Welcome to UNO!

We are excited to host you in Omaha. This packet includes important information and actions you need to take. Please carry it with you while traveling.

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SEVIS & Visa

Pay the SEVIS fee

As soon as you receive a Form I-20 or DS-2019 from UNO, pay the SEVIS I-901 fee to the U.S. government. You can pay online here:

🔗 www.fmjfee.com

Print your receipt. A receipt will also be mailed to you.

 Obtain a visa

As soon as you pay the SEVIS fee, schedule an appointment with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. You can find the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate here:

🔗 travel.state.gov/visa

Ask them about the specific requirements for entry from your country. Bring to your appointment:

- Passport valid for at least six months after entry into the United States
- Photograph, 5 cm square, showing full face without head covering, against light background
- Form I-20 AB for F visa applicants or Form DS-2019 for J visa applicants
- Evidence of sufficient funds for tuition and living expenses in the United States
- Evidence of English proficiency for undergraduates, graduate students, and scholars
- Evidence of strong ties to your home country

If granted, the consular officer will place a visa in your passport. If you have any problems, contact us or the institution that issued your DS-2019.

Entering the United States

Read important information about entering the United States in Travel on pages 4 and 5.

After arrival

Report to the International Studies & Programs office in Arts & Sciences Hall 241. Bring your immigration documents and your local address. This is an important SEVIS requirement.
Housing

ILUNO Intensive English students

We will help you arrange housing. Complete the housing request online under Getting Started in ILUNO:

🔗 world.unomaha.edu/iluno

Request housing at least one month before arrival and notify us of your arrival date so that we have time to help you.

Undergraduates, graduate students, and scholars

You have many housing options to choose from. International students and scholars can live in on-campus, apartment-style residences, or they can live off-campus in nearby apartment complexes.

Go to this site and read about Housing Options:

🔗 world.unomaha.edu/advising

To apply for one of several on-campus residences, see this site for On-Campus Housing:

🔗 housing.unomaha.edu

To arrange off-campus housing, contact the apartment manager directly.

Arriving in Omaha

For tips on bringing money to the United States to pay for housing expenses, see 💸 Money on page 6.
Travel

Arrange airport pickup

Please plan in advance. Request an airport pickup online under Getting Started at UNO:

🔗 world.unomaha.edu/advising

If you do not request a pickup, you can call a taxi. A taxi to UNO’s campus may cost up to $30:

Omaha Taxi Cabs
1.402.292.2222

Depending on your arrival time, you may need to stay in a hotel. Ask for the special UNO rate. Expect to pay about $90 to $120, including tax. This hotel is near the airport; shuttle runs 4 a.m. to midnight:

Country Inn & Suites
2210 Abbott Drive
Carter Lake, IA 51510
1.712.347.5600
(breakfast included)

This hotel is near Pacific Street Campus:

Courtyard Marriott Aksarben Village
1625 S 67th Street
Omaha, NE 68106
1.402.951.4300
(no free breakfast)

Residence Inn
6990 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68132
1.402.553.8898
(free breakfast included)

This hotel is closer to Dodge Street Campus:

Carry these items with you all the time

- Passport
- Form I-20 or DS-2019
- Copy of bank statement
- Itinerary and other travel documents
- Medical records
- School records
- Birth and marriage certificate, if applicable
- Money (for amounts and other advice, see $ Money on page 6.
- Items needed for one night in a hotel
- Medication, if needed, with translated and original prescriptions
- Alarm clock
- This packet of information
Travel

Immigration forms and procedures – Form I-94

Until recently the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a paper Form I-94, arrival/departure record, usually stapled into the passport whenever an individual entered the United States. CBP is creating an online I-94 instead of issuing the traditional paper form at ports of entry. You will now need to do two things when you enter the United States:

1. Check your passport to make sure that the CBP officer has put an entry stamp indicating that you entered on a certain date, in a certain visa status, e.g. F-1, and can stay until a certain date or D/S (duration of status) in the case of F and J visa holders.
2. Print out your I-94 via [www.cbp.gov/i94](http://www.cbp.gov/i94) as you will need it for other purposes. Upon entering the U.S., travelers will receive a paper with instructions on how to access the website.

IMPORTANT: Be sure to give your correct name (as it appears on the visa page of your passport) to the airlines when purchasing plane tickets.

Immigration forms and procedures – Customs

Before landing, you will fill out a customs declaration. Note that certain items such as fruit, vegetables, drugs, and firearms are not allowed in the United States without special permission. Report the value of items you are carrying into the United States. Ask the flight attendant if you have questions.

After landing, you will present your passport, visa, and Form I-20 or DS-2019. The immigration officer may also ask for evidence of financial support, like the copy of your bank statement. The officer will ask you questions about your plans in the United States. You will then go to a checkpoint where your bags may be inspected by a customs official.

Need help?

Talk to a UNO International Student Advisor, Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm U.S. Central Time:

Phone: 1.402.554.2293  
E-mail: [world@unomaha.edu](mailto:world@unomaha.edu)

If you have a travel emergency and need assistance after 5:30 pm, call UNO Public Safety at 1.402.554.2648. Please use this number for emergencies or urgent notifications only.
Money

Inform your bank

Before departing for the United States, tell your bank that you will be traveling. Banks may not process international transactions until receiving authorization from you.

Credit and debit cards

Credit and debit cards are the safest and most convenient way to spend money in the United States. They are accepted almost everywhere. Prior to departure, ask your home bank if your cards will work in the United States. Make sure your credit limit is high enough to cover the starting expenses below.

ILUNO students: Be prepared to pay tuition, fees, and health insurance during orientation.

Traveler’s checks

Though less convenient, traveler’s checks are another secure way to bring money. You can endorse and cash the checks at most U.S. banks during regular business hours, Monday through Friday. Talk to your home bank about getting travelers checks if a credit or debit card is not an option.

Cash

We do not encourage carrying large amounts of cash. For most students and scholars, $300 is enough cash for getting settled in Omaha. This amount will pay for a night in a hotel, a few meals, and items like bedding and bathroom supplies for your home. If possible, pay other large expenses, such as your housing deposit and first month of rent, with a credit or debit card or traveler’s check.

Wire transfers

To pay UNO tuition and fees, plan to use a wire transfer. Check due dates under Billing Policies at:

cashiering.unomaha.edu

Starting expenses

As you make financial plans, plan for all of your possible needs:

- Housing deposit, first month of rent, and possibly the last month of rent
- Flight delays and other travel emergencies
- Airport pickup
- Short hotel stay
- Home supplies, such as linens and bathroom items
- Meals
Health

The following actions are required to ensure your health and safety at UNO:

1. **All students and scholars: Submit proof of 2 MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) immunizations**

Measles is a serious but preventable disease. To prevent measles outbreaks, UNO requires all new students and scholars to show proof of immunization or immunity. Measles immunizations may be listed on your immunization record as MMR, M/R, or Measles. Proof of two immunizations are required. If you prefer to provide a positive measles titer, a record of the lab result must be provided.

Immunization records can be obtained from your health care provider. They may also be available from your high school or colleges or universities you have attended. Public health department and military records are also acceptable. Records must include month, day, and year.

Attach a copy of your records to the form in this packet. Do not send originals.

If you need the MMR vaccine or blood titer test, go to UNO Health Services on the first floor of the HPER Building. No appointment is needed. The cost is included in your UNO health insurance. If you have questions, call 1.402.554.2374.

2. **All international students and scholars: Get a tuberculosis screening**

All international students and scholars and ILUNO students must have tuberculosis screening upon arrival at UNO. This is done in UNO Health Services, first floor of the HPER Building, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Chest X-rays will be required for people who test positive. The cost is included in your UNO insurance. ILUNO students will have a TB test date assigned during orientation.

3. **Students and scholars under 19 years of age: You must get a parent or legal guardian’s signature before you leave home**

If you are younger than 19, UNO needs authorization from a parent or guardian to provide you with health care services. Have a parent or guardian read and sign the health form in this packet.

4. **Students in on-campus housing: Read about Meningococcal Meningitis Disease**

Nebraska State Law requires students and scholars living on campus to read this information on Meningococcal Meningitis Disease and Immunization (Menactra/MCV4 or Menomune/MPSV4). Parents of students younger than 19 are also required to read this information. UNO encourages all students and scholars to consider getting this vaccination and to become knowledgeable about meningitis and its symptoms. The vaccine is available in UNO Health Services.

Meningococcal Meningitis Disease is a severe bacterial infection of the bloodstream and meninges (a thick lining covering the brain and spinal cord). It is a relatively rare disease and usually occurs as an isolated event. Clusters of cases or outbreaks are possible. The meningococcus germ is spread by direct close contact with nose or throat discharges of infected people. College students who live on-campus have a slightly higher risk of getting this infection than others their age.

More information is available at [www.cdc.gov/meningitis/](http://www.cdc.gov/meningitis/). Students and scholars who do not want the vaccine must first read the information on the website. Signing the immunization waiver indicates that you understand the possible risk of not receiving this vaccine. If you are under 19, a parent must sign the waiver for you.

**Important Note for ILUNO and IPD Students:** ILUNO and IPD students on F or J visas who do not have insurance provided by a government sponsor will be required to purchase the UNO health insurance plan.
COMPLETE and RETURN

Last name | First name | Middle initial | Birth date | NU ID number

Local street address | City | State | Zip code | Cell phone

Permanent or home country address | City | Country | Postal code | E-mail address

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:  □ Under the age of 19  □ Living on-campus  □ International student, scholar, or ILUNO

Students under 19 years of age: Get a parent or legal guardian’s signature

AUTHORIZATION FOR TREATMENT OF A MINOR

I authorize Health Services and/or the Counseling Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha, to provide medical and/or mental health care to my child.

(Signature of parent or guardian)  (Date)

Services may include but are not limited to diagnostic examinations (including laboratory and radiological testing), verification and/or administration of immunizations, and necessary medical treatment including minor surgical procedures and mental health counseling. I understand that should my minor child need more invasive diagnostic or surgical procedures, attempts will be made to contact me before such care is initiated.

I further understand that once the above named minor reaches age 19, according to Nebraska law my consent for treatment is no longer required. Consent is not legally required for minors who seek treatment for sexually transmitted disease, reproductive health, drug or alcohol abuse, or emergencies.

Students and scholars in on-campus housing: Read about Meningococcal Meningitis Disease

PLEASE CHECK ONE

□ I have received the Meningitis vaccine (Menactra/MCV4 or Menomimmune/MPSV4). Attach an official copy of your immunization record to this form.

□ I want to receive the Meningitis vaccine at UNO Health Services.

□ I have chosen NOT to be immunized for Meningococcal Meningitis. I have read the information on Meningococcal Meningitis at www.cdc.gov/meningitis/. My signature below indicates that I have read the information provided.

(Signature of student or scholar)  (Date)  (Signature of parent/guardian, if student is under 19)  (Date)

Remember: Attach proof of 2 MMR immunizations to this form. Bring it and a copy of your immunization record to orientation, or fax it to UNO Health Services, 1.402.554.2387
Orientation

ILUNO Intensive English students

At orientation, you will meet other new students, take a campus tour, and learn about Omaha. You will also get important information about university services, immigration regulations, health services, culture shock, and special activities and clubs that involve U.S. and international students.

Soon after your arrival, you will receive an ID card to use at the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building, to buy your meals on campus, and to gain free admission to sporting and cultural events. You will also receive help setting up a UNO e-mail account. Please see the attached Registration, Orientation, and Testing Schedule for more details.

Undergraduates, graduate students, and scholars

Orientation: All new students and scholars on F-1 or J-1 visas, including those transferring from another school in the United States and those moving from ILUNO to UNO, must attend orientation. You should read the latest orientation schedule and register for orientation online under Getting Started at UNO:

 distancia de prueba

Placement exams: All undergraduate students must take English and math or calculus placement exams. Some undergraduates may also need to take the chemistry exam. Graduate students in the MBA program must take the English placement exam. Other graduate students and students with transfer credit should consult with their academic advisors about placement exam requirements.

International students should take placement exams during orientation, held the week prior to classes each fall and spring. If students are in Omaha earlier, they may take placement exams through the UNO Testing Center on any of the dates regularly scheduled for these exams. More information is available under Register for Exams at:

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Contact your academic advisor: All students in a degree program must meet an academic advisor to select and register for classes each semester. Don’t know who your academic advisor is? Find the advisors in your college under Student Information at:

 distancia de prueba

You may contact an academic advisor about your class selection by e-mail or telephone prior to arrival. Or make an appointment with your advisor immediately upon arrival.
**Orientation**

**Register for classes:** After contacting your academic advisor, register for classes through mavlink. Use the NU ID and password you received during the application process:

🔗 mavlink.unomaha.edu

**Activate your e-mail account:** All students enrolled in classes at UNO have a gmai email account. Important academic and billing information is e-mailed to students. You will also receive important e-mails from International Admissions & Advising through this account. To learn how to access and use gmai:

🔗 mail.unomaha.edu

**Get your MavCard:** After you have enrolled in classes and arrived on campus, you should get your MavCard. It is an ID card used for accessing parking garages, checking out items at the library, purchasing food or copy services, receiving discounts at merchants that cater to students, and much more. MavCards are issued in the Business Office on the second floor of the Milo Bail Student Center. Bring your passport or other photo identification with you.