



Office of  
International Education

# ***Welcome to Georgia Tech!***

## ***Spring 2022***

### ***Pre-Arrival Webinar***

[https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/  
info@oie.gatech.edu](https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/info@oie.gatech.edu)





# OIE International Welcome Series

<https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series>

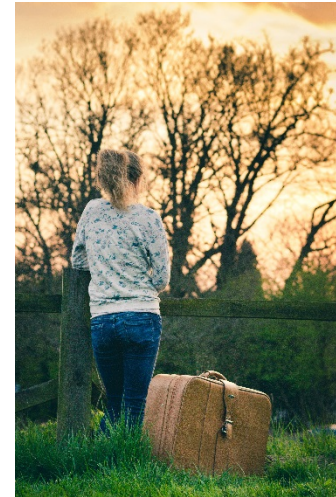
- OIE's Welcome Series is designed to offer various immigration and informational sessions
- Attendance is strongly encouraged
- We look forward to seeing you at our Spring Semester Welcome Party January 27<sup>th</sup>!

# Webinar Agenda

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

*We will cover:*

- International Student Check-In
  - Prior to Arrival
  - Upon Arrival
  - Getting Your Hold Removed
- 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 [https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/ISSS Pre-Arrival](https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/ISSS_Pre-Arrival)



# International Student Check-In

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

## International Student Check-In

Prior to Arrival

Upon Arrival

Getting Your Hold Removed

Preparing for Arrival

Arriving in Atlanta

Getting to GT

First Days at GT

Q & A

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



# 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)

### **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
- Start program remotely this term
- Start program at one of Georgia Tech's campuses outside the U.S.
- Will not start program this term and will defer admission
- Will not come to the Atlanta campus to attend Georgia Tech

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# Arriving at U.S. Port of Entry

Customs and Border Protection Video available on OIE website:

[https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/video\\_series](https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/video_series)

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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.**
  - Find your electronic I-94 record at [cbp.gov/i94](http://cbp.gov/i94). 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: <https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/content/electronic-i-94-record>

The screenshot shows the 'U.S. Customs and Border Protection' website with the tagline 'Securing America's Borders'. It features a search bar for 'I-94 Number' and a link to 'I-94 FAQ'. Below, the 'Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval' section displays the following information: 'Admission (I-94) Record Number' (redacted), 'Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): 10/10/2012', and 'Details provided on Admission(I-94) form:'. The details include 'Family Name' (redacted), 'First (Given) Name' (redacted), 'Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY):' (redacted), 'Passport Number:' (redacted), 'Passport Country of Issuance: Mexico', 'Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY): 04/11/2012', and 'Class of Admission: B1'. A footer note states: 'Individuals can visit [www.cbp.gov/I94](http://www.cbp.gov/I94) to retrieve a copy of their electronic Form I-94.'





# International Student Check-In

## *After Arrival to 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 at CBP site <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94>
- Provide a U.S. physical address and phone number

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Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status  
OMB No. 1545-0047

SEVIS ID: N0004705512

PERSONAL INFORMATION	CLASS
Full Name: CHENNAI, MADRAS Preferred Name: CHENNAI, MADRAS Country of Birth: INDIA Date of Birth: 13-JUN-2012 Passport Number: N0004705512	<b>F-1</b> ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE

SCHOOL INFORMATION  
School Name: Georgia Institute of Technology  
School Address: 270F North Ave., Atlanta, GA 30332-0284  
School Phone: 404-894-7000  
School Email: registrar@gt.edu

PROGRAM OF STUDY  
Major: Electrical Engineering  
Program Start Date: 08-2012  
Program End Date: 05-2015

FINANCIALS  
Attending Expenses: \$15,000  
Living Expenses: \$5,000  
Total: \$20,000

REMARKS  
I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I warrant that I am the student named herein and that I am the person who is the subject of this form. I warrant that I am the person who is the subject of this form. I warrant that I am the person who is the subject of this form.

SCHOOL ATTESTATION  
I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I warrant that I am the student named herein and that I am the person who is the subject of this form. I warrant that I am the person who is the subject of this form. I warrant that I am the person who is the subject of this form.

STUDENT ATTESTATION  
I have read and agree to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay. I warrant that all information provided on this form is true and correct. I warrant that I am the student named herein and that I am the person who is the subject of this form. I warrant that I am the person who is the subject of this form. I warrant that I am the person who is the subject of this form.

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT  
Signature: CHENNAI, MADRAS  
Date: 08-2012

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN  
Signature: CHENNAI, MADRAS  
Date: 08-2012

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Securing America's Borders

Get I-94 Number I-94 FAQ  
Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval

Admission (I-94) Record Number: [Redacted] Post

Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): D/S

Details provided on Admission (I-94) form:

Family Name: [Redacted]  
First (Given) Name: Federico  
Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY): [Redacted]  
Passport Number: [Redacted]  
Passport Country of Issuance: Italy  
Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY): 05/11/2013  
Class of Admission: F1

► Effective April 20, 2013, DHS began automating the admission process. An alien lawfully admitted or paroled into the U.S. is no longer required to be in possession of a printed Form I-94. A record of admission printed from the CBP website constitutes a lawful record of admission. See 8 CFR § 1.415.

► If an employer, local, state or federal agency requests admission information, present your admission (I-94) number along with any additional required documents requested by that employer or agency.

► Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.





# International Student Check-In

## *Getting Your Hold Removed*

- ✓ Complete all steps online. You do not need to come to OIE Office.
- ✓ After all required check-in e-forms have been submitted, an advisor will review your submission, activate your SEVIS record, and remove the OIE hold. You will receive email confirmation when your SEVIS record has been activated.

Your SEVIS record will not be activated until you complete OIE check-in after arrival to the U.S. You are required to complete this process within 30 days of the start of classes.

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# International Student Check-In Troubleshooting

International Student Help Desk is available to help!

OIE Student Assistants can help answer Check-In questions. More information will be posted soon at <https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/>.

Troubleshooting tips are available at <https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/iss/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
- 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 email us at [info@oie.gatech.edu](mailto:info@oie.gatech.edu).

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 have changed, effective Nov. 8, 2021. Additional guidance is now available regarding Covid-19 vaccination requirements for certain visa holders who travel to the United States after being abroad. You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with the requirements and guidance outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Nonimmigrant Air Passengers Arriving in the U.S. are required to **show Proof of Negative COVID-19 Test or Recovery from COVID-19** and either **documentation that they are fully vaccinated or documentation that supports an exception to the vaccine requirement**. Entry requirements for those entering by land ports at the U.S. and Mexico border will also be enacted.
- Find out more about [international travel and U.S. entry requirements](#) and recommendations outlined by the CDC.

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# U.S. Travel Requirements & Guidance

## If you are fully vaccinated:

- Get tested with a Covid-19 viral test no earlier than 3 days prior to travel.
- Travel with proof that you are fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

## If you are not fully vaccinated:

- [Limited exceptions](#) apply to the vaccination requirement, so you may not be allowed to enter the U.S. Nonimmigrant children under the age of 18 are exempt from the vaccination requirement but must show proof of a negative Covid-19 test taken no earlier than 1 day in advance of travel.
- If you determine you are eligible for an exception, travel with supporting documentation and a viral test taken no earlier than 1 day prior to departure.

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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# 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.

**Note:** In general, people are [considered fully vaccinated](#):

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's vaccine.

To be considered fully vaccinated, you must have received a vaccine that is FDA approved or authorized, or a vaccine that is listed by the World Health Organization (WHO) for emergency use.

If you don't meet these requirements, regardless of your age, you are NOT fully vaccinated. Keep taking all [precautions](#) until you are fully vaccinated. Visit the CDC site for [additional considerations](#) if you have a condition or are taking medications that weaken your immune system.

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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 [increased risk for severe illness](#) 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.

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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
- Students may make a vaccine appointment at [mytest.gatech.edu](https://mytest.gatech.edu) using these instructions: [health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/vaccine/appointments](https://health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/vaccine/appointments).



## Covid-19 Testing

- Surveillance testing available for free on campus
- Check [health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/testing](https://health.gatech.edu/coronavirus/testing) for campus testing hours, locations, and options

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**TECH** Moving Forward  
Our Road to Recovery

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





# OIE Video Series

[https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/video\\_series](https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/video_series)

- Created to help international students prepare for life at GT and in the U.S.
- Included 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 - <https://hr.gatech.edu/gradhiring>
- **OIE's Welcome Series** - <https://oie.gatech.edu/welcome/sessions>

## 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: <https://buzzcard.gatech.edu>

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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: [www.itsmarta.com](http://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.
- Student Health Insurance:  
<https://health.gatech.edu/finance/insurance>
- Immunization Requirements:  
<http://health.gatech.edu/immunization/requirements>

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# Important Dates

## First Official Day of Classes

Monday, January 10

## Phase 2 Registration

January 6 – January 14 (4pm)

## Tuition and Fees Payment deadline

Tuesday, January 18 at 4:00pm ([www.bursar.gatech.edu](http://www.bursar.gatech.edu))

## School Holiday – GT will be closed

Monday, January 17 (Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday)

Find important dates at the Academic Calendar:

<http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/calendar/>

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# Important Scam Information



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- 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
- These 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:
  - Always verify who you are speaking to
  - Never give out your personal information
  - If you feel the call is unexpected or suspicious –hang up and contact GT Police

**OIE Scam Information:** <https://oie.gatech.edu/issc/scams-101>



# Questions & Answers

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

Reminder  
Do not send  
personal  
information  
over chat

Example:

*Is MARTA a safe option?*

## ***Additional Resources:***

International Student Welcome & Resources:

<https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/welcome-series>

OIE Check-In: <https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/iss-check-in>

Advising: <https://iss.oie.gatech.edu/content/iss-advising>

Email: [info@oie.gatech.edu](mailto:info@oie.gatech.edu)

Follow us on Instagram: [instagram.com/gt\\_iss](https://www.instagram.com/gt_iss)



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# Office of International Education

**GRACIAS**  
**ARIGATO**  
**SHUKURIA**  
**THANK**  
**YOU**  
**BOLZIN**  
**MERCI**  
**DANKSCHEEN**  
**TASHAKKUR ATU**  
**BIYAN**  
**SHUKRIA**  
**YACHAYELAY**  
**SUK'SAMA**  
**GOZAMASHITA**  
**EPCHADISTO**  
**GRAZIE**  
**MEHRBANI**  
**MAANE**  
**KOMOD-SUMBEH**  
**JUSPAJAR**  
**PAWLALES**  
**TIVKAI**  
**TRIVKAI**

