Welcome to the University of California, Santa Barbara!

This Welcome Guide is meant to be a basic introduction, not a replacement for any other communications from UCSB or OISS. If you receive instructions that contradict this guide, you can contact us for clarification.

The UCSB Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) is here to help you find your way to campus resources, understand the rules and laws that apply to you, and learn about cultural expectations on campus and in the Santa Barbara community so you can flourish during your time here.

If you have questions about your immigration status, legal employment, or navigating campus policies, OISS can help you find answers.

Get Ready to Gaucho!

The UCSB community takes pride in being a world-class research university that is also relaxed, inclusive and supportive.

There are many sources of support for international students at UCSB, starting with OISS. OISS will help you learn about special issues that you will face as a visiting student.

There are lots of student organizations to help you make friends, including the International Student Organization (ISA), groups like iBuddy and the English Conversation Program. Plus, there are hundreds of student clubs where you can find other Gauchos that share your favorite interests. As an international student at UCSB, you will have lots of people to help you find your way.

There will be many new experiences and a new culture that may also feel confusing or frustrating. OISS is here to help you. Free counseling and stress-managements are available through Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), including confidential options. It can be very challenging to adapt to a new culture. We understand.

The educational system in the U.S. will also be new. Many excellent students will find it hard to get the grades they have had in their home countries. Give yourself time to adjust. Avoid taking extra units your first quarter, and take advantage of support like Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) early on. They offer workshops to help you understand citations and academic expectations.

You will be far from home, but you are not alone.

REMEMBER, OISS needs to know:

- when you have arrived at UCSB, you must check in at the OISS office
- every time you move to a new address (within 10 days)
- if you change your major
- if you have questions about working on campus or off campus.
- If you plan to travel outside the U.S. (get a travel signature in advance!)
What in the world is a Gaucho?

Originally, the term “gaUCHo” referred to cattlemen in South America, mostly on the Patagonian pampas in and near Argentina. A 1927 film starring the dashing Douglas Fairbanks inspired students to adopt The Gaucho as our school mascot in 1936. How international!

Today, a Gaucho is part of the UCSB community. You may see the official UCSB mascot, Olé, on campus or any time there’s a chance to cheer for UCSB’s sports teams! Our mascot wears blue and gold, the colors we share with all ten University of California campuses.

While UCSB has an energetic mascot, UCSB does not have a football team, unlike many American universities. A local joke is “UCSB Football: Undefeated Since 1992.” Look for Olé for special Gaucho tips throughout this guide.

CALI Training is a mandatory program designed specifically for international students. CALI stands for Cultural Adjustment, Laws, and Immigration. The program is fun and will help you get the most out of your experience at UCSB. Students outside the U.S. will not be able to attend Summer Orientation, so CALI will help you learn your way around.

CALI Training is required for all incoming international students. College or department orientations are separate; as an international student, you will still need to attend CALI Training. There are two other programs you must complete as an incoming UCSB undergraduate. These programs are in addition to CALI Training:

AlcoholEdu for College/Haven, is an on-line, non-opinionated course to help you to make well-informed decisions and cope with the behavior of your peers. Haven will help you better understand the important concept of consent and how to prevent sexual violence. This is an on-line course you can take as soon as you have a UCSBNetID.

Gaucho FYI workshops have been developed to introduce undergraduate students to a variety of health and safety topics. The in-person workshops will be held along with CALI Training.
Your Date of Entry into the U.S.
You can enter the U.S. up to 30 days before your program start date stated on your visa document, but not earlier.

Your Visa Document (I-20 or DS-2019)
Once you are admitted to UCSB and return your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR), OISS will email you an invitation to the International Student Portal. You will need to upload documents to OISS so OISS can issue a Certificate of Eligibility: students planning to enter the country with a F-1 visa will receive an I-20; students planning to enter the country with a J-1 Exchange Visitor visa will receive an DS-2019. You will use this Certificate of Eligibility (also known as visa document) to apply for a student visa at a U.S. consulate. After your student visa is issued, you can make plans to come to the U.S. (Note for Canadian citizens: a student visa is not required but you must obtain F-1 or J-1 status). Your I-20 or DS-2019 will be important to you!

Your SEVIS Number
SEVIS stands for the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System. SEVIS is a web-accessible database system used by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). OISS is responsible for keeping your SEVIS record up-to-date. You will need to pay a SEVIS fee prior to applying for a visa.

www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/
Your SEVIS number will be printed on your I-20 or DS-2019.

Applying for Your F-1 or J-1 Student Visa

When to apply: You can apply as soon as you have your I-20 or DS-2019. Apply early! Unfortunately, there is nothing OISS can do to rush the process if there are delays with your application. Don’t wait to apply.

Where to apply: Visit www.usembassy.gov for information about U.S. Consular offices. The U.S. consular officer will decide if you qualify for a student visa.

Documents you will need to apply:
- Your I-20 (for F-1 Visa) or DS-2019 (for J-1 Visa)
- Form DS-160 (Non-immigrant visa application)
- A valid passport (valid for travel to the U.S. and for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay)
- An official 2” x 2” photograph
- An MRV receipt to show payment of the visa application fee (for information, visit the U.S. embassy website where you are going to apply for your F-1 or J-1 Visa).
- Form I-901 (SEVIS fee receipt)
- Admissions Letter from UCSB
- Financial documents that show you will be able to support yourself while in the U.S.
- Proof that you plan to return to your home country

Ready for Your Visa Interview?
Your visa interview will be very brief. It will be a quick in-person conversation and a chance to review your documents.

Remember, Your Home Country Is Still Home
Applicants for non-immigrant visas must prove they are not planning to establish permanent residence in the U.S. Be prepared to show that you have reasons for returning to your home country that are stronger than those for staying in the U.S.

Practice Your English
Keep your interview responses brief and in English. Officers have to process a lot of applications, so keep your answers to the officer’s questions short and to the point. Plan for the interview to be conducted in English and not in your native language.

Show Your Gaucho Pride
You should be able to explain how studying in the U.S. will relate to your future professional career in your home country.

Remember, You’re Coming to Study
Your main purpose in coming to the United States is to study, not for job opportunities before or after graduation. While many students do work during their studies, such employment is incidental to their main purpose of completing their U.S. education.

Stay Calm and Friendly
If you are denied a student visa, ask the officer for a list of documents you should bring in order to appeal. Try to get the reason you were denied in writing.
Upon arrival to the U.S. a U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) officer will review your documents:

- I-20 or DS-2019
- Valid Passport
- Financial documents
- Admissions Letter
- I-901 receipt of SEVIS fee

**Be sure you have these documents!** Entry to the U.S. is up to the discretion of the immigration officer at the port of entry. Traveling without these documents might be sufficient reason to be denied entry.

**I-515A form** If you arrive in the U.S. with insufficient documentation, you may be allowed to enter the U.S. for **30 days** with a I-515A form. If you receive an I-515A form, you MUST come to OISS to meet with an advisor!

### Entering the U.S. by Air or Sea

Your arrival will be recorded electronically. You will not receive a paper I-94 card. **CUSTOMS:** If your international flight arrives at LAX, allow up to **2 hours** to clear customs before your connecting flight or shuttle.

### Entering the U.S. by Land

You will be given a paper I-94 card. The I-94 card records your arrival and departure from the U.S.

At any port of entry, expect to be asked for a digital, inkless finger scan and digital photograph.

### Canadian?

Canadian citizens do not need to apply for a visa at an U.S. Consulate, but must enter the U.S. in F-1 or J-1 status.

Canadian citizens need the following to enter the U.S. as a student:

- Canadian passport
- The original I-20 or DS-2019
- Proof that SEVIS fee has been paid (I-901 receipt)
- Proof of sufficient funds to pay for tuition and fees
- Proof of ties to Canada

After successful entry to the U.S., Canadian international students must complete the OISS check-in process.

### Already in the U.S.? Planning Summer Travel?

Transferring your SEVIS record from an U.S. high school, English or college preparation program? Transferring from another U.S. college?

- You don’t need to pay the SEVIS fee again.
- Be sure to check your new UCSB-issued I-20 or DS-2019 for accuracy.
- You can stay in the U.S. during the summer in F-1 status.

If you are planning to travel outside the U.S. during the summer months, you can do so and return at anytime, but you must use the new I-20 or DS-2019 issued by UCSB to return to the U.S. The I-20 or DS-2019 from your previous school may not be used to re-enter the U.S. once your UCSB document has been issued.

### Traveling from the U.S.

If you plan to travel outside of the U.S. during your stay at UCSB, please make sure to obtain a **travel signature from OISS** at least two weeks before your departure date. Travel signatures take **two business days to process**. We highly recommend obtaining a new signature every six months.

*If you do not obtain a travel signature before your trip, it may be difficult to get back into the U.S.*

### U.S. Department of State

Frequently Asked Questions on Student Visas: travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/study-exchange/student.html
Travel to UCSB via LAX

The closest international airport to UCSB is Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Most international travelers coming to UCSB choose to fly into LAX. **Scheduling your travel:** Allow up to 2 hours to clear customs before scheduling your connecting flight or shuttle.

From LAX, many travelers take a shuttle bus to UCSB, such as Santa Barbara Airbus (sbairbus.com). The Airbus has regularly scheduled trips to and from LAX. Tickets for Santa Barbara Airbus may be purchased on the shuttle in advance or at time of boarding. The Goleta stop is closest to UCSB. From the Goleta Airbus stop, the shuttle driver can help arrange for taxi service to campus or to your hotel. Roadrunner Shuttle is another option shuttle option from LAX (rrshuttle.com).

Travel to UCSB via SBA

The Santa Barbara Airport (SBA) is just over a mile from campus. Taxis will be waiting at the SBA airport. One-way fare to UCSB from SBA is less than $20. There is also a public bus stop in front of the airport.

Where to stay: Be sure you have arranged housing before traveling to UCSB. If you plan to stay in a hotel, keep in mind that campus is closer to Goleta than downtown Santa Barbara. A partial list of local hotels: http://admissions.sa.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/directions

You may use OISS address as your TEMPORARY address if you are still confirming a local address.
There are many campus-wide programs for new students, with specific sessions designed for incoming freshmen, transfer students, or graduate students. Summer Orientation is a good option for students already in the U.S. Some colleges and programs have their own orientation sessions as well. There is a lot of information for you to absorb as a new student coming to UCSB! As an international student, you will need to attend **CALI Training** offered by OISS.

**Federal immigration regulations require international students to attend CALI Training.**

During CALI Training, you will learn about protecting your immigration status, cultural adaptation and stress management, academic expectations, and campus resources. You’ll also get to meet some of your new classmates and OISS staff and student leaders. OISS offers sessions for the following international students:

- Freshman (first year)
- Transfer
- Education Abroad (EAP)
- Graduate

CALI Training takes place BEFORE classes start.

Be sure to attend your CALI session. Schedule and payment information is on the OISS website:

[oiss.sa.ucsb.edu/students/newly-admitted/CALI](http://oiss.sa.ucsb.edu/students/newly-admitted/CALI)

### Language Placement

The written English Language Placement Exam (ELPE) is given during International Student Orientation in Fall. All international students are expected to take the test unless excused in advance. Students from countries where instruction is in English or students that have studied in the U.S. may be excused from the exam.

**Teaching Assistant Language Evaluations:** Graduate Council policy requires all prospective teaching assistants (TAs) whose first language is not English to take the TA Language Evaluation prior to being certified to hold sole classroom teaching or laboratory responsibilities.

Your home department will schedule a TA Language Evaluation with the EMS Program when required. Exams will take place prior to your first teaching appointment. Your department will appoint a faculty representative to assign you a presentation topic and attend the examination.

The ELPE is administered by the Department of Linguistics, English for Multilingual Students (EMS) program. If you have questions about the test, contact EMS at 893-7258

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### Road Rules, UCSB Style

UCSB traffic includes bicycles, skateboards, cars, and pedestrians. To avoid expensive tickets or injuries, learn the rules and stay alert! Look and listen.

**Bicycles:**

- Bikes belong on the bike paths. To repeat, **bikes belong on the bike paths**.
- Do not ride on sidewalks.
- NEVER ride on campus roads. Mesa Road, Lagoon Road, or the 217 leading into campus are extremely dangerous for bicyclists.

**Skateboards:**

- Skateboards share the sidewalk with pedestrians.
- Carry your board through NO SKATEBOARDS zones, including tunnels and marked walkways.
- Use skateboard lanes if possible.

**Pedestrians:**

- Be very careful! Look both ways before crossing a bike path.
- Do not walk on bike paths or in skateboard lanes.
- Cross streets at corners or crosswalks, and stay alert. Off campus, you could get a ticket for jaywalking and the tickets are expensive!

At night, CSO Escorts are available to walk or bike with you, so you can get home safely after that late-night study session at the library. **CSO Escort: 893-2000**
You must check-in in person soon after you arrive at UCSB. Failure to do so compromises your status. OISS (Office of International Students and Scholars) is on the 3rd floor of the Student Resource Building (SRB).

Check-in at OISS is a one-time procedure mandated by U.S. law governing the F-1 and J-1 student program. You must come to our office, in person, to show that you have arrived at UCSB. You must check in personally. You may not have a friend or family member do it for you. During check-in, OISS will

1. review your immigration documents
2. activate your SEVIS record

You will need to upload your immigration documents to the OISS Portal. Your immigration documents are:

- I-94 document (after your arrival in U.S.)
- I-20 or DS-2019
- Passport
- F-1 or J-1 visa stamp in passport

Links here: oiss.sa.ucsb.edu/checkin

Questions? OISS is your first source for immigration information and services for international students. For questions about the check-in process, contact OISS at 805-893-2929 or oiss@sa.ucsb.edu

Getting Your UCSB Student ID Card

Your ACCESS card is your UCSB student identification card. Your ACCESS card can also be set up to be used as a personal debit card.

- If you live in the residence halls, your ACCESS card is your key. There is a $25 fee to activate your card.
- If you do not live in the residence halls, you may choose to get a free black and white card instead.

To get your ACCESS card, you will need:
1. Photo ID and
2. Perm number (or proof of registration)

Visit the ACCESS Photo Center on the main level of the University Center (UCen). They are open Monday-Friday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Transportation Tips

Having a car at UCSB is completely optional. Most people living on campus or in Isla Vista walk or ride their bikes or skateboards. Parking can be hard to find, depending on where you live.

Public buses in Santa Barbara in are operated by the MTD (Metropolitan Transit District). UCSB students ride free. Currently enrolled student can get a bus sticker at the beginning of the academic quarter. Non-students can purchase discounted 10-ride or 30-day unlimited passes at the UCSB Bookstore.

MTD’s 24X is an express route to downtown Santa Barbara. Other routes connect to local shops and other neighborhoods. You can find a detailed schedule on-line.

www.sbmtd.gov

Please note that the schedule changes for some routes when school is in session, as well as weekends and holidays.

Students ride the bus for free! Once you’ve enrolled and paid your fees, you can get a bus sticker. Pick up your bus sticker from the Registrar or AS Ticket Window, put it on your ACCESS card, and ride for free!
Finding a Place to Live

The Santa Barbara area is infamous for high housing costs. Not only are rents high, but availability is low. It can be very challenging to find housing on your own. We strongly recommend securing housing BEFORE arriving at UCSB.

Housing & Residential Services is in charge of all UCSB housing, including residence halls, graduate student and family housing.

To find off-campus housing, start with the Community Housing Office on-line listings:

www.housing.ucsb.edu/cho

The Community Housing Office (CHO) is located on the 3rd floor of the University Center. Housing in the Santa Barbara and Goleta area is expensive.

When looking for your new neighborhood, you may want to check bus routes. Living near a bus route can expand your options and make living off-campus much more convenient.

Moving into Campus Residence Halls

All first-year students at UCSB are expected to live in campus housing. While most students move into the residence halls during “Move-In Weekend” (the weekend before classes start), international students are allowed to move into housing earlier. This allows international students time to recover from travel and attend CALI Training. The Student Hotel provides students a temporary place to stay until the Residence Halls officially open. Keep in mind that the dining halls and other services may not be open if you start your stay early.

International students will be able to move from temporary housing into their assigned rooms a week before classes start.

More at www.housing.ucsb.edu/community/international-students

Your housing agreement is a legal contract. When you sign an agreement to live in university housing (like the residence halls) or an apartment or shared house, you will usually be expected to live there for the academic year. It can be difficult and expensive to change housing mid-year.

Go GOLD!
(Gaucho On-Line Data)

Immigration regulations require that within 3 weeks of starting classes and within 10 days of every move, you must update your addresses in GOLD (Gaucho On-Line Data). You will have THREE addresses: local living, local mailing, and permanent.

Visit My UCSB (myucsb.sa.ucsb.edu) and choose the GOLD icon to update your addresses.

Your Local Living Address is the place you live while attending UCSB. It cannot be a P.O. Box.

Your Local Mailing Address is the place you prefer to get mail. You may use a P.O. Box.

Your Permanent Address is a steady address in your home country. It cannot be a P.O. Box or address within the U.S.
**Wells Fargo** and **Chase Bank** have branch offices in Isla Vista. **Bank of America** and **Union Bank** are in Goleta.

Bank of America, Wells Fargo and Montecito Bank and Trust have **ATMs** on campus. A map of campus ATMs is here:

[ucen.ucsb.edu/ucen_services/atms.html](http://ucen.ucsb.edu/ucen_services/atms.html)

You will need your F-1 or J-1 visa and a valid passport. You may want to get your UCSB ACCESS card before going to the bank. Having a student ID is not mandatory, but may be helpful. You **will not** need a Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) to open a bank account.

Talk to a representative at the bank about your banking needs and they will assist you in selecting the best bank account option for you. Always read the documents you are signing and ask for clarification for anything that you don’t understand.

If needed, ask the bank representative if they have information printed in your language.

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**Using Your ACCESS Card as a Debit Card**

Your UCSB ACCESS card can be activated as a debit card, so purchases on campus and some nearby vendors can be deducted from your UCSB account. There is a one-time processing fee of $25 to set this up. Contact the ACCESS Photo Center in the UCen for more information.
Your passport is your most valuable form of identification. Make a copy of your passport to carry with you, and keep your actual passport in a safe place. A copy of your passport and your ACCESS card will be adequate for most things, such as setting up a bank account or getting phone service.

What is a Social Security Number?
First, you probably won’t need one.

A person’s Social Security Number (SSN) is a way of tracking taxes that are paid from wages. Social Security payments are part of the U.S. retirement system.

International students are visitors in the U.S. Most of the time, students are not expected to plan for retirement here. Most students will not need a SSN.

Some employers will require a SSN. In this case, F-1 and J-1 students, should wait at least 2 weeks after initial Check-in at OISS before applying for a Social Security Number (SSN).

In addition, F-1 students:
1. must verify that you have a job. Pick up a verification form from OISS, have it completed and signed by your employer, and return it to OISS for verification.
2. must be registered full time for classes.

What is an Individual Tax ID Number?
Again, most international students will not need one.

However, if you are are not eligible for an SSN but are receiving a scholarship or fellowship from UCSB, you will be asked for an Individual Tax ID Number (ITIN). The department that is providing the scholarship or fellowship will be able to provide information on getting an ITIN.

What about a Driver’s License?
A California Driver’s License, issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), is a common form of identification in the U.S. You’ll only need one if you want to drive a car. You’ll also need to pass a written exam and a behind-the-wheel test.

Again, F-1 and J-1 students, should wait at least 2 weeks after initial Check-in before going to the DMV. More information on the OISS website.

Establishing Phone Service

OISS Ambassador AT&T is the closest cell phone service provider, located in the Camino Real Marketplace.

The nearest AT&T store is located at

7060 Marketplace Drive
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 562-0121

AT&T offers pre-paid phone plans, pre-paid minutes, or two-year contracts. For more information about AT&T service options, visit the store or www.att.com
Learning, American-Style

Students at UCSB learn are expected to think critically, question ideas, engage with the material, and generate their own work.

Students at UCSB are expected to:
• attend classes and lectures
• engage fully during class time
• participate in class discussions
• complete assignments on time
• meet with professors or TAs during office hours
• avoid plagiarism and use citations

Academic dishonesty is considered a very serious problem at UCSB. The perception of academic dishonesty highlights the differences between the U.S. educational system and higher education in other countries. At UCSB, plagiarism or cheating can result in suspension.

Your status as an international student means that you are in the country to attend school. If you are suspended, your status is compromised.

Cheating, plagiarism, or Internet plagiarism can result in disciplinary action including suspension. It is your responsibility to know your professors’ standards for group work and the expectations for citing your sources.

For international students, the risks of disciplinary action are especially high. You risk losing your status and may be sent home as a result of suspension.

Not sure how to use citations? The Library and CLAS both have classes to help you!

Cheating or plagiarism may lead to suspension, which for international students can result in deportation.
All members of the UCSB community share the responsibility of upholding academic integrity at the University. Academic dishonesty is a serious act that erodes the University's mission, cheapens the learning experience, and the value of one’s degree. It is expected that all UCSB students will support the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be responsible for the integrity of their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student’s own efforts unless otherwise permitted by an instructor. It is also the responsibility of each student to know the campus rules regarding academic misconduct—ignorance is not an excuse. Below are common types of academic dishonesty:

**Plagiarism/Internet Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is academic theft. It is the use of another’s idea or words without proper attribution or credit. An author's work is his/her property and should be respected by documentation. Plagiarism from the Internet is no different from traditional plagiarism, and is in fact often far easier to catch with the use of technology available to instructors and administrators. It is a good idea to ask each instructor how they require sources to be noted and what constitutes “common knowledge” in their field to avoid possible problems.

Credit must be given:
1. For every direct quotation
2. When a work is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in your own words
3. For information which is not common knowledge (it appears in several sources about the subject)

**Cheating**

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
1. Copying from others during an examination
2. Sharing answers for a take-home examination
3. Using illegal notes during an examination
4. Taking an examination for another student
5. Asking or allowing another student to take an examination for you
6. Tampering with an examination after it has been corrected, then returning it for more credit than deserved
7. Submitting substantial portions of the same academic work for credit in more than one course, without consulting with the second instructor (and the first instructor if the courses are concurrent at UCSB)
8. Preparing answers or writing notes in a blue book before an examination
9. Allowing others to do the research and writing of an assigned paper (for example, using the services of a commercial term paper company)
10. Sending messages to another student during an examination using technology such as hand held portable Internet and messaging devices

**Collusion**

Any student who helps another student cheat is subject to campus discipline for academic dishonesty. There is no distinction between those who cheat and plagiarize and those who willingly allow it to occur.

**Resources to Help You**

International students can face deportation for cheating, as academic suspension results in loss of student status. You are responsible for understanding the rules; ignorance of the rules is no excuse.

OISS has made a video to help clarify the issues of academic integrity. It’s available on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fROKZXYiOM

Students in the U.S. have years of experience with creating “Works Cited” as part of their academic work. You may not have this experience. Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) offers workshops on proper citations. UCSB Library also has classes each quarter on finding, using, and citing materials in the Library.

Keep in mind that you are attending UCSB to learn and challenge yourself. Maintain your academic integrity.

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Do I need to give credit

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<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>for every direct quotation?</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>when a work is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in my own words?</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>for information which is not common knowledge?</td>
<td>✓</td>
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Staying Healthy

Did you know that UCSB has been rated one of the 25 healthiest colleges in the U.S.? Gauchos enjoying staying fit and healthy.

Just in case, all UCSB Students and J-1 Exchange Visitors (and their J-2 dependents) are required to have health insurance.

Undergraduate, graduate and EAP students are automatically enrolled in the Gaucho Health Insurance Plan (GHI), and charged a health insurance fee on their registration bill. GHI will give you access to Student Health Services on campus, including dental and eye care services. For more information about GHI, contact UCSB Student Health Services: studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/

J-1 Exchange Visitors who are not covered by GHI, should contact Garnett-Powers and Associates to purchase mandatory insurance (or request a waiver).

Have your own insurance?
UCSB has very strict requirements for the type of insurance students must have. However, if you feel you already have adequate insurance coverage through another policy, you may apply to have your fees waived. To apply for a waiver, follow instructions on the Student Health Services web page, under insurance.

EMERGENCY!
Call 911
9-911 from campus phones
or go to Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital
351 S. Patterson Avenue

If you are not experiencing a medical emergency, but you need to be seen by a medical professional soon, there are options for you.

Students, go to Student Health Services during the day.

After hours, or at any time for non-students, you can visit:

Sansum Urgent Care
51 Hitchcock Way
Santa Barbara, CA  93105

Taking an ambulance in the U.S. is an expensive option. If you are sick or injured but not experiencing a medical emergency, you may want to consider other options, such as a taxi or ride from a friend.

Insurance Coverage Requirements

J-1 and J-2 visa holders must have health insurance that meets these minimums:

- Medical Benefits: $100,000 per accident or illness
- Repatriation of Remains: $25,000
- Medical Evacuation $50,000
- Deductible Not to exceed $500

Coverage must begin no later than the “Program Begin Date” on your DS-2019 form and must not end before the effective “Program End Date.”

UCSB is a tobacco-free campus.

No smoking is allowed on campus or in the residence halls at any time. Need help to quit? Don’t worry. Student Health Services has programs for you.

The beautiful bluffs of UCSB and Isla Vista are the perfect place to spot dolphins or migrating whales or gaze out toward the horizon and think about graduation.

However, cliff edges are unstable and dangerous. Never climb over fences. Stay smart, Gauchos!
Once you’ve arrived at UCSB Maintaining your status as an international student is easy if you remember these three simple rules:

1. **Stay enrolled full-time, in good academic standing**
   For undergraduates, full time is **12** units every quarter.
   For graduate students, full time is **8** units every quarter.
   Do not drop below this number or take a leave of absence without talking to an OISS advisor first!

2. **Be sure you have permission before beginning work.** Check with OISS if you are not sure.
   This is true for paid or unpaid/volunteer work.
   This is true for full time or part time work.

3. **Respect your program end date**

OISS provides information, advice and assistance regarding your immigration service status. However, it is **your responsibility** to protect your status. If you have questions, ask an OISS advisor!

**REMEMBER, OISS needs to know:**
- when you have arrived at UCSB. You must check in at the OISS office.
- every time you move to a new address (update GOLD within 10 days)
- if you change your major
- if you have questions about working on campus or off campus
- If you plan to travel outside the U.S. (get a travel signature in advance!)

**We are here for you!**
OISS offers fun cultural programs throughout the year to help you make the most of your time in the U.S. Learn about customs, culture, and local landmarks.

Follow us on Facebook or visit the OISS website for upcoming events.

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