vaccination requirement. Entry requirements for those entering by land ports at the U.S. and Mexico border are the same.
- Find out more about <u>international travel and U.S. entry</u> <u>requirements</u> and recommendations outlined by the CDC.



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# U.S. Travel Requirements

#### **Traveling to the U.S. from Abroad:**

#### If you are fully vaccinated:

- Get tested for Covid-19 within 3-5 days after arrival in the U.S.
- Travel with proof that you are fully vaccinated against Covid-19.
- While you are not required to quarantine upon arrival, monitor for symptoms of Covid-19 and get evaluated if you develop symptoms.

#### If you are not fully vaccinated:

- <u>Limited exceptions</u> apply to the vaccination requirement, so you
  may not be allowed to enter the U.S.
- If you meet the criteria for exception, travel with this documentation

Prior to departure, please review the CDC website for the <u>most</u> <u>current guidance on entering the U.S.</u> Visit the <u>CDC</u> <u>site</u> for recommendations <u>before</u> and <u>after</u> international travel as well as considerations before domestic travel.

Do be aware that public health guidance is subject to change.



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# U.S. Travel Requirements & Guidance

#### **After Arrival to the U.S.:**

#### If you are fully vaccinated:

- Get tested for Covid-19 within 3-5 days after arrival in the U.S.
- Monitor for symptoms of Covid-19 and get evaluated if you develop symptoms.



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# Covid-19 Vaccine & Testing Resources on Campus

https://health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/health-information



#### **Covid-19 Vaccines**

- Available for free on campus
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## **Covid-19 Testing**

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- Available videos
  - Arriving in the U.S.
  - Academic Transitions: Successful Interactions with Faculty & Staff, Academic Expectations, A Student's Role in the U.S. Classroom
  - Cultural Transitions
  - Safety in the U.S.
  - Health insurance in the U.S.
  - GT Videos
  - Community organizations





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# Getting to GT from the Airport

• GT is located in Midtown Atlanta: 12 miles north of the airport

#### **Transportation to Georgia Tech**

#### Taxi:

- Available outside baggage claim at airport
- Typically a flat rate of \$32, but may differ a bit
- Before putting luggage inside, agree upon how price will be determined (meter or flat rate)

MARTA: <a href="http://www.itsmarta.com/">http://www.itsmarta.com/</a>

- Follow signs at baggage claim
- Purchase a Breeze Card: re-loadable card that you can use again
- Card is \$2 plus additional fare for trip (\$2.50)
- Closest stops to GT: North Avenue and Midtown

#### **Ride Share:**

- Uber and Lyft are available if you have the app downloaded to your phone
- Be sure to verify the car, license plate and driver match the details given in the app before entering a car



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# First Days at Georgia Tech

#### **Orientation**

- Undergraduate students: FASET https://transitionprograms.gatech.edu/content/faset-orientation
- Graduate students: Graduate Orientation and Academic Department orientations http://www.gradadmiss.gatech.edu/orientation-gradexpo
  - GradHiring <a href="https://hr.gatech.edu/gradhiring">https://hr.gatech.edu/gradhiring</a>
- OIE's Welcome Series <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series</a>

#### **Getting a Buzzcard (GT identification)**

- Used to enter buildings, check out books from library, access your meal plan, etc.
- After you have confirmed your acceptance to Georgia Tech, you are eligible for a BuzzCard.
  - Submit your BuzzCard photo online. Contact the BuzzCard Center for BuzzCard pick-up instructions: <a href="https://buzzcard.gatech.edu">https://buzzcard.gatech.edu</a>



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## Additional Information

#### **Public Transportation on and around Campus**

- GT has multiple transportation services and parking available on campus: http://pts.gatech.edu
- MARTA around Atlanta: <u>www.itsmarta.com</u>

#### **Health Insurance & Immunizations Requirements**

- F-1 and J-1 students are automatically enrolled in the mandatory student health insurance. Students with comparable health insurance coverage can request a waiver to opt out.
- Students who need non-COVID immunizations can receive these immunizations at the STAMPS health center after arrival in the U.S.
- Student Health Insurance:
   <a href="https://health.gatech.edu/finance/insurance">https://health.gatech.edu/finance/insurance</a>
- Immunization Requirements:
   <a href="http://health.gatech.edu/immunization/requirements">http://health.gatech.edu/immunization/requirements</a>



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# **Important Dates**

#### First Official Day of Classes

Monday, August 22

#### **Phase 2 Registration**

August 13 – August 26 (4:00pm)

#### **Tuition and Fees Payment deadline**

Monday, August 29 at 4:00pm (www.bursar.gatech.edu)

#### School Holiday – GT will be closed

Monday, September 5 (Labor Day Holiday)

Thursday, November 24 & Friday, November 25 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Find important dates at the Academic

Calendar: <a href="http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/calendar/">http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/calendar/</a>



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# 📤 Important Scam Information 📤



- Be aware of phone scams where callers claim to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or Atlanta PD and threaten to have a person arrested or ask for money related to taxes or other allegations.
- Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies will never call and demand immediate payment over the phone, ask for your credit card info, or threaten to call the police or immigration authorities to have you arrested or deported.
- Remember these tips:
  - Never give out your personal information to individuals who call you on the phone.
  - Do not respond to threats of deportation by wiring cash, buying gift cards, etc. Federal officials will never ask you to send money to resolve immigration or tax violations.
  - If you feel the call is unexpected or suspicious –hang up and contact GT Police.

OIE Scam Information: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/scams-101">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/scams-101</a>



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# **Questions & Answers**

- Sample topics for your questions
  - International Student Check-In
  - Preparing for Arrival
  - Arriving in Atlanta
  - Getting to GT
  - First Days at GT



#### Example:

Is MARTA a safe option?

#### **Additional Resources:**

International Student Welcome & Resources:

https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series

OIE Check-In: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/isss-check-in">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/isss-check-in</a>

Advising: <a href="https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/isss-advising">https://isss.oie.gatech.edu/content/isss-advising</a>

Email: info@oie.gatech.edu

Follow us on Instagram: instagram.com/gt isss



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# U.S. Travel Requirements & Guidance

#### **After Arrival to the U.S.:**

#### If you are not fully vaccinated:

- Get tested for Covid-19 within 3-5 days after arrival in the U.S.
- Self-isolate for 7 days. Note that the CDC recommends you stay isolated for the full 7 days, even if your test results are negative.
- Self-isolate for 10 days if you cannot get tested.
- Avoid being around people who are at <u>increased risk for severe illness</u> for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
- Monitor for symptoms of Covid-19 and get evaluated if you develop symptoms.

If you have received a vaccination on the WHO-approved list, the CDC does not recommend that you receive an additional vaccine from the FDA-authorized list. However, individuals who have not yet received vaccinations on the FDA or WHO lists are strongly encouraged to get an FDA-authorized vaccination once they arrive on the Georgia Tech campus. These individuals should work with a medical professional to understand the best vaccine option for them and can do so by scheduling an appointment at Georgia Tech's vaccine clinic.