



LAWRENCE  
UNIVERSITY  
APPLETON, WISCONSIN

# NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HANDBOOK

WELCOME TO LAWRENCE



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# Welcome Message



**Lacy Frewerd**  
*Director of ISS*

Dear New International Students,

On behalf of the entire Lawrence University community, it is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to each of you as you embark on this exciting journey as members of our diverse and vibrant campus.

As the Director of International Student Services, I am here to support you throughout your time at Lawrence University. Whether you need assistance with immigration matters, cultural adjustment, or simply someone to talk to, my door is always open. Our office is committed to ensuring that you have the resources and support necessary to thrive academically, socially, and personally.

With 12% of our student population hailing from countries around the globe, you are joining a truly international community. This diversity enriches our campus culture and provides invaluable opportunities for cross-cultural exchange and learning. Embrace the opportunity to connect with peers from different backgrounds, share your own experiences, and broaden your perspectives.

Starting college in a new country can be both exhilarating and challenging, but please know that you are not alone. Lawrence University offers a variety of resources to help you navigate this transition, including orientation programs, cultural events, and student organizations. Take advantage of these opportunities to connect with fellow international students and engage with the broader campus community.

Above all, remember that you belong here. Your unique perspectives, talents, and experiences contribute to the rich tapestry of our university community. Embrace this opportunity to learn, grow, and make lifelong connections with your classmates and colleagues.

Once again, welcome to Lawrence University. We are thrilled to have you here, and I look forward to supporting you in the months and years ahead.

Warm regards,

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# About International Student Services



International Student Services (ISS) offers immigration and support services to international students in order to support the intercultural and international dimensions of the University and to ensure the University's compliance with federal laws.

**Mailing Address:**

Lawrence University  
International House  
711 E. Boldt Way,  
Appleton, WI 54911

**Physical Address:**

International House  
739 E. Boldt Way,  
Appleton, WI 54911

**Phone:** 920-832-6509

**Fax:** 920-832-7026

**Email:** [internationalhouse@lawrence.edu](mailto:internationalhouse@lawrence.edu)

**Website:** <https://www.lawrence.edu/offices/office-international-student-services>

**ISS Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceISS>

**Instagram:** @lawrence\_iss

**Advising:** Walk-in advising is available Monday-Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm (Appointments are recommended)

# Meet the ISS Team



Lacy Frewerd, DSO

Director of International  
Student Services

Email: [lacy.frewerd@lawrence.edu](mailto:lacy.frewerd@lawrence.edu)

Phone: 920-832-6509



Cheyenne Koscher, DSO

International Student  
Services Coordinator

Email: [cheyenne.a.koscher@lawrence.edu](mailto:cheyenne.a.koscher@lawrence.edu)

Phone: 920-832-6531

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# Arriving to the U.S.



## Pre-arrival checklist

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- Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee
  - Once you receive your I-20, you must pay the I-901 SEVIS fee. Visit [fmjfee.com](https://fmjfee.com)
- Apply for your Visa
  - Visit [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) or your local embassy website to learn more about specific visa requirements
- Know Your Orientation Requirements
  - Visit the [ISS Website](#) to learn more about required International Student Orientation
- Make flight and ground transportation arrangements
  - Visit the [ISS Website](#) to learn about the recommended arrival days so that you have time to recover from jet lag before orientation
- Fill out the [Arrival Form](#) on the ISS Website
- Review [health insurance requirements](#) and information for international students
- Connect with the ISS Team with any questions you have



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# Arriving to the U.S.



## Packing Advice

**Clothing:** Lawrentians dress casually most of the time. However, there are some occasions, such as Lawrence International Formals when students dress formally. Moreover, there are other events such as Cabaret, where students dress in traditional clothing from their home countries.

### **Suggested Clothing:**

Casual comfortable clothing

- Jeans
- T-shirts
- Sweatshirts

Formal clothing

- Suit or dress

Traditional clothing from your home country (If you wish to represent your country in some of the LU cultural events)



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# Arriving to the U.S.



## Packing Advice

- **Warm weather clothing:** Even though Wisconsin winters are very cold and long, the weather is warm the first few weeks of September and after mid-May. Bring some clothing for this weather too!
- **Cold weather clothing:** You will definitely need some clothing for VERY cold weather. You may find that the coat that you bring from home is not warm enough for a Wisconsin winter. However, you are always encouraged to bring a warm coat from home. If you do not have a warm coat, you should wait to buy one here.

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# Arriving to the U.S.



## Packing Advice

**Bedding, linens, and toiletries:** You will need to bring basic items such as a small towel, toothpaste, soap, etc. because you will not be able to go shopping the first day. Remember that other basic items can be purchased after your arrival.

**Bedding:** When you fill out the [Arrival Form](#), you will have three options for bedding:

- Purchase a basic bedding package (pillow, sheets, and comforter). Cost will be approximately \$40-\$50 dollars and charged to your student account.
- Send bedding items in advance to be picked up in the mailroom. Please ensure the items will arrive between August 21st – 28th, 2024. Address the items to:
  - Student Name- SPC Number (if you have it)
  - International House
  - 711 E Boldt Way
  - Appleton, WI 54911
- Travel with bedding.



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# Arriving to the U.S.



## Packing Advice

- **Room furnishings:** Your residence hall is furnished with a bed, desk, desk chair, lamp, and dresser. However, you may want to purchase some other optional items to make your room more comfortable, such as a desk lamp, coffee maker, hair dryer, etc.
  - **For electrical appliances, U.S. voltage is 110 – 112 and outlets fit two flat prongs.** It is recommended that you purchase most of your room furnishings here. Bring only what you think will be absolutely necessary before you have a chance to shop.
- **School Supplies:** You can purchase notebooks, pens, binders, and other school supplies at the LU campus store. Walgreen's, a pharmacy and variety store, is located about 15-20 minutes from campus by foot. They sell a wider variety of school supplies at lower prices. However, you may want to bring one small notebook and a pen so you can take notes during orientation sessions before you have the chance to go shopping.
  - ISS will organize a trip to Walmart or Target during orientation. This is a good chance to buy school supplies because stores usually have back-to-school sales at that time.

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# Arriving to the U.S.



## International Student Orientation

As part of the New Student Check-in Process, all new Lawrence international students need to attend the International Student Orientation. Please make sure to mark your calendar with the date and time. For more information, please visit the [ISS Website](#). A complete schedule of events will be updated.

Some examples of activities we have done in the past for orientation:

- F1 & J1 Rules and Regulations Presentation
- Adjusting to US Culture Presentation
- Ice Cream Social
- Downtown Appleton Tour
- Bonfire with Lawrence International
- Trip to Walmart/Target

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# Health Insurance & Wellness Center



## Health Insurance

Lawrence requires all international students (F-1 and J-1 student visa holders) to have sickness and accident insurance. The cost of health care, especially hospitalization, is very expensive in the United States. Even a short illness can have a high cost associated with it. Therefore, you must have health insurance to protect yourself from the effects of these costs.

Each F-1 and J-1 international student at Lawrence is automatically enrolled in the program and billed for the cost unless the insurance waiver form is submitted by July 1 each year.

To waive insurance, you must demonstrate that you have U.S. coverage that is similar to Lawrence's plan and submit the waiver by July 1. Please visit the [ISS Website](#) for more information on health insurance.

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# Health Insurance & Wellness Center



## The Wellness Center

The Wellness Center is your best and cheapest option for general sickness such as colds, influenza, headaches, stomach problems, etc.

- Visits to the nurse are free.
- Over the counter medicine is free (aspirin, cough drops, etc.).
- Prescription medicine (that a doctor must prescribe to you) is **not** free. The cost varies depending on the medicine.
- You can also make an appointment to see a doctor in the Wellness Center. A visit to the doctor costs \$8.00.

For more information on healthcare services provided by the Wellness Center, please visit the [Wellness Services Website](#).

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# Health Insurance & Wellness Center



Will I ever need to go to the hospital?

- If you have a serious sickness or injury, such as a broken arm or sprained ankle, you will need to go to the hospital for treatment.
- Bring your insurance information to the hospital if you can. You will not need to pay when you receive treatment. They will send a bill to you or your insurance company.
- You should contact your insurance company right away. They will let you know whether they will reimburse you or pay the hospital directly.
- If you have a **deductible**, you must pay this before the insurance company will begin to pay you. However, you still need to mail in your bills and receipts so it will count towards meeting your deductible.
- Please visit [internationalstudent.com](http://internationalstudent.com) for more information!



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# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 1 Campus Safety

Campus safety is committed to providing each student, faculty, and staff member with a safe, and secure living, learning, and working environment.

Our responsibilities include:

- facility and key card access
- lockouts
- student transportation
- parking and vehicle registration,
- and fire safety.

Contact Campus Safety 24-hours-a-day

- On-Campus: 6999
- Off-Campus Phone: 920-832-6999
- Email: [security@lawrence.edu](mailto:security@lawrence.edu)



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# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 2 Emergency Information

### Safety & Fire Emergencies

Appleton Police or Fire Department: 911

### Medical Emergency

Ambulance: 911

St. Elizabeth Emergency Room: 920-738-2100

ThedaCare Reg. Medical Center - Appleton Emergency

Room: 920-731-4101

Poison Control Center: 1-800-222-1222

Affinity Nurse Direct: 920-738-2230

### Psychological Emergency

LU 24/7 Counseling Crisis Line: 920-419-8167

Outagamie Crisis Intervention (24 hour helpline): 920-832-4646

### Other 24 hour Crisis Helplines

Sexual Assault Crisis Center: 920-733-8119

Crisis text line: text "HOPELINE" to 741741

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# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 2 Emergency Information

### Facility Services Emergencies

Day(7am-5pm): 920-832-6602

Night(5pm-7am): 920-832-6999

### Area Coordinator on Duty

920-419-6596

### Residential Education & Housing

Office: 920-832-6595

Cell: 920-419-6595

### Dean of Students

Office: 920-832-6789

Cell: 920-419-6600



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# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 3 Seeley G. Mudd Library

The [Seeley G. Mudd Library](#) offers a collection of over 350,000 books and periodicals, 23,000 musical scores, 14,000 audio recordings, 11,000 video recordings, as well as provides access to a wide range of subscription electronic resources. We also maintain [Lux](#), the Lawrence University institutional repository.

### Library Hours

Monday - Thursday:

8 a.m. to midnight

Friday: 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Sunday: 11 a.m. to midnight

### Reference Desk Hours

Monday - Thursday:

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.,

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: No reference

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



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# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 4 Career Center

The [Career Center](#) offers advising, programming, resources, and a robust network of Lawrentian mentors and employers to help you explore internships and opportunities that align with your academic background, interests, skills, and values. We have an extensive collection of career discernment tools, including "[What Can I Do With This Major?](#)"

### Contact the Career Center:

Phone: 920-832-6561

Email: [careercenter@lawrence.edu](mailto:careercenter@lawrence.edu)

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# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 5 Spiritual & Religious Life

Spiritual life is about the connections that shape and sustain us in all areas of life. Every Lawrentian is invited to take part in spiritual and religious life, which is why you will find persons of similar, different, or no religious tradition in the Esch Hurvis Center, engaging spiritual practices and activities, and involved in our signature programs.

The [Center for Spiritual and Religious Life](#) is a welcoming place for curious, intentional, respectful engagement with persons of similar, different, or no religious tradition, and for quiet personal reflection and spiritual practice.



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# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 6 Residential Education

The office of [Residential Education and Housing](#) is part of the Division of Student Life. The residence hall staff works closely with the 1400 residents on campus and is comprised of student Community Advisors and professional Area Coordinators, who are all here to make sure your college experience is the best it can be.



# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 7 Diversity & Intercultural Center

The objective of the [Diversity and Intercultural Center](#) is to ensure a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students, specifically students from diverse backgrounds, to be able to thrive personally, socially, and academically at Lawrence University. This will be achieved through education, conversation, and celebrations that embrace culture and identity in oneself and others.



# Campus Resources and Support Services

## 8 I-House

[International House](#) (“I-House”) offers a great places for people to gather and have a good time. This space can be used to hold weekly meetings, casual reunions, or even some studying. I-House has a full kitchen, dining room, sitting room with a TV that can be used to watch some educational or fun stuff, and a living room!



Hours:  
9 A.M. – midnight daily



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# Adjusting to U.S. Culture

## Understanding Culture Shock

Moving to a new country is a life-changing experience. When you first arrive in the U.S. you will probably feel excited about all the new things happening around you. This period of your life can also feel overwhelming and will require a period of adjustment to adapt to the many changes taking place. The period of adjustment is commonly referred to as “culture shock.”

It includes the shock of a new environment, language, education and political system, meeting lots of new people, and learning the ways of a different country. Culture shock is entirely normal, and it usually affects everyone who moves to a new country for the first time. Actually, there are benefits to experiencing culture shock. It can be a significant learning experience because it increases your awareness of your own culture while also giving you a better understanding of the new culture. Experiencing a new culture will give you valuable skills such as cultural awareness and sensitivity among others, which will serve you in many ways in your personal and professional future.

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# Adjusting to U.S. Culture



## Understanding Culture Shock: Stages of Adjustment

### Stage one: Cultural Euphoria

At the start of your [experience] there is an initial excitement about being in a new culture. This is often called the "honeymoon stage." Everything is new and wonderful, and you are eager to explore it all. This phase seems pleasant enough, but there are some drawbacks involved. You tend to see the culture through rose-colored glasses, and your interpretations aren't necessarily realistic.

### Stage two: Cultural Confrontation

In the next stage, the initial excitement you felt when you arrived diminishes and the process of cultural adjustment begins. This stage is typically characterized by confusion and frustration and, as such, is the most difficult stage. Your feelings can shift from very positive to extremely negative. You may view both the home and host cultures in unrealistic terms; one is superior while the other is lacking. This is because everything that you used to do with relative ease in your home country appears much more difficult due to the culture and/or the language. Homesickness may also contribute to your feelings of discomfort. You feel discouraged and begin to doubt whether you can learn the language or adjust to the culture.

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# Adjusting to U.S. Culture

## Understanding Culture Shock: Stages of Adjustment

### Stage three: Cultural Adjustment

This stage represents the transition out of culture shock into significant cultural adjustment. You feel increasingly comfortable and competent in the culture, and these feelings prevail over the times you have felt frustrated or out of place. Homesickness may still be an issue for you, but you are interacting more effectively with host nationals, leading to an increase in self-confidence

### Stage four: Cultural Adaptation

In this stage, you have reached a point at which you have a great deal of confidence in your ability to communicate and interact effectively. You have a deeper understanding of the influence culture has in peoples' lives. You have acquired considerable cultural knowledge, but you also recognize that there is much you still don't know or understand.

Check out this [website](#) for more information on Culture Shock.

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# Adjusting to U.S. Culture

## Tips to Help You Adjust

### Keep An Open Mind and Be Patient

Try not to make judgments about the way people in the U.S. do things, instead try to remain positive and accept people for who they are. Don't try to understand everything immediately. The process of adjusting to a new culture requires time. It may also require a different amount of time for different areas of adjustment. Try to remind yourself to be patient with this experience and not be overly critical of yourself.

### Utilize On-Campus Resources

The ISS staff consists of people from the U.S. who have studied abroad or lived abroad. We understand cultural adjustment because we have experienced it ourselves. If you are having a difficult time, please stop by the ISS office and speak with an advisor. You can also make an appointment with the counselors at Wellness Services to discuss cultural adjustment. Remember that you are not alone and we are always here to help!

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# Adjusting to U.S. Culture

## Tips to Help You Adjust

### Talk to Other Students & Do Not Isolate Yourself

The more people you know and activities you take part in, the more you will feel part of your new environment. In general, Wisconsinites are very accepting of people from other cultures and will be helpful if you approach them. Join clubs on campus, attend campus talks, meet as many people as you can, and really make yourself part of the community. Also, talk to other international students and share your experiences with them. It is most likely that they are having similar experiences and could offer advice on how to adjust.

### Keep In Contact With Friends & Family Back Home

Technology like video chats, phone and email are great resources for keeping in contact with your friends and family back home. Your friends and family understand you, and will be able to provide you with encouragement and support to help you through difficult times. They'll also be there to help you celebrate the good times.

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# Adjusting to U.S. Culture



## American Food

The term “American cuisine” may bring to mind hamburgers and fries, but in reality, American food culture is as varied as its [diverse population](#), with nearly every ethnicity represented in restaurants, supermarkets, and specialty grocers.

The food culture in America may be very different from what you are used to, and in your first few months, you may miss the taste of home. While you can always find familiar comfort food at restaurants in and around your city, it is important to consider that it most likely will taste very different than what you’re used to, and you might not like it at first.

At Lawrence University, we do our best to adapt to specific dietary needs and offer a well-balanced diet for students, but please understand that the food might not live up to your standards.

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# Adjusting to U.S. Culture

## Advice from Current International Students

“Get out of your comfort zone! Make and hang out with new friends that are not from your country. This can not only give you a chance to adapt to a new environment more easily, but also gain a lot of new cultural experiences and memories.”

Cassie Lee '24

“Intramural and open gyms are a great, low-stake environment to bond with a lot of people. Always be open to make new friends/acquaintances!”

Subin Han '25

“It was quite hard for me to find clothings that fit my size and style in the US. I would recommend to bring clothes that you like from your home. Bring some food too!”

Hanbi Lee '24

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# Employment



## F-1 Student Employment

### On-Campus Employment

While international students have limitations on where and how much you can work, there are many opportunities for employment. F-1 students are allowed to work up to 20 hours per week on campus (40 hours during breaks), beginning as soon as your studies begin.

You will need to get a social security number (more info on page 32).

### CPT (Curricular Practical Training)

**Curricular Practical Training (CPT)** is employment which is an integral part of the students' established curriculum. It is available to F-1 students who have been lawfully enrolled as a student on a full-time basis for at least nine consecutive months. Students who have maintained their student status may be authorized to engage in off-campus employment for no more than 20 hours per week while school is in session, and over 20 hours a week during holidays and school breaks.



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# Employment



## F-1 Student Employment

### OPT (Optional Practical Training)

**Optional Practical Training (OPT)** is temporary employment in the student's field of study for the purpose of gaining practical experience. Students who have been in F-1 status for at least nine consecutive months are eligible for Optional Practical Training.

F-1 visa students are allowed 12 months of OPT for each degree program. Students may engage in OPT for 12 months after the completion of their program. Students should ask the International Student Advisor regarding details for application procedures.

Under NO circumstances should a student begin working off-campus (which includes Curricular Practical Training and Optional Practical Training) before speaking with the International Student Advisor and completing and filing the required DHS forms.

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# Employment



## J-1 Student Employment

A J-1 student may be authorized to work up to 20 hours per week during the academic year and full time during summer and official University holiday breaks for on-campus employment.

### Academic Training

Academic training is the name the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program uses for employment training or practical experience related to your field of study. It is fairly flexible and offers a variety of paid and unpaid, full-time or part-time, training or employment situations, with one or more employers, to supplement your academic program in the U.S.

Academic training is available at any stage of your academic program, either while you are enrolled in school or after you complete your academic program, as long as you maintain valid J-1 status, follow the appropriate application and approval procedures, and stay within the stated time limits.

If you are considering academic training, your authorization must be processed before your official academic program completion date. In addition, the academic training/employment must begin within the first 30 days after the official academic program completion date.

**Schedule a meeting with ISS for more information on Academic Training.**



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# Employment



## Social Security Number

To apply for a Social Security Number (SSN), an F-1 student must have off-campus work authorization (CPT or OPT) or an offer of on-campus employment. Students who wish to obtain a social security number will need to bring the following documents to their local Social Security Administration Office:

### CPT or OPT

Application for Social Security number – Obtain this by visiting the Social Security Administration Office in person, or by going online to <https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf> and downloading the application form.

- Passport
- Most Recent I-94 Record; visit <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94> to get your most recent I-94
- Your I-20 with CPT work authorization OR your Employment Authorization Document



# Employment



## Social Security Number

### On-Campus Job

Application for Social Security number – Obtain this by visiting the Social Security Administration Office in person, or by going online to <https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf> and downloading the application form.

- Passport
- Most Recent I-94 Record; visit <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94> to get your most recent I-94
- Your most recent I-20
- Job Offer that includes:
  - Full name
  - Department you are working for
  - Job title and pay rate
  - Start date
  - Number of hours working per week
- Support letter from the Student Service Center.  
Please ask ISS for this as soon as you get your job offer. Allow 5 business days for processing



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# Employment



## Social Security Number

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Do I need an SSN for any job?**

You will need a SSN to get paid for your job, so any paid CPT, OPT, or On Campus job will require you to get an SSN.

#### **Can I start working before I get my SSN?**

This depends on your employer. You will not violate your immigration status as long as you've applied for the number and can show proof of that. However, since SSNs are used to report wages to the Federal Government, some employers may make you wait until you get your SSN to begin working. You should be sure to verify this prior to starting.

#### **How long does the process take?**

It usually takes two to three weeks from the time you apply.

#### **Do I need an SSN to get a driver's license?**

No. An SSN is not required to obtain a Wisconsin driver's permit or license. However, you will need a denial letter from the Social Security Administration in lieu of an SSN. To get this, you would still have to visit the Social Security Administration Office.

#### **Where is the nearest Social Security Office?**

The closest office is located in Appleton 607 W Northland Ave, Appleton, WI 54911.

Visit [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) for the most up to date hours.

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# Employment



## Taxes

### Why File Tax Return

–All international students are required to file a tax return annually as a condition of their visa.

### Federal Tax

–All international students must file a federal tax return, even if they did not receive income in the calendar year.

### Wisconsin State Tax

–You do not need to file a Wisconsin state tax form if you earned less than \$ 2,000 in Wisconsin regardless of the amount covered by a potential treaty.

–Wisconsin Form 1NPR is used for both non-resident alien or resident alien for tax purposes.

### Deadlines

–Federal forms must be completed and postmarked by April 15th.

–Wisconsin forms must be electronically filed by April 15th.

**ISS will hold a tax information session during Winter Term!**

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# Employment



## Banking

We recommend you do not carry large amounts of cash on you while traveling or living in the United States, in case it is lost or stolen. Most Americans carry little cash with them (\$10 - \$50), and do most of their shopping by credit card or debit card. There are, however, a number of situations in which only cash is accepted, such as some fast food restaurants or taxi cabs, so most Americans also carry an ATM (Automatic Teller Machine) card, which allows them quick access to cash from ATM machines. Until you are able to open a bank account in the U.S., it is recommended that you use travel card and/or a credit card.

- **Debit cards** can be used like a credit card but the funds are drawn directly from your local checking account. You will receive a debit card when you open a checking account.
- **Credit cards** can be used to purchase items at most stores, restaurants, travel agents, and on-line retailers. You will get a bill for all your purchases at the end of the month, which you will then have to pay. It will be almost impossible to get a credit card from a U.S. bank if you do not have a permanent U.S. residence. You can have your credit card published in your country and use it in U.S. In that case, it would be strongly recommended that the card is VISA, Master Card or other major international credit card companies.

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# Employment



## Banking

### Types of Bank Accounts

You will need to keep your money in a secure bank account that you can access easily while you are in the United States. Do NOT keep large sums of money (more than \$50.00) in your room. One of the most convenient solutions for many students is to open a bank account at a local bank while you are in the United States. There are a couple of types of bank accounts available to you:

- **Savings accounts** are usually free of charge. Once you deposit your money in a savings account, you can access it by visiting the bank during business hours or withdrawing it from an ATM (automated teller machine) 24 hours/day. Most savings accounts also pay you a small amount of interest on the money you have deposited. Most stores will also allow you to use your debit card (ATM card) at the checkout to pay for your purchase directly from your savings account.
- **Checking accounts** may cost a couple of dollars each month, but these accounts allow you to write checks to pay for purchases at most retail stores, even those that do not accept a debit card. In addition, you can also withdraw funds at the bank, via ATM, or by debit card at store checkout, just like a savings account.
- **Safety deposit boxes** can be rented for a small monthly charge at any bank. This is a good place to store any valuables that you have brought with you, including your passport.



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# Employment



## Banking

### Opening a Bank Account

ISS will plan a trip to the bank during orientation for international students to open a bank account

You will need two forms of picture identification, usually your passport and your Lawrence ID card, to open a local bank account. You will also need to know your residence hall address. At the services fair during Welcome Week, you will be able to talk to representatives from a few area banks and to open an account right away. It is recommended that you compare services, prices, and ATM locations for a couple of banks before deciding which one will work best for you.

### Banks Near Campus

#### US Bank

200 N Durkee St,  
Appleton, WI 54911  
Phone: +19207337373

#### Chase Bank

200 W College Ave,  
Appleton, WI 54911  
Phone: +19207351497

#### Wells Fargo Bank

118 S State St,  
Appleton, WI 54911  
Phone: +19207492500



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# Life in Appleton, WI



## Transportation

### LU Shuttle

- The LUCC Student Welfare Committee manages a shuttle service that connects students to commonly visited stores around town. There is a revised schedule during week six and finals week.
- The campus pickups are located at the Wriston Turnaround, the Banta Bowl, and 1025 E. South River Street across from Alexander Gym.
  - Monday, Wednesday, (5pm) – Walmart
  - Tuesday, Thursday (5pm) – Woodman's
  - Friday (5pm) – The Mall
  - Store pickup times: 6:15pm
  - More info: <https://www.lawrence.edu/offices/student-life/student-transportation>

### Uber & Lyft

- Uber and Lyft are two of the most common apps used in all states for rides.
- You can simply pay through the app with your credit/debit card, without any cash needed.
- If you are arriving in Appleton at midnight, you can also book your ride beforehand.

### Valley Transit

- Lawrence students can ride Valley Transit buses for free with their student ID.
- With 18 bus routes, students can go to Fox Cities including Appleton, Buchanan, Fox Crossing, Grand Chute, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Menasha, and Neenah.
- To learn more, visit [myvalleytransit.com](http://myvalleytransit.com).



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# Life in Appleton, WI



## Climate

### Fall Term

- For few weeks in September, it will be quite warm during daytime and a little chilly at night.
- It will start to get colder from October and November.

### Winter Term

- IT'S WINTER!!!
- You will get to experience the coldest winter in your life during January and February.
- Starting from March, you will feel the spring is coming, but it might still snow from time to time.

### Spring Term

- It will really start to get warmer from April, but still chilly at night.
- From May and June, it will be very warm and sometimes hot during the daytime.

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# Life in Appleton, WI



## Restaurants 10-20 min walk from campus

### Asian

Bowl 91 (\$10-20) - Ramen & signature dishes

Mai's Deli (\$10-20) - Pad Thai, pho & other Southeast Asian staples

Sushi Lover (\$20-30) - All you can eat sushi place

Katsu-Ya (\$30-50) - Sushi rolls & traditional hibachi grill

### Other

Toppers (\$10-20) - Pizzeria chain with wings

Lindo (\$10-20) - Authentic Mexican restaurant

## Grocery Stores

### Woodman's Food Market

- 15 min by car

### Walmart Supercenter

- 955 N, 955 Mutual Way, Appleton, WI 54913 - 20 min by car
- 3701 E Calumet St, Appleton, WI 54915 - 10 min by car

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# Life in Appleton, WI



## Things To Do

### Entertainment

- Sabre Lanes - Bowling, a pizza parlor & a full bar.
- Escape Room Wisconsin - Immersive adventure game in which people are placed in a heavily themed or decorated room
- Marcus Valley Grand Cinema

### Shopping

- Fox River Mall - Shopping center offering premium shopping, dining, and entertainment

### Downtown Market

- Downtown Appleton Farm Market (Jun 1 - Oct 12, 2024)
  - Visit 100+ local vendors along College Avenue selling locally grown produce, handcrafted items, baked goods, flowers, and so more!
- Oktoberfest (Sep 24, 2024)
  - Music starts as early as 9 a.m., along with Arts and Crafts and the Family Fun Area.

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# Life at Lawrence



## On-Campus Living

- When picking a dorm, it's key to know how close it is to your classes. Take a look at the [map](#) to see where your dorm is in relation to where you'll be spending most of your time.
- Freshman Dorms
  - Kohler
    - Kohler stands out as the sole substance-free residence hall on campus, offering a tranquil living atmosphere. Its towering structure makes it one of the tallest dormitories for those seeking higher living spaces. Additionally, Kohler features recently renovated bathrooms, enhancing the overall living experience.
  - Colman
    - Colman has sinks in each room, as well as a spacious main lounge with a piano, and a projector screening various movies. Additionally, Colman houses the Panhellenic Wing, serving as the hub for campus sororities' chapter rooms.
  - Trevor
    - Located on the outskirts of the campus, Trevor hall maintains proximity to the Campus Center. It offers wonderful views of the river, with a scenic nature trail located directly behind the dormitory.



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# Life at Lawrence

## On-Campus Living



- Upper Classmen Dorms
  - Brokaw
    - Brokaw has a few larger single rooms, with a convenient parking lot next to the building. This older establishment sits in close proximity to College Avenue, providing convenient access to downtown coffee shops and centers.
  - Ormsby
    - Ormsby, being one of the older dormitories, features rooms with elevated ceilings. During Lawrence's Winter Carnival, the green space in front of the dorm transforms into Ormsby Lake, adding to the festive atmosphere.
  - Sage Hall
    - Sage Hall holds a prime location at the heart of the campus, next to the Warch Campus Center, which is quite convenient during the Winter term. Additionally, Sage has a spacious basement that serves as an ideal spot for studying and hosting events.
  - Plantz
    - Plantz Hall stands as the sole residence hall adjacent to the Conservatory (also referred to as the Con), making it a favored choice among Con students. Nevertheless, it accommodates a diverse mix of students from the College as well. Positioned across the street from the campus, Plantz Hall is the farthest from all other dormitories and buildings.



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# Life at Lawrence

## On-Campus Living



- Plantz
  - Plantz Hall stands as the sole residence hall adjacent to the Conservatory (also referred to as the Con), making it favored choice among Con students. Nevertheless, it accommodates a diverse mix of students from the College as well. Positioned across the street from the campus, Plantz Hall is the farthest from all other dormitories and buildings.
- Hiatt Hall
  - Hiatt is one of the most desirable dormitories . It provides accommodation options including singles, doubles, and quads. Each quad unit features two bathrooms, a living area, and two bedrooms. There are several communal spaces available for group study sessions, socializing with friends, and various other activities.
- Small Residencies
  - Small residences offer students a more independent experience living in a house or apartment-style unit.
  - There are three small residences to choose from:
    - Draheim - A house with 27 beds; an all women's living space
    - Big Exec - 16 apartment style units with bathrooms, living room, and kitchenette in each unit
    - Small Exec - 7 apartment style units with bathrooms, living room, and kitchenette in each unit



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# Life at Lawrence

## On-Campus Living



- Group Housing
  - Art House
  - Gaming House
  - Sankofa
  - SLUG
  - WLFM
  - LGBTQ+ Alliance
  - Greenfire - (Elvira Loft)
  - Sinfonia - (Mary Loft)
  - Baking and Cooking Club - (Henry Loft)
  - Co-Op - (Elihu Loft)
  - LU Recess - (Mary Cleggett Vanderhoop Loft)
  - Delta Tau Delta
  - Beta Theta Pi
  - Sigma Phi Epsilon

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# Life at Lawrence

## On-Campus Dining



### **Andrew Commons**

Andrew Commons accepts meal swipes and Viking Gold, providing unlimited dining opportunities within the facility. Patrons can enjoy as much food as they desire during their visit. Additionally, meals are available for take-out using a swipe, with Greenware containers being provided and encouraged for this purpose. Upon returning a Greenware container, you can receive a clean one during your next swipe.

For those unable to attend regular dinner hours, Lawrence now offers meal equivalency Monday through Friday, from 7:30-9 pm, at Kaplan's Café. Simply swipe your card for a predetermined meal; no additional Culinary Cash or Viking Gold is required.

### **Kaplan's Café**

The Café welcomes payment via Culinary Cash, Viking Gold, or credit card. Mobile ordering for Café items is facilitated through the BOOST app. Additionally, if you miss dinner hours at Andrew Commons, you can utilize your dinner meal swipe to acquire a predetermined meal from 7:30-9 pm.

### **Kate's Corner Store**

Culinary Cash (for food items), Viking Gold, or a credit card can be used at Kate's Corner Store.

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# Life at Lawrence

## On-Campus Dining



- **Standard Meal Plans**

- **Option One:**

- 19 Meal Swipes + \$125 Culinary Cash (\$1,952/term)
- Best option if you plan to eat all main meals in Andrew Commons. Increased meal patronage in Andrew Commons is best for students with dietary restrictions or food allergies.

- **Option Two:**

- 14 Meal Swipes + \$250 Culinary Cash (\$1,895/term)
- This is the base meal plan. Default for first-year students, unless you request to switch to Option 1. This meal plan represents the best value for most students.

- **Option Three:**

- 9 Meal Swipes + \$350 Culinary Cash (\$1,882/term)
- Best option if you cannot make it to Andrew Commons during regular meal service hours, or if you plan to eat most of your meals in The Cafè. This plan provides approximate equivalent of one meal per day in Andrew

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# Life at Lawrence

## Getting Involved (Clubs & Orgs)

Lawrence has many diverse student organizations that cater to all types of students. Check out the full list of student orgs here: <https://www.lawrence.edu/life-lawrence/get-involved/clubs-organizations>

### Highlighted in bold are popular clubs for International Students

- **Lawrence International (LI)**
  - Lawrence International endeavors to raise awareness and promote the integration of international cultures within the Lawrence and Fox Cities communities. Key contributors to the club's goals include both international and domestic students, who aid LI in fostering community, enhancing camaraderie, presenting diverse cultures, and exposing members to global affairs and customs.
- **Pan-Asian Organization (PAO)**
  - PAO aims to create a supportive and empowering network for individuals within the Asian & Pacific Islander community while also assisting and uplifting fellow student organizations. They achieve these goals through platforms such as educational events, collaborative work, and discussion forums. Everyone is welcome to join their organization as they strive to foster a more inclusive community on campus.
- **Korean Culture Club**
  - Experience Korean culture through entertainment and food
- **Chinese Students Association**
  - Chinese Students Association invites Chinese students and everyone who are interested and want to know more about Chinese culture and languages, to get involved and enjoy the events.

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# Life at Lawrence



## Getting Involved (Clubs & Orgs cont.)

- **Japanese Culture Exchange Club (JCEC)**
  - To provide a platform for sharing and exchanging the old and new of Japanese culture and wisdom to make every-day life a little better than good.
- **Alianza**
  - an organization open to everyone focused on bringing awareness to the social/political issues Latinx students face both on campus and in the world through educational workshops, and events. They consider themselves a support group on this campus, where Latinx students can meet to discuss and express ideas, concerns, and issues related to their culture and identity as students and Latinxs.
- **Black Student Union (BSU)**
  - Black Student Union is an organization committed to promoting cultural diversity and unity. They focus on creating a sense of belonging for their members and educating the wider campus on issues of social justice, mainly concerning minorities. Although their focus is social activism and addressing political, economic, and social issues that affect ethnic minorities, they welcome any Lawrence student regardless of sex, religion, or race.
- **Committee on Diversity Affairs (CODA)**
  - CODA represents all student identities, particularly those underrepresented, in LUCC and the broader Lawrence governance process. CODA supports diversity-focused organizations on campus, promoting their events and interests while addressing instances of injustice, actively seeking the concerns of underrepresented groups and striving to resolve them.

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# Life at Lawrence



## Friendship Family Program

### What is it?

For international students only, the Friendship Family Program aims to enhance the Lawrence experience for international students by pairing an international student with an American family and encouraging their involvement in the local community. Additionally, it offers an informal opportunity to immerse themselves in American family life, culture, and traditions.

### Why Join?

The Friendship Family Program offers a mutually beneficial opportunity for international students at Lawrence University and families in Appleton. Engage in cultural exchange, fostering a deeper understanding of each other's backgrounds while providing a familial bond for those distant from their homes.

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# Life at Lawrence



## Friendship Family Program

### How Do I Join?

To join, simply visit Lawrence's website and follow this [link](#).

Upon arrival, you'll encounter two choices: Option 1) Family or Option 2) Student. Once you've determined your category, you'll proceed to fill out a form. This will help us gather the necessary information to match you with the most suitable family.

The rest is up to us!