LET THE JOURNEY BEGIN

UC San Diego
InternationalStudents
&Programs**Office**

Congratulations on your admission to UC San Diego!

Dear New Triton,

The International Students & Programs Office (ISPO) would like to warmly welcome you as you begin this exciting journey as a new Triton.

This journey is not one you will travel alone. There are nearly 10,000 international students from over 100 different countries at UC San Diego. These fearless innovators and bold risk-takers have paved a way for you to start building your future here as well!

ISPO offers a wide array of services and programs for international students and their families before and after they begin their program at UC San Diego. Our knowledgeable staff are here and ready to help educate and guide you through visa regulations in the United States as well as assist you in achieving your personal, academic and professional goals.

Please take a few moments to carefully review all of the information enclosed here in your ISPO Welcome Packet. This packet is filled with helpful tips and important information designed to help you navigate through your first steps as a new international student.

If you have any questions about the admissions process, be sure to check out the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) located on our website which offers insight and answers provided by current students who were once in your shoes! Visit our website at iNewStudent.ucsd.edu

Congratulations, New Triton! We can't wait to meet you.

Sincerely,

ispo

Your friendly staff at the
**International Students &
Programs Office**

UC San Diego
InternationalStudents
&Programs**Office**

BEFORE YOU START CLASSES

APPLY FOR YOUR FORM I-20 OR DS-2019 *iPortal.ucsd.edu*

ENROLL IN COURSES & *PAY TUITION* and fees.

CHECK COURSE REQUIREMENTS for entry to the U.S. and *what classes will be offered in-person, hybrid, and remotely*

COMPLETE HEALTH SCREENING requirements.

COMPLETE REQUIRED ONLINE TRAININGS including the iTriton Online Training and assigned College/Department Online Programs.

SIGN UP FOR ORIENTATION and pre-arrival webinars to help you prepare for arrival.

FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH CAMPUS by visiting *maps.ucsd.edu* and taking the *virtual tour*.

ENGAGE! Follow us on social media

Check out the next steps to take whether you will be taking classes in-person or remotely!

PREPARING FOR ARRIVAL

Find out how to prepare for and what to expect upon arrival in the U.S. by visiting *iNewStudent.ucsd.edu*.
Use this list to get started:

APPLY FOR F-1 or J-1 VISA if needed.
Ensure immigration documents are in order.

CHECK CURRENT TRAVEL *conditions and restrictions*

CHECK START DATE on your Form I-20
or DS-2019.

PLAN TO ARRIVE in the U.S. no earlier
than 30 days prior to the program start
date on your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019.

CONFIRM HOUSING arrangements.

ENGAGE: Head to *iEvents.ucsd.edu*
to start engaging with the Triton
community!

TRAVEL PLANNING TIP:
Remember to plan to arrive in the U.S. no earlier than 30 days prior to the
program start date. You may be refused entry into the U.S. if you attempt to
arrive any earlier. Please note that if you are a SEVIS transfer student, this
rule does not apply, and you may arrive prior to 30 days before your program
start date.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ARRIVE

If you planned to physically travel to the U.S. to take classes for Fall 2021, but for some reason are unable to
arrive, please follow these steps:

Contact your department (graduate) or college
(undergraduate) to discuss your options for
taking classes virtually.

If necessary, contact Admissions to request a
deferral to a future term.

Visit *iPortal.ucsd.edu* to request an adjusted
started date on your form I-20 or DS-2019.

If you have on-campus housing, contact
Housing, Dining, & Hospitality (HDH) to inquire
about your options for adjusting your move-in
date.

Check out Remote Learning Support:

Keep Learning

Student Success in a Virtual Environment

My Student Support Program (My SSP)

IF YOU PLAN TO TRAVEL TO THE U.S. TO START CLASSES:

Apply for your form I-20 or DS-2019
iPortal.ucsd.edu

Enroll in Classes (at least 12 units)

Sign up for Health Insurance.
Apply for a Health Insurance Waiver if desired

Review Immigration Documents and Prepare for Entry

Attend Orientation and Connect with other Tritons

IF YOU PLAN TO TAKE CLASSES REMOTELY:

Enroll in Classes

Sign up for Health Insurance.
Apply for a Health Insurance Waiver if desired

Attend Orientation and Connect with other Tritons

Check out Remote Learning Support:

Keep Learning

Student Success in a Virtual Environment

My Student Support Program (My SSP)

LET'S BE IN TOUCH!

Stay in touch with ISPO to get the latest news about immigration rules, fun things to do and much more.

Download the UC San Diego mobile app

Subscribe to our weekly newsletter

Follow us on social media

Add *iEvents.ucsd.edu* to your bookmarked tabs

Find out how to prepare for and what to expect upon arrival in the U.S. by visiting *iNewStudent.ucsd.edu*. Use this list to get started:

HAVE YOUR IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS READY to present at the Port of Entry.

CLEAR CUSTOMS and enter the U.S. in F-1 or J-1 status.

ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION TO CAMPUS using available transportation services (Rideshare, Shuttle, etc).

PRINT ELECTRONIC FORM I-94 by visiting *i94.cbp.dhs.gov*
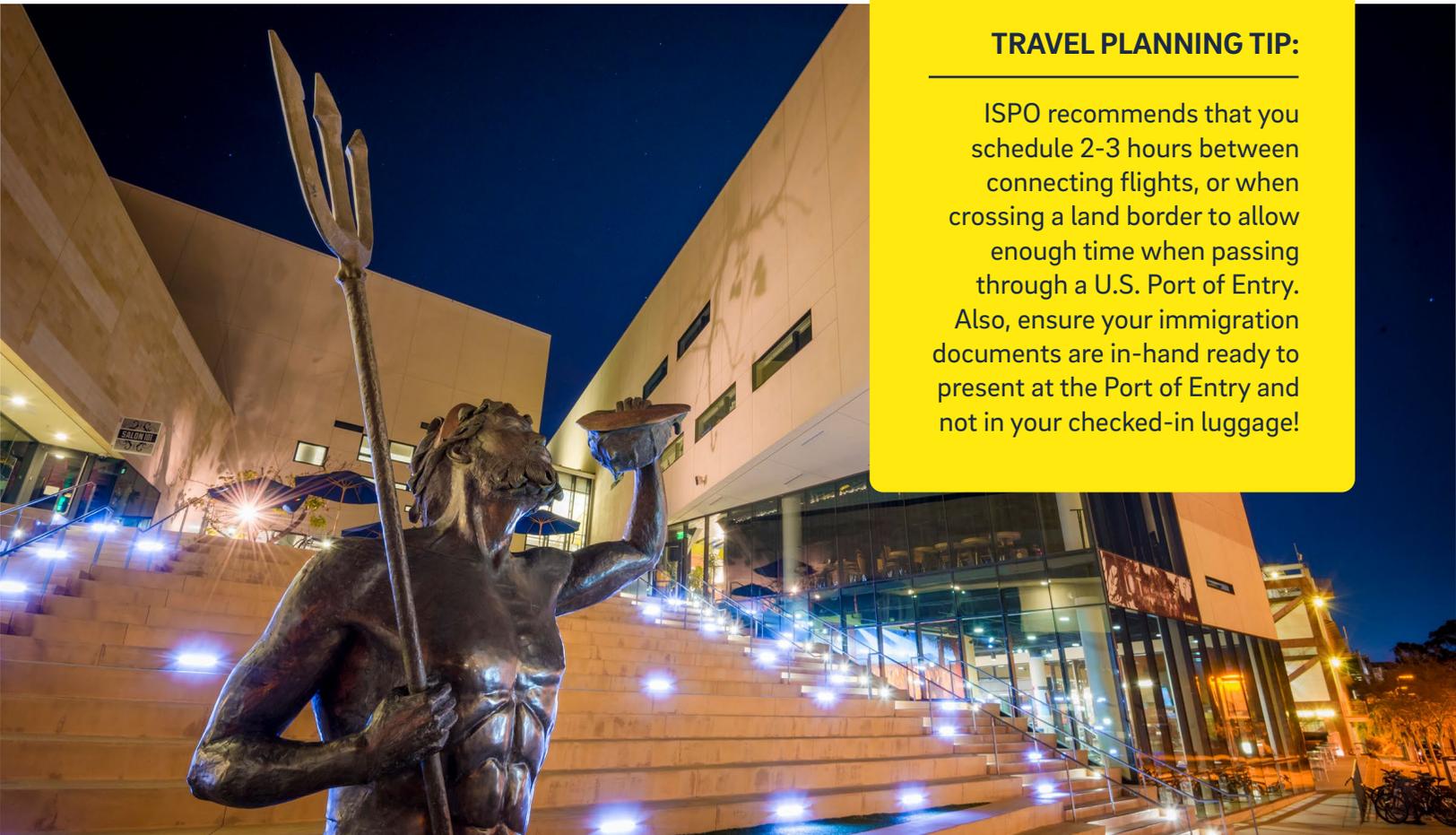
COMPLETE Document Self-Check at *iSelfcheck.ucsd.edu*

ATTEND NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION and meet your fellow international students and ISPO Staff. Visit *iOrientation.ucsd.edu* for more information about orientation.

CONNECT to new students

TRAVEL PLANNING TIP:

ISPO recommends that you schedule 2-3 hours between connecting flights, or when crossing a land border to allow enough time when passing through a U.S. Port of Entry. Also, ensure your immigration documents are in-hand ready to present at the Port of Entry and not in your checked-in luggage!

IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS AT A GLANCE

FORM I-20 (F-1 STUDENTS) OR FORM DS-2019 (J-1 EXCHANGE VISITORS)

This document is provided to you by the iPortal after you complete your request. It reflects your program information and is indicative of which visa type you will begin your program in upon arrival to the U.S. Validate this form by taking the following steps:

1 REVIEW your Form I-20 or DS-2019 for accuracy.
Take note of your Program Start Date.

2 SIGN and date the form at the bottom of page 1.

3 PAY SEVIS I-901 Fee to activate this document. Visit *www.fmjfee.com* to make this payment.

PASSPORT

This document is issued by your country of citizenship. Ensure that this document has at least 6 months validity in the future.

U.S. VISA

This is a page located within your passport. A U.S. Visa is issued by a U.S. Consulate outside the U.S. upon approval of an F or J Visa. You'll need a valid and unexpired visa each time you seek entry into the U.S. If you have a valid F-1 or J-1 visa, you do not need to re-apply for the F-1 or J-1 visa.

ISPO NOTE: Citizens of Canada do not require an entry visa but must present the Canadian passport, UC San Diego Form I-20 or Form DS-2019, financial statements and proof of payment of the SEVIS fee when entering the U.S. from Canada.

FORM I-94

Your Form I-94 is an online arrival and departure record. It shows when you last entered the U.S., in what status, and for how long you are permitted to remain in the U.S. Visit *i94.cbp.dhs.gov* to generate this document upon arrival.

If experiencing difficulties at the U.S. port of entry,

GET ENGAGED

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Getting involved is an important part of your student experience at UC San Diego. Student organizations are a great way to build your community and meet other students who share similar interests.
Learn more

INTERNATIONAL PEER COACHING

The International Peer Coaching Program is a collaboration between the International Students and Programs Office and the Student Success Coaching Program. The International Peer Coaches support incoming international students through a variety of different coaching programs and services. If you have a desire to get connected to campus, have a mentor who has gone through a similar experience, or would like support adjusting to American culture, you should sign up for the program today!
Learn more

GLOBALLY ENGAGED TRITONS (GET)
CO-CURRICULAR RECORD (CCR) CERTIFICATE

The Globally Engaged Tritons (GET) Co-Curricular Record (CCR) Certificate allows UC San Diego students to earn credit on their *Co-Curricular Record* (CCR) for being involved in events on campus that promote the global engagement and internationalization of our campus. Globally Engaged Triton (GET) events allow students to highlight their own culture or learn about other cultures as well as allow students to develop their global leadership skills. *Learn more*

IEVENTS CALENDAR

Check out the iEvents Calendar for all events regarding global engagement and international community at UC San Diego!
iEvents.ucsd.edu

QUICK RESOURCE GUIDE

RETURN TO LEARN

For all updates on the COVID-19 pandemic and campus plans,
learn more at *ReturnToLearn.ucsd.edu*

WHEN PARENTS ARE INFORMED, STUDENTS BENEFIT!

UC San Diego's Parent & Family Programs supports parents and families of
international students from the very start. Families are encouraged to attend
the International Parent & Family Orientation in September. Learn more at
parents.ucsd.edu

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS

The University of California San Diego (UCSD) Students With Dependents is
here to assist students, who may identify as a student parent, caregiver, and
guardian, in navigating the resources available to them on- and off- campus.

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

If you are experiencing a health or safety emergency outside of normal
business hours, call: (858) 534-4357

If you are detained at a U.S. Port of Entry:
• During normal business hours: (858) 534-3730
  (Monday to Friday, 9am – 4pm PT)

• Outside of normal business hours, call: (858) 534-4357

URGENT REQUESTS:

Submit any urgent requests via our iContact.usd.edu page or call our Main
Office phone during normal business hours (Monday to Friday, 9am – 4pm):
(858) 534-3730

Know the difference between Urgent Request vs. Emergency Request

UC San Diego
InternationalStudents
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Our team of expert staff **supports and guides** international students with their academic and personal **goals**, successful transition to campus and student life, and **meaningful engagement** with the university and local community.

Highlights

8th

LEADING U.S. INSTITUTION FOR HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

UC San Diego is ranked #8 among U.S. institutions.
(2020 Open Doors Report by the Institute of International Education)

18th

BEST UNIVERSITY IN THE WORLD

UC San Diego ranks 18th Best University in the World based on the 2020 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) by the Center for World-Class Universities at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China.

Other rankings include:

• 8th Best Public University in the USA
(2020 US News & World Report)

• 21st Best University in the World
(2021 US News & World Report)

6th

TOTAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES IN THE U.S.

With $1.45 billion received in sponsored research support, UC San Diego ranks #6 in the U.S. and #2 among all University of California campuses.
(2019 National Science Foundation)

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MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9am - 4pm

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10 Student Staff

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