



**FARMINGDALE  
STATE COLLEGE**

#BeARAM



**Pre-Arrival Information**

**Office of International Education and Programs**

# Welcome

The International Services Team is thrilled to have you join our community of international students.

This presentation will prepare you for the upcoming Spring semester. Please also reference Preparing for Departure and Arriving in the U.S. information on our [website](#).

# EMAIL SET UP

- Your Farmingdale email account is the primary way the campus will communicate with you. Check your Farmingdale email regularly.
- Click [here](#) for set up instructions.

# Academic Advisement/Registration

- Your Academic Advisement/Registration information is on your [FSC RAM Portal](#). You can find this under your checklist items. Please note, you cannot be registered for classes until you have submitted your required health forms to Health and Wellness.
- Use the [Advisement Tool](#) to ensure which department you should contact for academic advisement and registration.
- Reference [Maintaining F-1 Student Status](#) on our website for enrollment requirements.

## Spring 2025 Important registration dates

- **The Last Day to Register for a Spring course is** Thursday, Jan. 23
- **Spring Classes Begin on** Monday, Jan. 27
- **The Last Day to make an In-Person Schedule Change is** Friday, Jan. 31 at 5pm

# Paying Your Tuition Bill

- Tuition payments can be made through [Flywire](#), an international payment service.
- Visit the [Student Accounts](#) webpage for instructions on paying your tuition bill and the billing payment due date.
- Here is the link to the payment instructions page. Please continue to check this link for updates.  
<https://www.farmingdale.edu/student-financial-services/student-accounts/forms.shtml>

# Student ID and Parking Permit

- To obtain a student ID card, bring a copy of your academic schedule or paid tuition bill to University Police. Resident students can get a student ID card one week prior to move-in day. Commuter students can get their ID card during the first week of classes.
- Students that will be driving to campus need to purchase a parking pass for their vehicle. Purchase a parking permit at [University Police](#).

# For Students Living on Campus

- **Residence Hall Move-In starts on Sunday January 26, 2025**
- If you need on-campus housing complete the Housing Application on your RAM portal.
- To move into the Residence Halls, you must be registered for classes and have a paid tuition bill. If you do not have a schedule or your tuition bill is unpaid, you may lose your room assignment and be placed on a waiting list.
- Students living on campus must also be medically cleared by the Health and Wellness Center. To verify that you are medically cleared email the Health and Wellness Center at [wellness@farmingdale.edu](mailto:wellness@farmingdale.edu) prior to the move in date.
- Click [here](#) for a Residence Life Packing List. In addition to the items not permitted to be used in the residential areas there are also items not approved for entry into the United States. A list can be found on the [U.S. Customs and Border Protection website](#).
- For additional information regarding living on-campus please visit the [Residence Life Handbook](#)

# SHOPS NEAR CAMPUS

FSC is walking distance from Target and a bus ride away from shopping malls.

- Target: 100 Willow Park Ctr, Farmingdale, NY 11735
- Walmart: 965 Broadhollow Rd, Farmingdale, NY 11735
- Walt Whitman Mall: 160 Walt Whitman Rd, Huntington Station, NY 11746

## Climate and Clothing

- On Long Island you will experience 4 seasons. Long Island has warm, humid summers and cold winters. Clothing made from light cotton is most comfortable for the summer. In the fall and spring, add heavier cotton and light woolens. Boots and winter coats will be needed for the colder months.



# International Student Health Insurance

- International Students are required to enroll in the SUNY approved Health Insurance Program.
- You will be automatically enrolled in health insurance each semester. The enrollment cost is added to your tuition bill.
- After enrollment, you will receive an email from United Health Care. This email will include coverage details, instructions on how to set up your account, how to access your membership ID card, and find health care providers. If you do not receive an email from United Health Care by the first day of classes contact the International Office.
- For information about United Health Care, go to [www.uhcsr.com](http://www.uhcsr.com) or visit the [health insurance](#) information page on our website.
- Before departing for the U.S. you may want to schedule a routine check up with your healthcare provider, eye doctor and dentist. Don't forget to pack your prescriptions and prescription medication. Special restrictions may exist for traveling with medication. See the [Transportation Security Administration](#) (TSA) website for information on traveling with prescription medications.

# Arriving to the U.S.

- Students issued an Initial I-20 or DS-2019 are allowed to enter the U.S. up to 30 days before the program start date printed on their I-20 or DS-2019. This is the earliest date you are allowed to enter the U.S.
- Students are required to arrive to the U.S. before their program start date.
- If you will not be arriving to the U.S. by your program start date, contact the international department.

# Traveling to the U.S.

- When you arrive at the port of entry, Customs and Boarder Patrol will ask to see your immigration documents. Carry the following documents with you in your carry-on bag, NOT in your checked bags:
  - Valid Passport With Your F-1 or J-1 Visa
  - I-20 or DS-2019 Form
  - Supporting documentation that you showed to the U.S. Embassy to obtain your visa. (Evidence of financial resources, admissions letter, receipt of the SEVIS fee payment)
- If the Customs and Boarder Patrol officer at the port of entry cannot verify your information or you do not have all the required documentation, you may be directed to an interview area known as “secondary inspection.”
- If you encounter difficulties at the port of entry and need assistance, contact the International Office, call 1.934.420.2479 during regular office hours (Monday-Friday 9am to 4pm EST). If you need to reach the college outside these times contact Farmingdale State College University Police at 1.934.420.2111.
- We suggest bringing about \$100 U.S. dollars with you in cash to pay for small expenses that can occur after your arrival.
- **Helpful Websites**
  - [US Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\) Entry and Exit FAQ](#)
  - [US Customs and Border Protection \(CBP\) Information for International Visitors](#)

# Traveling to Farmingdale State College

- Farmingdale State College is approximately 25 miles from JFK International Airport. Ample transportation is available from JFK International Airport. Visit the [transportation webpage](#) for a list of transportation providers that are permitted to serve JFK International Airport.
- If you plan to book a taxi or shuttle, you can reserve your airport transportation BEFORE you leave your home country to ensure that your chosen transportation method will be available upon arrival.
- All students must fill out and return the [Student Arrival Form](#) so we know when to expect you on campus. Submit this form to the International Office no later than Jan. 1st.
- Click [here](#) for additional information on how to get to Farmingdale State College

# Deferral or Cancellation

- If you are unable to arrive by the Program Start Date on your I-20 (for F-1 visa students) or DS-2019 (for J-1 visa students), contact the International Office immediately.
- A late arrival can jeopardize your entry to the U.S. Do not attempt to arrive to the U.S. after your program start date.

# F1 and J1 Student Orientation

**All initial (new), transfer and change of status students are required to attend International Student Orientation.** Orientation is hosted by the Office of International Education and Programs. During orientation you will check in with the International Student Advisor, learn about important immigration responsibilities as well as important aspects of your program and the resources available at the college.

F-1 Orientation is schedule on Friday, January 31, 2025 at 10am in Gleeson Hall Room 129

J-1 Orientation is schedule on Friday, January 31, 2025 at 1pm in Gleeson Hall Room 129

If you have a scheduling conflict please contact the International office.

# Contact Information

- Pre-arrival questions can be emailed to Jeannette Sinnott at [jeannette.sinnott@farmingdale.edu](mailto:jeannette.sinnott@farmingdale.edu)
- Important information can be found on the Office of International Education and Programs [website](#).
- FSC Emergency # - University Police +1 (934) 420-2111
- Office of International Education and Programs +1 (934) 420-2479, [international@farmingdale.edu](mailto:international@farmingdale.edu)