# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Letter</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet the International Student &amp; Scholar Services Staff</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior to Your Arrival at Trinity</td>
<td>5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Immigration Documents and Fees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtaining an F-1 Student Visa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canceling your Plans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement Exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>After Entry into the United States</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form I-94</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information for Transfer Students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arriving in San Antonio</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New International Student Move-in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Student Orientation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Student Orientation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Information</strong></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Orientation Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading TUgether</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transportation Options</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TU Shopping Shuttle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transportation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moving-In</strong></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestions on what to pack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advising and Registration</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Registration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity E-mail Account</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managing Your Money</strong></td>
<td>13-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying Tuition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiger Card</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal Plans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>On-Campus Housing</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Campus Employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Campus Employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Services</strong></td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Involvement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Care and Insurance</strong></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information for Families</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Useful Resources</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of Trinity International Students (FTIS) program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Outreach</strong></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring San Antonio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Departure Checklist</strong></td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trinity Facts</strong></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome to Trinity!

Dear Trinity International Student:

Congratulations on your admission to Trinity University!

Planning your future at Trinity is an exciting and challenging process. We too have studied and lived abroad, so we know how you are feeling right now. The staff in the International Programs Office is experienced with the special issues you will face living and studying in a new country, and we are happy to help you during your studies at Trinity University.

Some of the services provided by our office include:

- Advising on the visa application process and immigration issues
- An International Student Orientation program and International Student Orientation course
- International programming- a chance for you to share your culture and learn about the United States of America
- A liaison between foreign embassies and governments in the event of an emergency
- Students’ primary source of assistance and providing a home away from home

You have many arrangements to make in preparation for your upcoming adventure. We hope this handbook will help you and your family to understand what is ahead.

We are looking forward to meeting you and helping you to become part of our global Trinity Family.

Best wishes,

Bob Seese
Assistant Director

Stephanie Herzog
International Student and Scholar Advisor
International Programs Office, International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS)

Phone: +1-210-999-7313  Fax: +1-210-999-7305
Email: isss@trinity.edu  Web: gotu.us/iss
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/trinityisss
Skype: iss0101
Mailing Address: Trinity University, Box #100
One Trinity Place, San Antonio, TX, USA 78212
Physical Office: Halsell Center, Room 330 (Third floor)

Meet the Trinity International Student and Scholar Services Office (ISSS) Staff:

Nanette Le Coat, Ph.D.
Director, International Programs
Phone: +1-210-999-7550
Email: nlecoat@trinity.edu

Ms. Alma Carrillo
Senior Secretary
Phone: +1-210-999-7313
Email: acarrill@trinity.edu

Dr. Robert Seese (Bob)
Assistant Director
International Student and Scholar Services
Phone: +1-210-999-7505
Email: rseese@trinity.edu

Ms. Stephanie Herzog
International Student and Scholar Services Advisor
Phone: +1-210-999-8853
Email: sherzog@trinity.edu

During the summer you will be contacted by our Trinity International Student Orientation (ISO) Coordinators, who will send you helpful information and reminders, and who will answer any questions that you may have prior to arriving on campus. They look forward to meeting you in-person at the orientation in August!

You can discover more about our ISO Coordinators here: https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students-0/iso
Prior to Arrival...

Required Immigration Documents & Fees

To enter the United States as an F-1 student, you must have the following documents:

- **Passport**: valid for at least 6 months beyond the end of your stay
- **I-20**: signed by a Designated School Official (DSO). (Your I-20 is mailed to you by ISSS after adequate proof of financial support is received, prior to your arrival.)
- **F-1 Visa**: please refer to: [http://tinyurl.com/kq29hos](http://tinyurl.com/kq29hos) for detailed information and procedures
- **Proof of financial support**: [http://goo.gl/K3gvta](http://goo.gl/K3gvta)

**Obtaining a Visa:**

**Type: F-1 Student Visa**

**Required Documents** in order to obtain an F-1 Visa:

- Signed I-20A-B, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Status Students
- SEVIS fee receipt
- MRV fee receipt
- Completed Application: Nonimmigrant Visa Applicant, Form DS-160
- Some applicants are required to complete the form DS-157
- Interview at the US embassy
- Passport, valid for at least six months after proposed date of entry to the U.S.
- One 2x2 passport-style photograph

Specific questions about the appointment should be directed to your local U.S. Embassy/Consulate!

**Additional Documents:**

- Transcripts and Diploma
- Scores from standardized tests (i.e. TOEFL, SAT, etc.)
- Financial Evidence (i.e. tax documents, bank statements, licenses)
- Scholarship Award letter from Trinity University (if any)

For earlier entry into the U.S. please refer to [http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/)
No Longer Planning to Attend Trinity University?

If your plans change and you will not be attending Trinity University, or if you have to defer your enrollment to a later date, it is imperative to immediately contact the Office of Admissions (admissions@trinity.edu) as well as the International Student and Scholar Services Office (isss@trinity.edu).

Please note that you will not be able to use the visa stamp you obtained to attend Trinity University to attend any other U.S. college or university.

Placement Exams:


Placement exams help place you in the correct course level in certain areas of study. Not all placement exams are required, especially if you already have college credit on your academic transcript in a relevant area.

The information below details when exams are taken and the website above provides information as to who needs to take each exam.

Prior to arriving at Trinity:

- Math Placement Exam
- Chemistry Placement Exam

During New Student Orientation (NSO):

- Language Placement Exam
  (not for English as a second language!)

After New Student Orientation (NSO):

- Information Technology Skills Assessment
After Entry to the United States:

**Your Electronic I-94 Record:**

Complete and Print the I-94 electronic application at [https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/request.html](https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/request.html). Please safeguard this form as it contains the official record of your stay, the visa classification you are given, and the length of time you may stay.

**Information for Transfer Students:**

*Transfer F-1 students*: If you are currently on F-1 student status/visa attending another institution in the United States and plan to transfer your SEVIS record to Trinity University, you will need to contact the international office at your current institution for the proper procedural information. Please ask one of your current immigration advisors to fill out a “Transfer Certification” form that must be completed by the “Transfer Out” institution.

The Trinity University school code (including 3-digit suffix) for SEVIS is: **SNA214F00441000**.

The Trinity ISSS Transfer form can be accessed online at: [http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/ISSS/Transfer%20Report%20fillable%20version.pdf](http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/ISSS/Transfer%20Report%20fillable%20version.pdf)

The Trinity University school code (including 3-digit suffix) for SEVIS is: **SNA214F00441000**.

More information for new international students can be found on the ISSS website at: [https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students](https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students)
ARRIVING IN SAN ANTONIO

If you arrive in San Antonio before the official arrival day, AUGUST 18, 2015, you will need to find your own accommodation. Residence halls are not open until the arrival day. A list of San Antonio hotels can be found here: http://new.trinity.edu/about-trinity/san-antonio/lodging

Arrival Notification: Knowing your arrival plans allows us to better prepare. If you will require pick-up from the airport, please fill out our Arrival Notification Form (http://goo.gl/qzJoX2) at least two weeks prior to your arrival. This form will allow you to arrange for an airport pickup through the ISSS Office. This service is only offered for newly arrived students at the beginning of the school semester/year. Just fill out the arrival notification form with your flight information and we will arrange your pickup.

Moving-in: If you need to arrive in San Antonio earlier than your assigned residence hall move-in date, you will need to arrange a place to stay on your own, at your own expense. Residence Life information can be found online at: (http://new.trinity.edu/campus-life/residence-halls-dining). Please check in at the WITT Center when you arrive on campus. Visit Trinity University's Interactive Campus Map (http://www.trinity.edu/departments/public_relations/tour/mapPreloader.html) for directions.

International Student Orientation (ISO)

The first few days at Trinity University can be a truly exciting time. There will be many new students on campus like you, all dealing with feelings of anticipation mixed with some anxieties about how the first few months of study will go. During these first days, you may find yourself very busy getting organized and settling in. Your priorities may include letting your family at home know that you have arrived safely, becoming familiar with the campus, meeting new people, deciding on your academic program, and completing all administrative requirements so that your registration and enrollment are in order. Trinity’s orientation programs offer a perfect opportunity to attend campus social events planned specifically for new students, and to help ease the transition into Trinity campus life.

ISO is MANDATORY for all new students on non-immigrant visas.

It will give you an opportunity to:

- Be picked up from the San Antonio International Airport or Amtrak train station (if requested);
- Go on a shopping trip to allow you to buy items you may need;
- Check into your room, and obtain your student ID and room key;
- Meet fellow international students
- Attend an international student fair packed with important information;
- Attend a welcome reception for international students, family members, and academic advisors.

For the latest ISO schedule, visit: https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students-0

New Student Orientation (NSO)

New Student Orientation (NSO) is a week-long celebration of all things Trinity. It's designed to make you feel right at home as a member of the newest class of Tigers. NSO combines information, logistics, and fun to prepare you for a successful first semester at Trinity University. All incoming students participate in both required and optional events that enhance their social and academic development.

ATTENDANCE AT NSO is MANDATORY for all new students!

For the latest NSO schedule, visit: http://new.trinity.edu/campus-life/first-year-experience/orientation
**Summer Reading:** Reading TUgether is a University-wide common reading program in which the entire campus community, including students, staff, faculty, and alumni, participate. Reading TUgether is comprised of three primary components -- the book, the annotated bibliography assignment, and the keynote lecture -- each serving as complements to the other in order to facilitate a deeper exploration of the book. This year, the selection is *The Circle* by Dave Eggers. (http://www.amazon.com/The-Circle-Dave-Eggers/dp/0345807294)

Eggers is the best-selling author and finalist for the National Book Award. The book depicts the story of one woman’s ambition and idealism. Quickly the story evolves into a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.

For more information, visit: [http://new.trinity.edu/campus-life/first-year-experience/orientation](http://new.trinity.edu/campus-life/first-year-experience/orientation)

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**International Student Orientation Course**

**MANDATORY:** International Student Orientation (INTL 1100) is a one-credit course designed to help new international students successfully adjust to Trinity University life. The class is only offered in the fall and provides:

- An overview of the U.S. higher education system, including basic student and faculty roles;
- A review of key academic differences with other educational systems from around the world;

An introduction to cultural adjustment and culture shock, including:

- American way of life;
- American perspective on time;
- Aspects of social life;
- Texas lifestyle;
- Residential issues;
- Review of laws and legal structures that affect immigration status and maintenance of your immigration status;
- SEVIS awareness;
- Employment on and off campus;
- Filing U.S. Taxes;
- Obtaining a social security card/number;
- Attending cultural events on and off campus;
- Provide assistance with obtaining:
  - Texas driver’s license or identification card;
  - Social Security card/number if (applicable);

Assignments may include readings, presentations, brief reports and essays, and interviews of students and staff members. This course is taught by the International Student & Scholar Services staff and is offered on a Pass/Fail basis. **Note:** This course is mandatory for all incoming international students and you will be pre-registered for it!

For more information, please visit: [https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students](https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/newtransfer-students)

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The largest groups of Trinity International Students come from Honduras, Mexico, Ecuador, South Korea, Colombia, Tanzania, and Vietnam
Transportation Options

TU Shopping Shuttle:
A FREE service available on select Saturdays throughout the academic year, offering transportation that departs directly from the Trinity campus, and will take students to a nearby store. For the current TU Shopping Shuttle schedule, please visit: http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/ISSS/Shopping%20Shuttle%20Flyer,%20print%20fit-to-page%201.pdf

B-Cycle:
A next-gen bike sharing system. BCycles are there when you want one and gone when you don’t. Just swipe your card, grab a bike, and get to where you’re going! https://sanantonio.bcycle.com

San Antonio Bikes:
Aims towards increasing the level of cycling and walking. Find bike path maps and more information here: http://www.sanantonio.gov/oep/Sabikes

VIA Bus Service:
The San Antonio public bus system http://www.viainfo.net/Ride/Default.aspx

Megabus:
Megabus.com is the first, low-cost, express bus service to offer city center-to-city center travel for as low as $1 via the Internet https://www.megabus.com/

Other San Antonio Transportation and Sight-seeing options can be found here: http://visitsanantonio.com/Browse-Book/Transportation
Moving-In!

Suggestions on What to Bring

- Computer/laptop
- Plug/converter (if applicable)
- Spare glasses or contact lenses
- Adequate clothing (including your traditional national attire for special occasions). The fall semester will be warm for the most part: shorts, dresses and flip-flops/sandals are usually worn. However, the weather will cool down in November/December, so bring jeans, boots, and a coat.
- Pictures, artifacts, music and other comfort items that remind you of home
- Spices that are typically used in your food at home that might not be available here
- Any specialty items that might not be available here (i.e. special hair products, locally made items)
- Flags or other cultural items from your home country that you can give as gifts or use to decorate your room

Medicine and Prescriptions for Medication

Please note that when you enter the United States, you must declare medications you are carrying on customs forms. Certain drugs may not be brought into the country. If you take prescription medicine on a regular basis, bring a sufficient supply and a copy of the prescription, written in English. If you depend on eyeglasses, it is a good idea to bring an extra pair, if possible, and a copy of your eyeglass prescription, written in English. In order to get glasses or contact lenses in the United States, you must have a prescription from an optometrist or ophthalmologist. If you do not bring a prescription from home, you will have to make an appointment with an eye doctor here and pay for a visit in order to get a prescription.

Cell (Mobile) Phones:
The most common mobile system in the US is CDMA, not GSM. Trinity University international students who have cell phones typically subscribe to a local T-Mobile, Sprint, AT&T, Verizon, Cricket, or Cingular plan. The cost of establishing and maintaining a cell phone in the USA is quite high. If you do not have a credit history in the U.S., you may be required to pay a deposit when opening a mobile phone account.

How and Where to Ship your Belongings:

If you want to ship items from overseas, please keep in mind that all shipped items must be cleared through U.S. customs at a U.S. port of entry. You can arrange to have a freight-forwarding company or customs broker take your baggage through the customs inspection and forward them to San Antonio, or you can take them through inspection yourself at the airport.

Prior to your arrival to Trinity, beginning in July, you can mail items to be held until your arrival in the Trinity mail center. The earliest students can ship your belongings to Trinity is July 1st. Before shipping it, please email ISSS so that we can get the student's mailbox number. The address to ship to would be: ATTN: Your Full Name ← (Student's name; no nicknames)

Trinity University
One Trinity Place
#________ ← (Student's Mailbox#)
San Antonio, TX 78212-7200

Capacity: there is no limit on how much can be sent to Trinity
Pick-up: After arriving in August, with TrinityID Card ready, students can bring it to the Mail Center in Prassel Parking Lot to get the packages.
Academic Advising and Class Registration

First Year International Students: Trinity University provides strong academic advising for all students and particularly supports a program for first-year students so that they receive considerable attention and assistance from their faculty advisors. Trinity professors, staff, and resident assistants work collaboratively to guide students through orientation, class schedules, and program decisions.

In the summer preceding enrollment in the fall:

First-year students receive the names of their faculty academic advisor and their student mentor. The student should expect correspondence from the faculty member in July or early August. Students will register for courses once they arrive on campus and have met with their advisors, during New Student Orientation (NSO).

Important: Be prepared for your advising session by reviewing the course listing and creating a tentative schedule!

For more information, please visit: http://new.trinity.edu/academics/academic-resources/advising

International Graduate Students: Graduate students’ advising is done by their department.

Student Identification (ID) Number: Your student identification number is the unique seven-digit number that starts with the number 0. This number is important and is assigned to you at the time of admission to Trinity University. You will use this number on most official documents, and it is also present on your Trinity student ID (Tiger Card).

Course Registration: Students register for classes through the Trinity University “Tiger Paws” system (https://tigerpaws.trinity.edu). For specific information about registering for classes in TigerPaws, please read through this document: http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/regr_docs/TigerPaws_Instructions.pdf

Email Account: Your Trinity e-mail address is very important. You will receive all communication through this e-mail address before arrival and while at Trinity University. It will most likely follow this format: <firstinitial><lastname>@trinity.edu.

Please contact the Information Technology Services (ITS) Helpdesk, Phone +1-210-999-7345, Fax: +1-210-999-8845 or via e-mail helpdesk@trinity.edu if you have any questions about account access.
Managing Your Money

It is very important that you carefully plan your budget to meet all your anticipated educational and personal expenses. The first few weeks can be the most expensive period as a number of items must be purchased and several one-time deposits are due at the start of the academic year. We recommend that you bring sufficient funds for those immediate expenses.

Paying Your University Expenses: 1. EACH STUDENT IS LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER SCHOOL EXPENSES. It is imperative that students and parents (when applicable) be aware of the cost of tuition, required fees, and room and board expense for the contract period, defined as the semester for which the student is enrolling.

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT IS COMPLETED ONLY UPON PAYMENT IN FULL OF SEMESTER EXPENSES or upon making satisfactory arrangements for a contract with educational lending organizations approved by Trinity University.

3. TRINITY HAS CONVERTED TO E-BILLING/E-PAY. Please go to payonline.trinity.edu to authorize users (parents, third party payers) to view your bill and to make a payment (electronic check-FREE or credit card - MC, DISC, Visa or AMEX). Credit card payments are subject to a non-refundable convenience fee of 2.75% based upon the dollar amount being charged with a $3 minimum. When paying online, complete the Additional Item selections and complete the payment. Completion of the billing and/or payment process equates to returning your completed bill to Student Accounts.

If you have any questions about the system, please send e-mail to: studentaccounts@trinity.edu.

For more information, please contact:

Office of Student Account Services
(Financial Aid)
Northrup Hall, 1st Floor
(210) 999-8898 (Phone)
(210) 999-8316 (Fax)
financialaid@trinity.edu

Trinity University also accepts payment by cash, check, or money order. Payment must be made in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank. You may make payment in person at the Office of Student Accounts in Northrup Hall. Your university ID number will appear on your E-Billing statement. To ensure that your payment is posted properly, please write this ID number on your check or money order if you use either of these methods of payment. Please do not send cash by mail. Stock transfers cannot be used as a form of payment.

To pay by overnight delivery or express mail, please use this address:
Trinity University/Student Accounts
One Trinity Place
San Antonio, TX 78212-7200

If you wish to pay by wire, please contact the Office of Student Accounts at (210) 999-7330, (210) 999-7391, Fax (210) 999-8094, or by e-mail to: studentaccounts@trinity.edu for wire transfer information. If you pay by wire, do not forget to go online and complete your Additional Item selections. Please be sure to include your full student name (first and last name) and your Trinity ID number. It is best to have your bank include this information in the first part of the wiring information so that we can properly apply your payment to your student account.

Textbooks:

Students should expect to spend between $450–600 per semester on books and educational supplies. You can purchase textbooks at the Trinity Bookstore (http://trinityuniv.bncollege.com), or through Amazon.com (http://www.amazon.com). However, you may also find cheaper options online at websites such as (www.textbooks.com) and (www.chegg.com).
**Tiger Card:** All Trinity University students are issued a Trinity University identification card upon their arrival on campus (known as a “Tiger Card”). Besides being used to purchase food on campus with your meal plan, the card can be charged with **Tiger Bucks**, which is money that can be used to buy books at the University Bookstore, pay for copies at all university computer labs, and for laundry and vending machines located all throughout the university. For a list of local restaurants and merchants who accept Tiger Bucks, visit: [http://iraa.trinity.edu/iraa/x1541.xml](http://iraa.trinity.edu/iraa/x1541.xml)

Tiger Bucks can be added on-campus at the Student Accounts office, at one of the three Transfer Value stations located on campus, or online at [http://web.trinity.edu/x62.xml](http://web.trinity.edu/x62.xml).

You may contact the TigerCard Office at: (210) 999-7825 or by email: [TigerCardOffice@Trinity.edu](mailto:TigerCardOffice@Trinity.edu)

**Meal Plans:** Meal plan options can be viewed at [http://web.trinity.edu/x9702.xml](http://web.trinity.edu/x9702.xml). Additional information is available here: [http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/student_affairs_docs/Dean_of_Students_docs/Choosing_the_right_meal_plan.pdf](http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/student_affairs_docs/Dean_of_Students_docs/Choosing_the_right_meal_plan.pdf)

Each meal plan contains a certain amount of **“Bonus Bucks”** which can be used to purchase food and drinks at various restaurants throughout the University.

**Taxes:** All internationals claiming a tax status of “Nonresident Alien” are required to file Form 8843. Included in this group are most internationals in F-1 status, and some international faculty or staff who began their H-1B previous year. In addition, all Nonresident Aliens who receive any sort of income - including tuition reductions, scholarships, fellowships, grants, stipends, salaries, wages, interest, dividends, etc. from US sources may be required to file tax returns with federal, state, and local governments. Filing federal income tax forms is the personal responsibility of each international student and a scholar. Staff members of the Business Office and International Programs at Trinity University are not trained as IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteers and therefore are not licensed or able to provide assistance.

The ISSS Office and Business Office will offer a Tax Preparation workshop in collaboration with H&R Block in the spring to answer any questions you may have about filing taxes.

For more information about taxes, please visit: [https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/current-students#Tax](https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/current-students#Tax)
On-Campus Housing

The Residential Life Office offers a developmental program tailored to the needs of the residents. Our mission is to share and promote the value of living on campus as an integral component of the Trinity educational experience, embracing the benefits of a caring, diverse, and dynamic community. Note: Trinity students are required to live on campus for the first 3 years.

Trinity University Provides:
- Carpeting (with the exception of Calvert 1st, Miller 1st and all of Witt-Winn)
- Closets
- Shower Curtain
- Smoke detectors
- Blinds or drapes
- Ethernet cable and wireless internet
- Overhead ceiling lights
- Extra-long twin beds in all residence halls
- Desks, chairs and bookshelves
- Dressers
- Nightstands in Beze, Calvert, Herndon, Lightner, McLean, Miller, Murchison, North, Prassel, South, and Thomas
- Telephone with voice mail and caller ID
- Air Conditioning/Heat
- Microfridge ® (refrigerator/ freezer/microwave combination unit)

You may not bring, nor acquire while here:
Alcohol, empty alcohol containers, or illegal drugs;
Microwave, refrigerator, toaster, or any cooking appliance with an exposed heating element;
Pets (except for fish);
Candles or incenses;
Firearms, weapons, or fireworks;

Suggested/Popular Items to Bring:
- Computer/laptop;
- Medicine and prescriptions;
- Plug converter and international phone cards
- Spices/favorite snacks

Suggested items to purchase upon arrival:
- Alarm clock;
- Television and stereo;
- Reading and bedside lamps;
- Pillows, blankets, and extra-long twin bed linens;
- Towels;
- Hair dryer;
- Toiletries;
- Posters, plants, pictures;
- Coffee maker;
- Laundry supplies, hangers, iron;
- Dry erase board;
- Storage containers;
- Surge protector, extension cords;
- Flashlight;
- School supplies

Tips on rooming with an American Student:
if you know you’ll be sharing a room with an American student, visit our website to read tips prepared by fellow international students Tips on living with an American Student: http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/International%20Forms/Tips%20on%20Rooming%20with%20International%20Student%20At%20Trinity.pdf

Please contact residential life about questions or comments related to campus housing at:

Residential Life Office
Witt Reception Center
One Trinity Place, #94
San Antonio, TX 78212-7200
Office: 210-999-7219
Fax: 210-999-7251
reslife@trinity.edu
Website: https://inside.trinity.edu/student-success/residential-life
On and Off-Campus Employment

On-Campus Employment for F-1 Visa Holders: Students may work part-time, defined as up to 20 hours per week, in institutional-funded positions (Please note that F-1 students do not qualify for federal work study positions) during the fall and spring semesters. Full-time employment, defined as more than 20 hours per week, is allowed during official university vacation periods and summer for enrolled and continuing students. No special permission to work on-campus is necessary, however a valid I-20 issued by Trinity University and a Social Security number issued by the Social Security Administration are required.

Finding a Job On Campus: Students interested in obtaining an institutional student position can check the Human Resources webpage for Institutional Student Worker Positions: http://web.trinity.edu/x9621.xml. Students can also contact individual departments on campus to see if they are hiring, including the Coates Library, the University Bookstore, the Center for Learning and Technology (CLT), Aramark, and many more. Don’t be shy to visit a department on campus and ask if they are hiring!

Once you find a job and are hired, please take the following steps listed on the Human Resources Student Employment Website: http://web.trinity.edu/x9613.xml in order to complete all necessary paperwork and learn how to get paid.

Obtaining Your Social Security Number:
Once a student has an offer of employment, he/she must apply for a social security number in order to obtain a social security card. For more information on this process, please view the information on this form: https://inside.trinity.edu/sites/inside.trinity.edu/files/file_attachments/3536/socialsecuritynumber.pdf. The ISSS Office will offer rides to the local Social Security Administration throughout each semester.

Off-Campus Employment:
The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has strict regulations about off-campus employment of international students, which requires prior authorization through advisors in the International Student and Scholar Services Office at Trinity University. Off-campus employment, except for cases of severe economic hardship, must be in the student’s field of study. Family dependents of students holding F-1 visas are not allowed to work under any circumstances.

Please contact the International Student and Scholar Services Office for more information about off-campus employment and immigration regulations. You can also find more information here: https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/international-students/current-students#Employment
Career Services: Career Services at Trinity is a comprehensive and centralized service that works with both students (from first-years to seniors) and alumni. Our office specializes in assisting students and alumni to evaluate their interests and skills, to set goals, and to research majors and occupations in light of interests, skills, and goals. For more information, please contact:
Career Services
Coates University Center
Suite 215
Office: 210-999-8321
Fax: 210-999-7493
careerservices@trinity.edu
Website: http://new.trinity.edu/campus-life/campus-services/career-services

Counseling Services: Trinity provides free counseling services to students to enhance the education of Trinity students by facilitating their personal and academic development. For more information, please contact:
Counseling Services
215 Coates University Center (above the bookstore)
One Trinity Place #85
San Antonio, TX 78212-7200
Office: 210-999-7411
Fax: 210-999-7848
Website: https://inside.trinity.edu/student-success/counseling-services

Student Involvement: Get Involved!
In an effort to support the mission of the Division of Student Life, we encourage students to participate fully in campus life. Our initiatives, programs, and events offer opportunities for personal growth and development that enrich the Trinity experience. Student Involvement is a student-friendly office where students can meet new people, learn new skills, and create lifelong campus memories. For more information, please contact:
Student Involvement Office
Coates University Center, West Wing, Suite 104
One Trinity Place
San Antonio, TX 78212-7200
Office: 210-999-7547
Fax: 210-999-7254
cci@trinity.edu
Website: http://new.trinity.edu/campus-life/getting-involved

Disability Services for Students: Guided by both the office's mission and federal law, Disability Services for Students (DSS) is dedicated to guaranteeing that students with disabilities have equal access to all aspects of Trinity's campus by providing them reasonable accommodations. DSS policies and procedures explain to students the process to request specific accommodations and describe how they are implemented. For more information, please contact the DSS Office at:

Disability Services for Students
Coates University Center,
Suite 215
One Trinity Place, #85
San Antonio, TX 78212-7200
Office: 210-999-7411
Fax: 210-999-7848
dss@trinity.edu
Website: https://inside.trinity.edu/student-success/disability-services-students

Student Success: Personalized guidance for your academic journey. Learn about our diverse student support services.

Offices and Centers:
- Student Success Office
- Career Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Involvement
- Disability Services for Students

Vector Tailor
Vector Tailor
Vector Tailor
Vector Tailor

Design and print
self-printing
business cards
and more!
The Mission of Trinity University Health Services is to provide nursing and medical care to enrolled students of Trinity University thereby enhancing the health of the Trinity community.

The Health Services nursing staff is available during walk-in-hours, 63 hours a week including Sunday, closed Saturday, to administer first aid, evaluate student illness and provide wellness services to assist our students in staying well. Most of our services are available to students without charge. The University Physician is available to students by appointment four days a week.

Health Records Requirement: Trinity students living on campus are REQUIRED to have a complete Health Record form on file. This includes a completed physical exam form as well as information regarding immunizations and health insurance coverage. Appropriate forms can be found online, here: https://inside.trinity.edu/student-success/health-services/health-record

Meningitis Vaccination Requirement: The Meningococcal Vaccine is required by Texas state law and must be administered at least 10 days before the first day of classes for all students under the age of 22. Plan to get this vaccine at home at least ten days before leaving for Trinity! If you do not submit proof of getting the vaccine or properly file an exemption you will not be permitted to register for or attend classes. More information on this vaccination is available online: https://inside.trinity.edu/sites/inside.trinity.edu/files/file_attachments/24/trinityu-meningitis-vaccine-guidelines-oct-13.pdf

Student Health Insurance: Trinity University requires all students, undergraduate and graduate, enrolled for nine or more semester hours or enrolled in a full-time graduate program to have current hospitalization and accident insurance. To comply with the mandatory health insurance requirement all students will be billed for annual coverage of the student health plan in July. If you have other personal health insurance and don’t want the student health plan you must submit an online insurance waiver annually. The waiver is available beginning in July through the end of add/drop, approximately 1 week after classes begin. A completed waiver allows you to decline coverage and have the charge removed. Instructions will accompany your university bill. If the waiver is not completed by the deadline you will be enrolled in the student health plan and the corresponding charge cannot be cancelled. Link to the waiver form: https://inside.trinity.edu/sites/inside.trinity.edu/files/file_attachments/27/trinityu-international-insurance-waiver.pdf

Contact Trinity Health Services:
Elizabeth Rhea Health Services
Myrtle McFarlin Residence Hall
One Trinity Place, #80
San Antonio, TX 78212-7200
Office: 210-999-8111
Fax: 210-999-8378
HealthServices@trinity.edu
Website: https://inside.trinity.edu/student-success/health-services
We are delighted that your son or daughter is coming to Trinity University! Below are some resources that you may find helpful in keeping in touch with Trinity University.

**Trinity University Main Website:**
http://new.trinity.edu/

**Trinity’s Parent’s Page:**
http://new.trinity.edu/current-parents-families

We invite you to subscribe to a listserv called **ParentTalk**. This listserv allows parents to exchange information, ask one another questions, share advice, etc. University staff will respond to questions and offer occasional updates. To subscribe, simply send a blank e-mail to: join-ParentTalk@lyris.its.trinity.edu

*Your subscription will generally be active within 24 to 48 hours. You will receive a confirmation when completed.*

**ParentTalk Website Link:**
http://web.trinity.edu/x6014.xml

**TrinitE Newsletter for Parents:**
http://www.trinity.edu/departments/student_affairs/parent_eletter/

**Send a Birthday Package through TU Campus Dining:**

**Parent’s Guide to Student Information and Confidentiality :**
http://web.trinity.edu/Documents/regr_docs/Parental_Access.pdf

**Student Consent to Release Educational Records:**

**How to Send Mail to Your Son/Daughter at Trinity:** Trinity University will assign your son/daughter a mail box number for all mail and packages during their stay.

Address will be in the following format:
First Name Last Name
Trinity University
One Trinity Place, Box # <####>
USEFUL RESOURCES

Visiting San Antonio: For a complete listing of area events, activities, and lodging, please visit the San Antonio Convention & Visitor's Bureau Website: http://visitsanantonio.com

Online Map of Trinity’s Campus: https://new.trinity.edu/about-trinity/campus/campus-map
Directions to Campus and Parking Information: https://new.trinity.edu/about-trinity/campus/directions-parking

INTERNATIONAL CLUB
The Trinity University International Club (IC) is a recognized student organization that provides Trinity's international and American students with a place to engage in activities that explain, promote, and celebrate their interests in international issues, cultures, religions, and heritages. For more information, visit the IC website: https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/life-trinity/international-club

FRIENDS OF TRINITY INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (FTIS) Program
FTIS is a non-residential family program for international students enrolled at Trinity University. Local families in the community will volunteer to host holiday meals and cultural outings during the year. Students who sign up for the program will be invited to these events and matched with local families looking to host international students for events such as a Thanksgiving dinner.

Please apply for the FTIS program here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1yTMuqqKLKkMXb01ky8pkN9PnuBICjFcttpC-zVeBgo/viewform

More information can be found here: https://inside.trinity.edu/offices/international-student-scholar-services/life-trinity/friends-trinity-international-students
International Outreach

**Mexico, the Americas, and Spain (MAS)** is a cultural program that draws on the rich Hispanic culture, and is supported by a critical mass of more than 30 faculty members across a spectrum of disciplines. This unique program seeks to train future leaders for involvement in the MAS world. It provides students with unparalleled opportunities for engagement with the language, life, and culture of Mexico, the Americas, and Spain.


**EAST: East Asian Studies at Trinity** is a multifaceted program that prepares students for life in the Pacific century. Through a combination of language training, in-country experiences, internships, and formal exchange programs, EAST grooms future leaders in business, government, science, and education to be comfortable and confident in the global environment.

[https://new.trinity.edu/academics/departments/east-east-asian-studies-trinity](https://new.trinity.edu/academics/departments/east-east-asian-studies-trinity)

**Study Abroad** is not about travel. It’s really about encountering the world, and even more about discovering your own country and yourself. Studying Abroad is a process of going abroad, studying abroad, and returning from abroad, and the Trinity program is designed to support you at each step. Because the world is becoming increasingly interdependent and borderless due to technological advances and an integrated, global economy, Trinity University believes studying abroad is an important key to the future success of today’s college student. Most students study abroad during the junior year, although a number of seniors also participate. Permission is required to study abroad for a semester before the junior year. Summer study may be pursued at any time.

[http://new.trinity.edu/academics/study-abroad](http://new.trinity.edu/academics/study-abroad)

**Transfer Credits** International students sometimes want to take a class in their home country during the summer break. Any course credits earned during the summer for transfer to Trinity must be approved in advance. All summer study outside of the U.S. must be approved through the Study Abroad office. The most relevant deadlines for Summer Study Abroad credits are in March. If this is a foreign university not previously approved for Trinity students, the student must submit it to a Credentials Evaluation Service for review. Information on Credentials Services can be found here: [http://iraa.trinity.edu/Documents/regr_docs/ForeignCredentialsEvaluation.pdf](http://iraa.trinity.edu/Documents/regr_docs/ForeignCredentialsEvaluation.pdf). Students will need to request a "Study Abroad" evaluation, and there is a fee involved. For more information, visit the Study Abroad website: [http://new.trinity.edu/academics/study-abroad/international-students-studying-abroad](http://new.trinity.edu/academics/study-abroad/international-students-studying-abroad)
Exploring San Antonio

San Antonio River Walk (also known as Paseo del Río) is a network of walkways along the banks of the San Antonio River, one story beneath the streets of Downtown San Antonio, Texas. Lined by bars, shops, and restaurants, the River Walk is an important part of the city’s urban fabric and a tourist attraction in its own right: (http://www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com)

The Alamo: More than 2.5 million people a year visit the 4.2 acre complex known worldwide as "The Alamo." For over 300 years, the Alamo has been a crossroads for Texas history: (http://www.thealamo.org)

SeaWorld San Antonio is a 250-acre marine mammal park, oceanarium, and animal theme park, located in the Westover Hills District of San Antonio, Texas. It is the largest of the three parks in the SeaWorld chain owned by SeaWorld Entertainment: (http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sanantonio/)

Six Flags Fiesta Texas is a theme park located on the northwest side of the city. The park is San Antonio’s largest and most popular themed attraction featuring dozens of thrill rides, shows, and activities. (https://www.sixflags.com/fiestatexas)

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park conserves the five missions of San Antonio. Visiting the missions is free! The Mission Trail is also great for walking and biking. The Mission Trail winds southward along a nine-mile stretch of the San Antonio River. (http://www.nps.gov/saan/index.htm)

San Antonio Botanical Garden’s mission is to connect with the plant world and understand the importance of plants in our lives. The garden features Formal and Display Gardens, the Lucille Halsell Conservatory, and the Texas Native Trail: (http://www.sabot.org)

The San Antonio Zoo and Japanese Tea Garden are located near Trinity’s campus and feature beautiful surroundings and an abundance of animals and nature (http://www.sazoo-aq.org)

The Shops at La Cantera is an upscale, open-air, regional shopping mall located in far northwest San Antonio: (http://www.theshopsatlacantera.com)
Departure Checklist

☐ Valid Passport

☐ Appropriate travel visa (except Canadians and Bermudians)

☐ Certificate of eligibility (Form I-20 for F-1 visa holders)

☐ Letter of acceptance from Trinity University

☐ SEVIS fee receipt

☐ Proof of financial support for your entire course of study. (Please carry a copy with you in case you are asked to present this information at the port of entry to the United States)

☐ Sufficient funds in U.S. dollars to cover settling-in costs for the first semester

☐ Medical records including physical exam, record of immunizations (in English), and evidence of adequate insurance coverage (if you or your dependents are already insured)

☐ Valid international driver’s license and certified English translation (if you plan to drive in the United States); If your country does not have a driver’s license reciprocity agreement* with the State of Texas and if you plan to drive, you must obtain a Texas driver’s license within 90 days of your arrival. You may also obtain an International Driving Permit* in your home country, before arriving in the U.S.

*http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/driverlicense/movingtotexas.htm
*http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Foreign-Visitors-Driving.shtml

☐ Certified copies of your secondary and postsecondary transcripts

☐ Copies of important medical records, X-rays, and prescriptions. Have prescriptions written in English in generic terms

☐ Organize your finances: arrange to transfer funds to a U.S. bank and make sure you have funds for travel and expenses on arrival; consider buying traveler’s checks to cover costs during your first month in the United States; consider obtaining a credit card, if possible

☐ Funds set aside for purchasing a U.S. cell-phone and calling plan
• Trinity University was founded in 1869.
• Trinity University is located just north of downtown San Antonio on 117 acres that used to be a limestone quarry.
• Students must live on campus for their freshman, sophomore and junior years.
• About 40 percent of Trinity students study abroad. These students have lived in over 35 different countries and on every continent but Antarctica.
• There are 227 different service, social, recreational, cultural, political, and religious groups on campus.
• There are only two times in your four years at Trinity University that you will be able to climb the Murchison Bell Tower on campus. The first time is during the New Student Orientation, when you meet the President at the top of the tower to shake hands. The second time is during the “Senior Disorientation” in the second semester of your last year at Trinity.
• It is a tradition to be thrown into the Miller Fountain located behind Northrup Hall on your birthday.
• At the end of fall semester, students are encouraged to attend the Christmas Vespers performance in the Chapel followed by an open house on Oakmont. The president and several of the vice presidents open their houses to the students and serve excellent refreshments in anticipation of the winter holidays.