

LSU ISA

Post Arrival Checklist

1. Attend the Orientation

To have a successful academic career at LSU, your attendance at the Graduate Student Orientation is mandatory. During orientation, immigration requirements for maintaining your legal status and international student health insurance information will be presented. In addition to attending orientation, international students in F-1 status are required to report to the International Services office to complete the required U.S. immigration check-in procedure.

2. Get Your Tiger Card

- The Tiger Card is the official identification card of LSU. Along with identification, the Tiger Card is also used for building/dorm access, laundry, printing, vending, off- and on-campus vendors, dining services, library book check-out and discounts.
- [FAQs](#) , [Location](#)

3. How to purchase the University approved health insurance

All non-immigrant international students in F-1 and J-1 student visa status are required to purchase and maintain adequate medical health insurance coverage while they are enrolled at LSU, and the medical health insurance policy must meet LSU's medical health insurance requirements. Therefore, these students will be automatically charged for and enrolled in the LSU endorsed plan, Gallagher Student Health/United HealthCare. However, students may choose an alternate medical health insurance plan to be considered as long as it meets the minimum requirements listed and an on-line waiver request is submitted by deadline.

4. Immunization

All international students who have been admitted to LSU are required to provide proof of immunization compliance prior to arriving at LSU. After you have been admitted to LSU, you will receive an email from the LSU international exchange coordinator reminding you to send your immunization forms to the LSU health center.

Please access the following links for information regarding immunization requirements:

- [Immunization Requirement Info](#)
- [Proof of Immunization Form](#)

If you have any questions about immunization compliance, please refer to the Student Health Center or contact the LSU Student Health Center at immunization@lsu.edu; 225-578-0593.

5. Academic Advising

Meet with the Director of Graduate Studies from your department. You will need to meet with the DGS to register for classes.

6. Transcript

You may be required to submit a final transcript or verification to International Services 101 Hatcher Hall. Failure to submit transcripts before your deadline can result in loss of admission.

7. Get a Driver's License

Step 1: Getting your **temporary drivers license**, this is a straight forward procedure, you will be needing ,

- Recent I-20, I-94
- Proof of residence, this can be your leasing document, bank statements, Entergy bills
- Social Security Card.
- If you don't have your social security card you need to go to the social security office and get a letter signed. For further information you can contact International Office (Hatcher Hall)
- Carry the above documents and proceed to any DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) around Baton Rouge based on your convenience.
- Your documents would be verified at DMV and a eye test would be taken, don't forget to carry your lenses, since this is mandatory and there is a high possibility that the authorized person would ask you to come again later.
- After the verification you will need to pay 40\$ (Cash/Card)
- A receipt will be provided and you will be guided to a counter where a head shot will be taken and would be replicated on your temporary drivers license ID

Step 2: Start off by browsing web for the best driving schools around Baton Rouge, every school has its own terms, some would offer free pick up and others would ask you to come to their location to get the classes. There is a mandatory 8 hours behind the wheel training that has to be taken as per the State of Louisiana Law.

Step 3: Before you get behind the wheel and start your training you need to attend a mandatory 4 – 6 hour class which would give you an insight on how the laws in the USA work and how you should act accordingly. Please pay at most attention to these classes as you will need to pass a test which is for 100 marks and minimum mark for passing this test is 80. If you fail the test you need to retake the exam with the permission of the in charge.

Step 4: Once you pass the written exam you will be tested on your driving skills, don't worry this test would be taken after the completion of the 8 hours behind the wheel training and don't hesitate you ask doubts.

Step 5: Congratulations you are one step closer in getting your driver's license, once you pass the driving test you will be given a **sealed envelope**. Carry this sealed envelope to the DMV (Second visit) and produce it to the official sitting in front of you. Remember envelop should be opened by the official and not by you, if tampered you need to go through the entire procedure again. Try carrying all the documents mentioned in step 1.

Step 6: You will need to return the temporary driver's license and make a payment of 32\$ for your permanent driver's license.

Step 7: A receipt will be generated and this should be provided at the same counter where you got your temporary driver's license from.

Step 8: Success!!! You have your driver's license in your hand.

Total Cost: May range from 450-550\$, depending on the driving school you select, this excludes the cost at DMV.

List of Driving Schools:

- Ace Driving Academy
- A Driving School of Baton Rouge
- Road Scholars Institute of Driving
- Metro City Driving Academy
- Tiger Driving School
- Rules of the Road Driving School
- Crescent Driving School (New Orleans, Cost: 350\$)

8. Social Security Information

Any F-1 or J-1 student who will be employed by LSU or who has received authorization from International Services (IS) or USCIS to work for another employer in the U.S. must apply for a Social Security number (SSN). For more information visit.

https://www.lsu.edu/intlpro/is/current-students/social_security.php

9. Open a bank account

You will need an account in the US to receive direct deposit of your paycheck. The closest banks to campus are Campus Federal Credit Union

(<https://goo.gl/maps/pfWRaEewJGk3o69MA>) and chase bank

(<https://goo.gl/maps/XJiEgop1K6SXZvFC8>)