

# (START HERE)

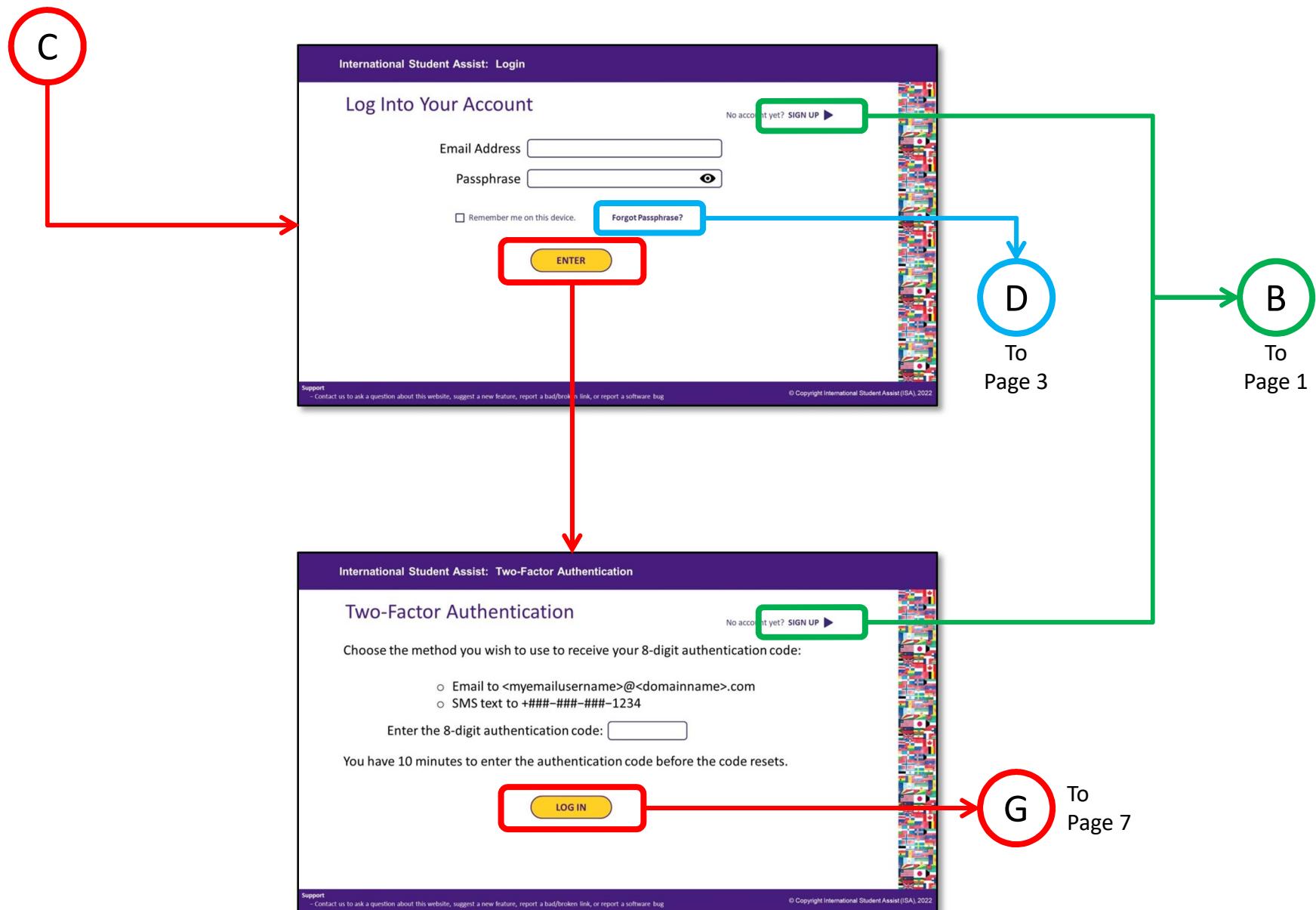
The International Student Assist (ISA) Home Page features a purple header with the title "International Student Assist (ISA)". Below the header is a main content area with a graduation photo and a sidebar of international flags. At the top right are "LOGIN" and "SIGN UP" buttons, with "LOGIN" highlighted by a red box and "SIGN UP" highlighted by a green box. A purple arrow labeled "A" points from the "SIGN UP" button to a purple circle labeled "A". A green arrow labeled "B" points from the "START >" button to a green circle labeled "B". A red box encloses the "SIGN UP" button and the "START >" button. A red arrow labeled "C" points from the bottom left to a red circle labeled "C", which is labeled "To Page 2".

The "Create a New Student Account" page has several required fields marked with asterisks (\*). These include "Email Address", "Select Country of Origin" (set to NG (Nigeria)), "Personal Cellphone Number", "Enter a Passphrase", and "Confirm Passphrase". A yellow callout box over the "Passphrase" fields specifies character requirements: Uppercase alphabetical (A – Z), Lowercase alphabetical (a – z), Numerical digits (0 – 9), Special characters (~ @ # \$ ^ \* - + , . ?), and a minimum length of 10 characters. A blue arrow labeled "E" points from the "CREATE MY STUDENT ACCOUNT >" button to a blue circle labeled "E", which is labeled "To Page 4". A red box highlights the "Sign in" link in the top right corner of the page.



The "International Student Assist – Terms of Service" page contains a list of numbered items (1 through 6) describing service terms. A blue arrow labeled "E" points from the "CREATE MY STUDENT ACCOUNT >" button on the previous page to this page, indicating the next step in the process.

- (1) Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Maecenas porttitor congue massa. Fusce posuere, magna sed pulvinar ultricies, purus lectus malesuada libero, sit amet commodo magna eros quis urna.
- (2) Nunc viverra imperdiet enim. Fusce est. Vivamus a tellus.
- (3) Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Proin pharetra nonummy pede. Mauris et orci.
- (4) Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Maecenas porttitor congue massa. Fusce posuere, magna sed pulvinar ultricies, purus lectus malesuada libero, sit amet commodo magna eros quis urna. Nunc viverra imperdiet enim. Fusce est. Vivamus a tellus.
- (5) Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Proin pharetra nonummy pede. Mauris et orci.
- (6) Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Proin pharetra nonummy pede. Mauris et orci.



D

**International Student Assist: Reset Passphrase with Email Address**

**Reset My Passphrase**

Enter the email address associated with your account.

Account Email Address <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com

**SIGN UP ►**

**SUBMIT**

Already have an account? **Sign in**

(email found)

(email not found)

**SUPPORT**  
Contact us to ask a question about this website, suggest a new feature, report a bad/broken link, or report a software bug

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**International Student Assist: Reset Passphrase Link Sent**

**Reset My Passphrase**

Log into the email address you entered and click the link to reset your passphrase.

Already have an account? **Sign in**

**SUPPORT**  
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To  
Page 2

C

**International Student Assist: Reset Passphrase – No Email Address**

**Reset My Passphrase**

Enter the email address associated with your account.

Account Email Address <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com

The entered email address is not associated with any account.  
Enter another email address, or sign up for a new account.

**SIGN UP ►**

Already have an account? **Sign in**

**SUPPORT**  
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**International Student Assist: Enter New Passphrase**

**Reset My Passphrase**

Email Address <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com

Enter a New Passphrase

Confirm New Passphrase

Passphrase characters allowed:  
Uppercase alphabetical (A – Z)  
Lowercase alphabetical (a – z)  
Numerical digits (0 – 9)  
Special characters:  
' ~ @ # \$ ^ \* - \_ = , . ?  
Must be at least 10 characters long

Must match entered passphrase exactly.

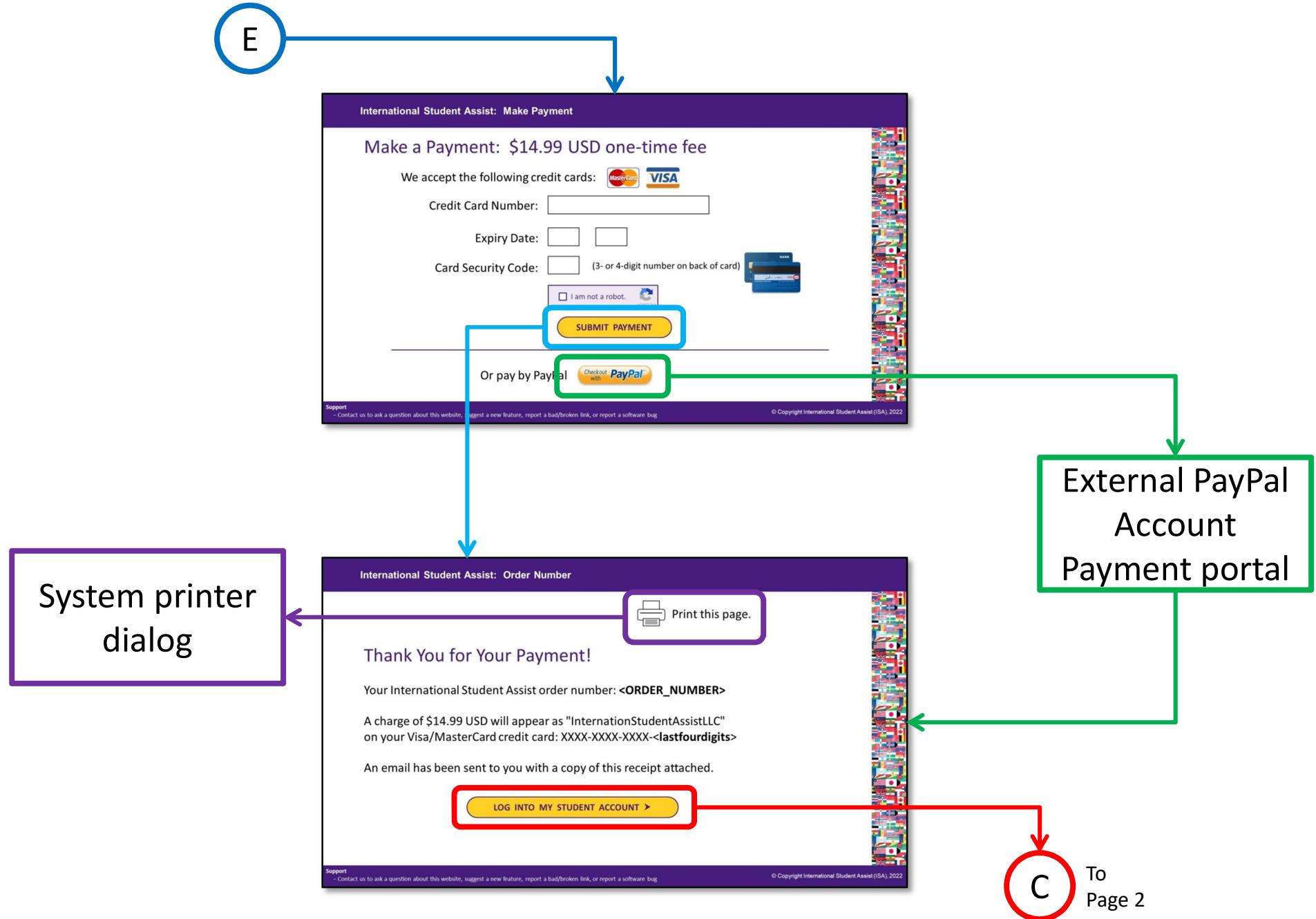
**SAVE NEW PASSPHRASE**

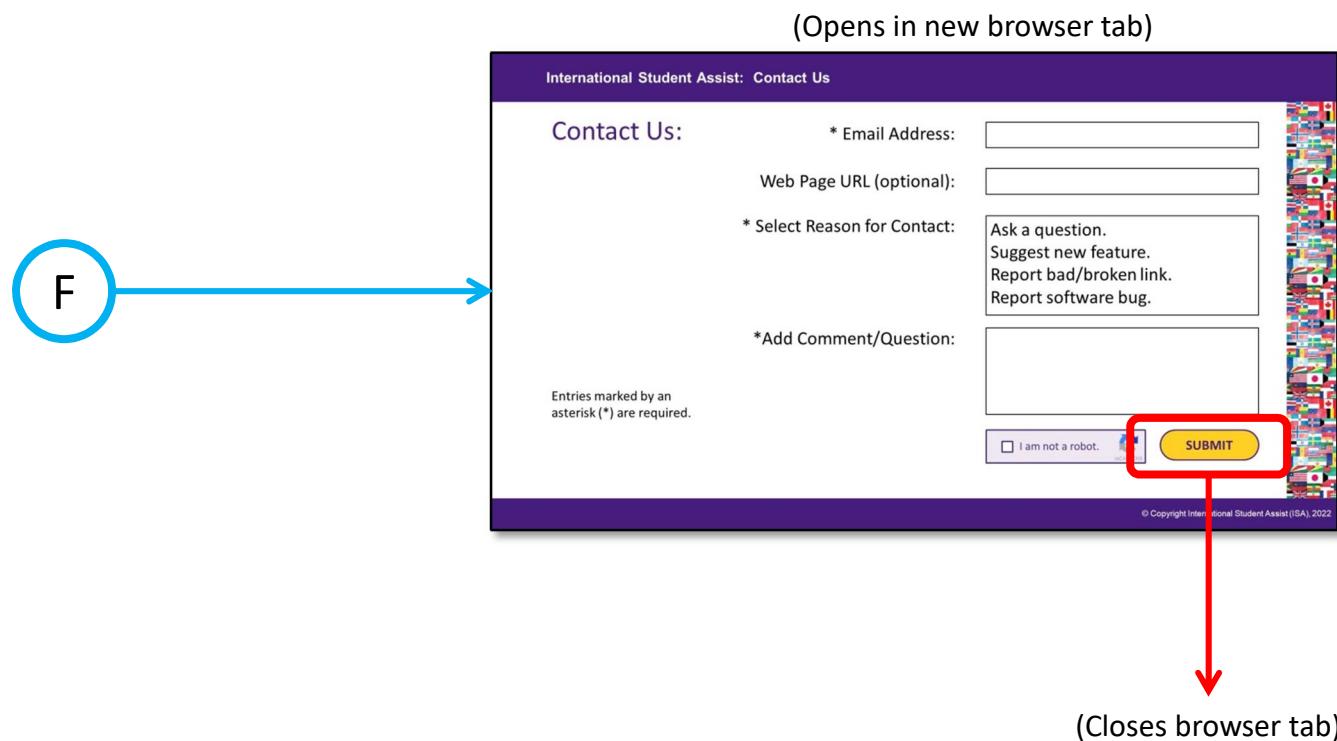
**(cursor hover/click)**

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B  
To  
Page 1





**Notes for Roadmap Pages:**

All Roadmap pages (follow this page) contain the same active links, all of which work the same way on every page. For clarity, these links are demonstrated only once on page 7 of 13, *Links Master Page*.

(1) The word **Roadmap** identifies a page as belonging to the series of pages that lead the student through the process of attending a US university.

(2) Identifies active links that are displayed and operate in the same way on all Roadmap pages, as follows:

(2a) **Links panel**. Comprises a series of checkbox/task pairs in which each pair comprises a checkbox followed by a task link. As the student completes a task, he may click any checkbox in any order to add/remove the checkmark that indicates that task is complete. The student also may click on any task to navigate to its respective title page.

(2b) **LOG OUT button**. When clicked, logs the student out of the app.

(2c) **Contact us link**. When clicked, opens the *Contact Us* page in a new tab.

(3) **Info icon**. Displays instructions for the *Links* panel when the cursor hovers/clicks on this icon.

(4) **Title/content**. The title displays the task to which it belongs to allow the student to verify navigation to the desired page. The content displays instructions to the student, which change in accordance with the chosen task.

The storyboard illustrates the 'Research Candidate Schools' page of the ISA Roadmap. The page features a purple header bar with the ISA logo, the word 'Roadmap', the user ID 'UID: <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com', and a 'LOG OUT' button. A green box highlights the 'Roadmap' title. A red box labeled '(2a)' encloses the 'Links' panel, which contains a list of checkboxes for tasks like 'Research Candidate Schools' and 'Apply to One or More Universities'. A yellow callout box with a blue border provides instructions: 'Click the checkbox next to the link to check that task as complete.' A red circle highlights the first checkbox. A green box labeled '(1)' highlights the 'Roadmap' title again. A blue box labeled '(4)' highlights the main content area, which includes a large heading 'Research Candidate Schools' and a section titled 'What to Consider' with a bulleted list of questions for students to consider when choosing a major.

International Student Assist: Roadmap

(1) UID: <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com

(2b) LOG OUT

(2a)

Links: Click the checkbox next to the link to check that task as complete.

(3)

(4)

## Research Candidate Schools

### What to Consider

Choosing a major is one of the most important decisions a college student can make. The choice can have a lasting effect on a student's life, shaping work experiences, earnings, and professional skills down the line.

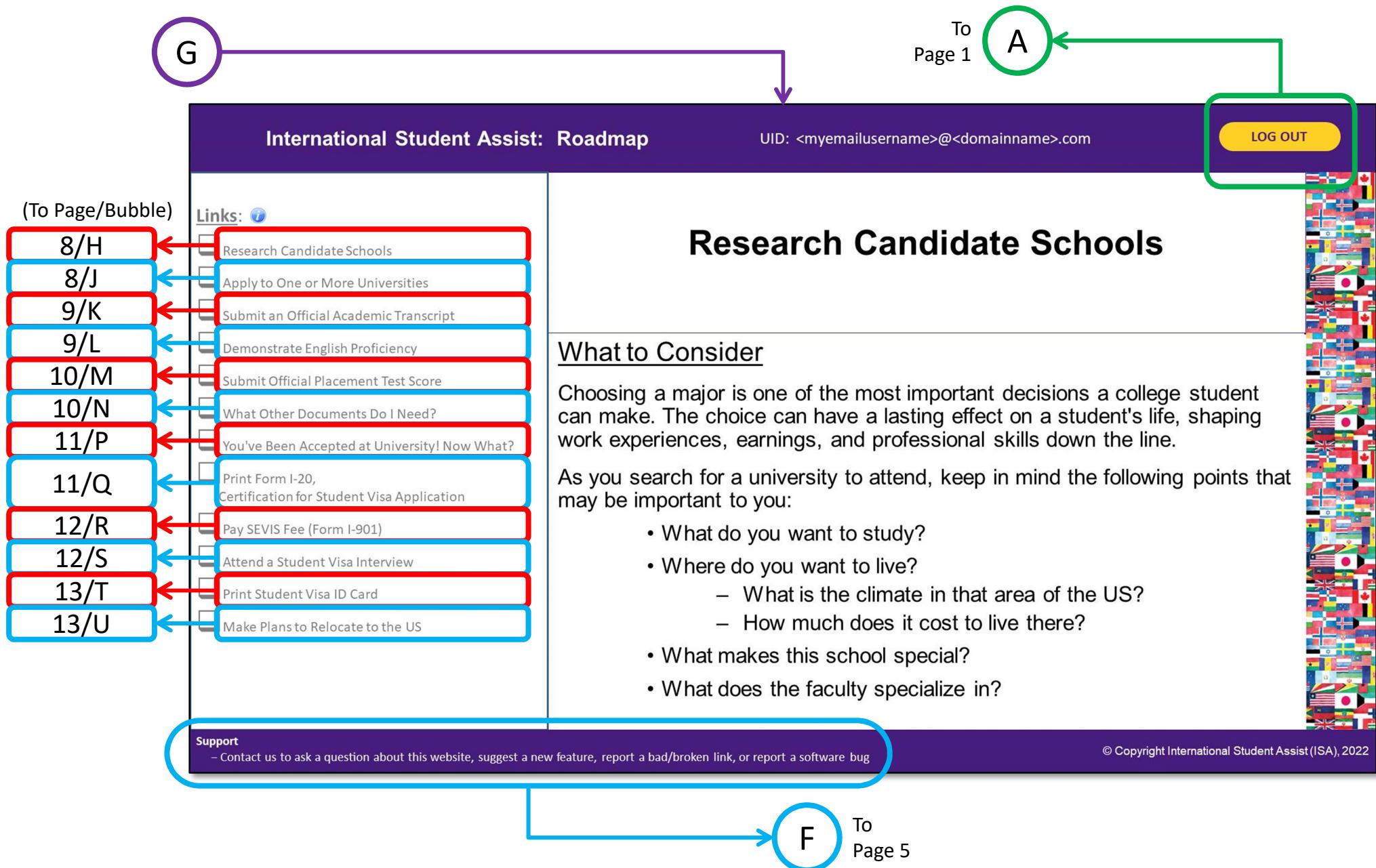
As you search for a university to attend, keep in mind the following points that may be important to you:

- What do you want to study?
- Where do you want to live?
  - What is the climate in that area of the US?
  - How much does it cost to live there?
- What makes this school special?
- What does the faculty specialize in?

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– Contact us to ask a question about this website, suggest a new feature, report a bad/broken link, or report a software bug

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**Links Master Page:** All Roadmap pages display the same active links, which all operate in the same manner on every page. For clarity, the operation of those links is shown here only as representative of all the other Roadmap pages that follow.  
 (See Notes on page 6 of 13)



H

**Click Checkbox**

**Research Candidate Schools**

**What to Consider**

Choosing a major can make the choice one of the most important decisions a college student can make. The choice can have a lasting effect on a student's life, shaping work experiences.

**Click Checkbox**

As you search for a university to attend, keep in mind the following points that may be important to you:

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- Where do you want to live?
  - What is the climate in that area of the US?
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\* Refer to: page 6 of 13, Notes for Roadmap Pages, and page 7 of 13, Links Master Page

**Research Candidate Schools**

**What to Consider**

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J

**Click Checkbox**

**Apply to One or More Universities**

**How many universities should I apply to?**

Applying to university is similar to job hunting – you should not apply only to one in the hope that they will accept you. When you apply to as many universities as you are able to do so, you increase your chance of being accepted by one of them. You also should know that universities generally charge a low, non-refundable application fee to cover their administrative costs.

If you have any questions, contact the DSO (Designated School Official) for international students at the university of your choice.

**Click Checkbox**

**Support**

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K

**Submit an Official Academic Transcript**

Unless you attended secondary school in the US, all US universities require that you employ a third-party transcription service to convert your academic record (confusingly, also called a "transcript") into a US-compliant academic record for submission to the university. Your academic record is sent directly from the secondary or tertiary school from which you graduated, directly to the transcription service.

The third-party evaluation service you employ must be a member of one of the two national associations of credential evaluation services:

- NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services)
- AICE (Association of International Credentials Evaluators)

If you have any questions, contact the university DSO.

\* Refer to: page 6 of 13, Notes for Roadmap Pages, and page 7 of 13, Links Master Page

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- NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services)
- AICE (Association of International Credentials Evaluators)

If you have any questions, contact the university DSO.

L

**Demonstrate English Proficiency**

An English Proficiency Test determines your ability to understand, comprehend, and integrate information that will be presented during your time at university. This saves you precious time and money by identifying whether or not you have areas on which you need work before you leave your home country.

Below is a list of accepted English Proficiency Tests:

- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
- IELTS (International English Language Testing System)
- PTE (Pearson Test of English)
- TLC (The Language Company)
- EIKEN Test in Practical English Proficiency
- Duolingo English Test

We recommend that you contact the university DSO to determine which tests are approved by the university.

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- EIKEN Test in Practical English Proficiency
- Duolingo English Test

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M

**Click Checkbox**

## Submit Official Placement Test Score

Official placement tests are even required of US students before they enter university. Your status either as an undergraduate student or as a graduate student determines which placement test you are required to take.

Undergraduate

Undergraduate students are required to take one of the two following placement tests:

- ACT (American College Test)
- SAT (Scholastic Achievement Test)

Graduate Students

Graduate students are required to take one of the following placement tests, based on the advanced degree they wish to pursue:

**Click Checkbox**

\* Refer to: page 6 of 13, Notes for Roadmap Pages, and page 7 of 13, Links Master Page

## Submit Official Placement Test Score

Official placement tests are even required of US students before they enter university. Your status either as an undergraduate student or as a graduate student determines which placement test you are required to take.

Undergraduate Students

Undergraduate students are required to take one of the two following placement tests:

- ACT (American College Test)
- SAT (Scholastic Achievement Test)

Graduate Students

Graduate students are required to take one of the following placement tests, based on the advanced degree they wish to pursue:

**Click Checkbox**

N

**Click Checkbox**

## What Other Documents Do I Need?

Before you proceed further, you need to gather and make several copies of the following documents:

- Form I-20 student certification for visa application
- Form I-901 SEVIS fee receipt
- Proof of Financial Responsibility
- Proof of Health Insurance
- Passport issued by home country
- Two (2) passport-compliant, color portraits of your face

Ensure you make multiple copies of all documents before you submit them. Have extra prints made of your portrait photographs to guard against their loss after you submit them to any agency.

**Click Checkbox**

## What Other Documents Do I Need?

Before you proceed further, you need to gather and make several copies of the following documents:

- Form I-20 student certification for visa application
- Form I-901 SEVIS fee receipt
- Proof of Financial Responsibility
- Proof of Health Insurance
- Immunization record
- Passport issued by home country
- Two (2) passport-compliant, color portraits of your face

Ensure you make multiple copies of all documents before you submit them. Have extra prints made of your portrait photographs to guard against their loss after you submit them to any agency.

P

**You Have Been Accepted to University  
Click Checkbox**

Your journey to study in the US is almost over, but it is not complete. Next, you must submit documents in accordance with US government and DHS (Department of Homeland Security) regulations to apply for an F-1 student visa.

**Click Checkbox**

Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  What Other Documents Do I Need?  I've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  Pay SEVIS Fee (Form I-901)  Attend a Student Visa Interview  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

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\* Refer to: page 6 of 13, Notes for Roadmap Pages, and page 7 of 13, Links Master Page

**You Have Been Accepted to University  
(Now What?)**

Your journey to study in the US is almost over, but it is not complete. Next, you must submit documents in accordance with US government and DHS (Department of Homeland Security) regulations to apply for an F-1 student visa.

Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  I've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  Pay SEVIS Fee (Form I-901)  Attend a Student Visa Interview  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

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Q

**Print Form I-20,  
Certification for Application  
Click Checkbox**

**Unique terms used on this page:**  
DHS: initialization of US Department of Homeland Security  
DSO: Designated School Official  
 I've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  
 Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  
 Pay SEVIS Fee (Form I-901)  
 Attend a Student Visa Interview  
 Print Student Visa ID Card  
 Make Plans to Relocate to the US

**Click Checkbox**

**What is an I-20?**  
The I-20 certifies that you have applied to attend a university, and the university has accepted you as a student. The university DSO sends you an electronic copy so you can pay your SEVIS fee using the assigned SEVIS ID number printed at the top of this form.

Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  What Other Documents Do I Need?  I've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  Pay SEVIS Fee (Form I-901)  Attend a Student Visa Interview  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

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**Print Form I-20,  
Certification for Student Visa Application**

**Unique terms used on this page:**  
DHS: initialization of US Department of Homeland Security  
DSO: Designated School Official  
 I've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  
 Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  
 Pay SEVIS Fee (Form I-901)  
 Attend a Student Visa Interview  
 Print Student Visa ID Card  
 Make Plans to Relocate to the US

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Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  What Other Documents Do I Need?  I've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  Pay SEVIS Fee (Form I-901)  Attend a Student Visa Interview  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

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R

**Pay SEVIS I-901 Fee**

**Click Checkbox**

**Click Checkbox**

International Student Assist: Roadmap  
UID: <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com LOG OUT

Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  What Other Documents Do I Need?  You've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

**Pay SEVIS I-901 Fee**

**Unique terms used on this page:**  
SEVIS I-901: official nomenclature it  
SEVIS: initialization for Student and Exchange Visitor Information System

**What is SEVIS?**

SEVIS is the Web-based system that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) uses to maintain information on Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) participants. It is a critical tool in our mission to protect national security while supporting the legal entry of more than one million F, M, and J nonimmigrants to the United States for education and cultural exchange. (Source: [DHS.gov](#))

**How much is the SEVIS fee?**

For most people, the SEVIS fee is \$350 USD.

**Who must pay the SEVIS fee?**

You may or may not be required to pay the SEVIS fee.

**How do I pay the SEVIS fee?**

SEVP will accept third-party payments, meaning someone else can pay your I-901 SEVIS Fee using the same method of payment. For students who cannot pay the fee by credit card, third-party payers are also restricted from paying the fee by credit card.

(Source: [DHS.gov](#))

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**Pay SEVIS I-901 Fee**

International Student Assist: Roadmap  
UID: <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com LOG OUT

Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  What Other Documents Do I Need?  You've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

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**Unique terms used on this page:**  
SEVIS I-901: official nomenclature is "I-901, FEE REMITTANCE FOR CERTAIN F, J AND M NONIMMIGRANTS".  
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SEVIS is the Web-based system that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) uses to maintain information on Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) participants. It is a critical tool in our mission to protect national security while supporting the legal entry of more than one million F, M, and J nonimmigrants to the United States for education and cultural exchange. (Source: [DHS.gov](#))

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You may or may not be required to pay the SEVIS fee. Refer to the [FAQ](#) page on the DHS.gov website.

**How do I pay the SEVIS fee?**

A prospective F or M student with a country of citizenship or country of birth of Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria or Gambia must pay by money order, Western Union or MoneyGram or cash check drawn from a U.S. bank. All other prospective F or M students also have the option to make a credit card payment on [FMSFee.com](#). SEVP will accept third-party payments, meaning someone else can pay your I-901 SEVIS Fee using the same method of payment. For students who cannot pay the fee by credit card, third-party payers are also restricted from paying the fee by credit card.

(Source: [DHS.gov](#))

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S

**Attend a Student Visa Interview**

**Click Checkbox**

**Click Checkbox**

International Student Assist: Roadmap  
UID: <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com LOG OUT

Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  What Other Documents Do I Need?  You've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Print Form I-20, Certification for Student Visa Application  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

**Attend a Student Visa Interview**

**Overview**

Generally, a citizen of a foreign country who wishes to enter the United States must first obtain a visa, either a nonimmigrant visa for temporary stay, or an immigrant visa for permanent residence. You must have a student visa to study in the United States. Your course of study and the type of school you plan to attend determine whether you need an F visa or an M visa. To enter the United States to attend university, you need an F visa.

**Students cannot travel on the Visa Waiver Program or with Visitor Visas**

A student visa (F or M) is required to study in the United States. Foreign nationals may not study after entering on a visitor (B) visa or through the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), except to undertake recreational study (non-credit) as part of a tourist visit. For more information on the VWP, see [Visa Waiver Program](#).

**For short periods of recreational study, a Visitor (B) visa may be appropriate**

A visitor (B) visa permits enrollment in a short recreational course of study, which is not for credit toward a degree or academic certificate. Learn more about [Visitor Visas](#).

**Study leading to a U.S. conferred degree or certificate**

Study leading to a U.S. conferred degree or certificate is never permitted on a visitor (B) visa, even if it is for a short duration. For example, a student in a distance learning program that requires a period of time on the institution's U.S. campus must obtain a student (F or M) visa prior to entering the United States.

The application fee is \$160 USD.  
(Source: [Travel.State.gov](#))

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**Attend a Student Visa Interview**

International Student Assist: Roadmap  
UID: <myemailusername>@<domainname>.com LOG OUT

Links:  Research Candidate Schools  Apply to One or More Universities  Submit an Official Academic Transcript  Demonstrate English Proficiency  Submit Official Placement Test Score  What Other Documents Do I Need?  You've Been Accepted at University! Now What?  Find a Student Visa Interview  Print Student Visa ID Card  Make Plans to Relocate to the US

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The application fee is \$160 USD.  
(Source: [Travel.State.gov](#))

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T

**Print Student Visa ID Card**

How do I check the status of my F-1 Student Visa?  
Go to the [CEAC](#). **Click Checkbox** form. You will need your application ID or case number.

How do I print my F-1 Student Visa card?  
(TBD)

**Click Checkbox**

\* Refer to: page 6 of 13, Notes for Roadmap Pages, and page 7 of 13, Links Master Page

**Print Student Visa ID Card**

How do I check the status of my F-1 Student Visa?  
Go to the [CEAC.state.gov](#) website and complete the form. You will need your application ID or case number.

How do I print my F-1 Student Visa card?  
(TBD)

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**Make Plans to Relocate to the US**

Your best resource for making plans after you enter the US is the university DSO. Because they live in the area, they can provide advice on such topics as:

- Places to live near the university
- How to travel from the airport to your new residence
- Places to shop for groceries, clothes, etc., near your new residence
- How to get from your residence to the university
- University orientation schedule

**Click Checkbox**

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