



NORTH GREENVILLE
UNIVERSITY

Christ Makes the Difference

T. Walter Brashier Graduate School

Helpful Tips for International Students

Finances

Bringing money into the United States can be a difficult matter if your country has strict regulations about taking funds abroad. We strongly advise that you check with your bank's foreign exchange department and make the necessary arrangements to bring sufficient funds with you when you first travel on your F-1 student visa, and have arrangements in place to transfer other funds as needed.

We recommend that you bring sufficient funds with you in U.S. currency and traveler's checks to get through the first few weeks until you open a U.S. bank account ([click here](#) for information on how to open your U.S. bank account). In addition, it is recommended that persons carry a recognized international credit card (Visa or MasterCard, for example), along with about \$500 in cash. Bring the remainder of your funds in traveler's checks. This is a safe and convenient way to carry money and you can change it as needed or deposit it directly into your new U.S. bank account. When travelling it is also helpful to carry some one dollar bills (\$1) for small needs and quarters (25-cent pieces) for telephone calls. Do not carry large amounts of cash.

Please note that we strongly advise that you pay your tuition ahead of travelling. If you land in the U.S. less than a month before your registration and have not yet paid your fees, you will need to have access to sufficient funds (such as traveler's checks) to pay your first semester tuition in full. In addition you may have other expenses that you are required to cover like your accommodation or transportation needs. Remember, while the process to open a bank account is fairly simple and straight forward, you cannot rely on being able to complete that process immediately and have quick access to funds.

Academics

International students who have entered the U.S. on an F-1 visa must maintain **full-time status**. This also requires that all classes be taken in the classroom.

Tuition, Books & Supplies

Tuition, books and supplies vary according to your program of study. Students are responsible for purchasing and securing all needed books and materials for your classes.

Health Insurance

International students who are entering the country on a F-1 visas, as well as their dependents (spouses and child/children) should enroll in a health insurance program that provides coverage while they are in the United States. At registration, international students will be required to present documentation showing that they are enrolled in a health insurance program **BEFORE** they can begin classes at NGU. This coverage should include repatriation and medical evacuation ([click here](#) for health insurance options).