



# UIUC SSA ILLINI DAY 2021

Welcome! Please sign in!



[tinyurl.com/id21signin](https://tinyurl.com/id21signin)



UIUC SSA  
**Illini Day 2021**



## Scope

1. Introduction to UIUC
2. UIUC Singapore Students Association
3. Resources
4. Pre-Departure Checklist
5. Making the Journey There
6. Life on Campus
7. Questions You've Asked
8. Upcoming Events

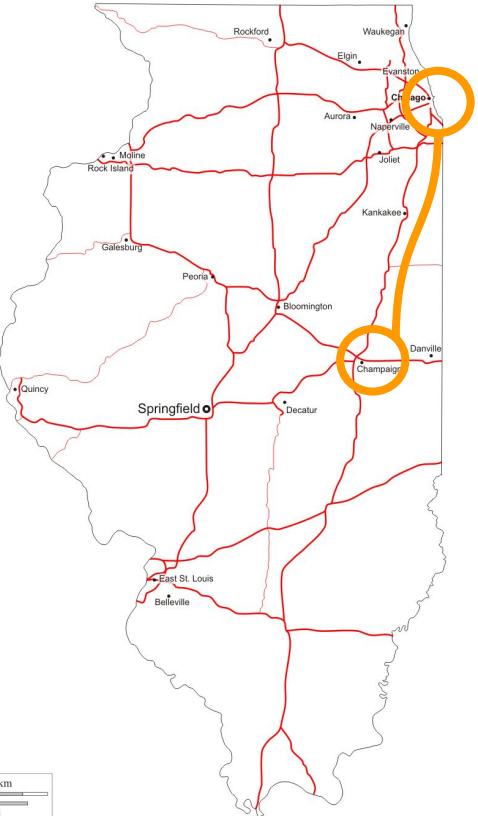


# 1

# Introduction to UIUC

I





From Chicago...  
140 miles (225 km)  
2.5 hours by car





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## UIUC Singapore Students Association



# UIUC Singapore Students Association





## UIUCSSA Executive Committee AY21-22



Ravyu Sivakumaran  
President



Faith Tan  
Vice-President (External)



Megan Poh  
Vice-President (Internal)



Advay Sudarshan  
Secretary



Nairen Fu  
Treasurer



Vignesh Ravibaskar  
Social Media IC



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## Resources



## Resources

- Website: [www.uiucssa.com](http://www.uiucssa.com)
  - UIUCSSA Handbook
  - Residence Hall Reviews
  - Curriculum Guides
- Facebook:
  - Page: <https://www.facebook.com/UIUCSSA/>
  - Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/uiucssa/>
- Instagram: <https://instagram.com/uiucssa>

A photograph of a red and white truck cab positioned in a field of tall, golden-colored grain. The truck is angled towards the left of the frame. In the background, there's a large, multi-story building with a glass facade and a brick chimney, set against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.

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## Pre-Departure Checklist



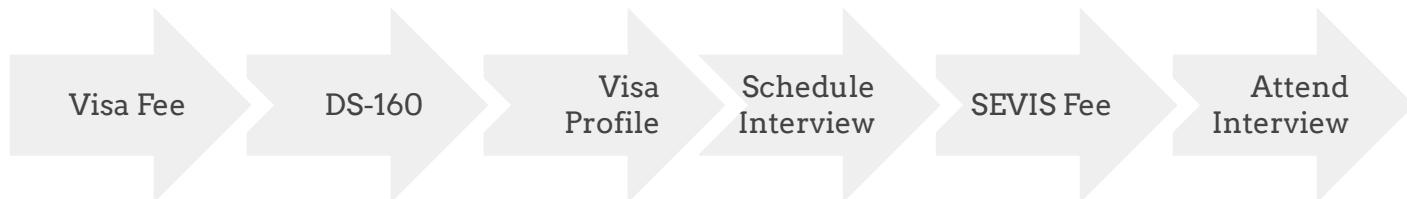
## Pre-Departure Checklist

- Visa/I-20 Application
- NetID
- Required Immunisations
- Exit Permit (NSMen)
- Housing
- Registration, Placement and Proficiency Tests
- **COVID Test & Vaccine**



## Pre-Departure Checklist: Visa/I-20 Application

- Visa Types:
  - F-1 Student Visa
  - J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa
- Process:





## Pre-Departure Checklist: Visa/I-20 Application

- Bring these documents to the Visa interview:
  - DS160 Form
  - Passport (expiry date >6mo after intended period of stay)
  - 2x2 Photograph (or you can take it at the embassy)
  - I-20
  - MRV Visa Fee Receipt
  - I-901 SEVIS Fee Receipt
  - Bank Statement/Proof of Financial Support
  - Admission Letter to UIUC
- Printout of your class schedule showing in-person classes
  - Self-service -> Registration & Records -> Enhanced Registration -> Class Schedule -> Fall 2021



## Pre-Departure Checklist: NetID

- Access to university email/portals/forms
- Allows you to access internet-related applications/services on campus



## Pre-Departure Checklist: Required Immunisations

- To submit to MyMcKinley:
  - Immunization Screening Form
    - Get immunization records from HPB's NIR website and SAFHealth for NSMen
  - TB Screening Form
- Where to get immunizations:
  - TTSH Travellers' Clinic
  - Alternatively, submit whatever records you have right now and get immunizations done on campus (Walgreens/McKinley).



## Pre-Departure Checklist: Exit Permit

- NS Portal
  - 'Manage Overseas Trips'
  - 'Apply Exit Permit'





## Pre-Departure Checklist: Housing

- Generally compulsory for all first-year students to stay in University Housing or Private Certified Housing
- Students aged 21 and above are exempt from this housing requirement (verified Nov 2020)
- **We'd strongly advise all first-year freshmen to stay in UH or PCH, even if exempted**
- Do ask us, and refer to our residence hall review on our website.



## Pre-Departure Checklist: Housing

- Apartment Locations:
  - Engineering: Green, Stoughton, Springfield
  - Business: Chalmers, Armory, Daniels, John
- Property Managers:
  - University Group
  - PPM, CPM
  - JSM, Green Street Realty
  - JSJ, Bankier, etc.



## Pre-Departure Checklist: Registration

- Choose online registration
- Sign up for a registration date
- Complete college registration homework (e.g. placement tests) at least 2 weeks before your online registration appointment
- Your advisor will get in contact with you



## Pre-Departure Checklist: Placement and Proficiency Tests

- Placement Tests (**Mandatory**)
  - MATH: ALEKS PPL Mathematics Placement Exam
  - Chemistry, Physics (Depending on Major)
- Proficiency Tests (**Optional, Not Exhaustive**)
  - MATH 220/231/241/285/286/225/415: Calculus, Differential Equations, Matrix Theory, Linear Algebra
  - PHYS 211/212/213/214: Mechanics, E&M, Thermal, Quantum
  - CS 124/128/173/225: Intro to CS, Discrete Structures, Data Structures
  - Others



## Pre-Departure Checklist: COVID Test & Vaccine

- Negative COVID test result **required** (no later than **1-3 days before** date of departure)
  - Suggestion: Doctor Anywhere, \$160  
<https://doctoranywhere.com/covid-swab-test/>
- Vaccine:
  - Submit early vaccination appeal
    - Submit schedule showing physical lessons, housing contract, and I-20
  - Register interest for vaccination
  - [www.vaccine.gov.sg](http://www.vaccine.gov.sg)

Please fill in this [Form](#) if you are requesting for early vaccination:



<https://go.gov.sg/c19vacappeal>



## Pre-Departure Checklist: COVID Test & Vaccine

If I am...	Pre-departure negative test	Regular testing on campus	7 day self-quarantine	To Do
Fully vaccinated		Not required*	Not required	*Must upload vaccination record to <a href="#">myMcKinley</a> for exemption. Subject to change.
Fully dosed + last dose < 2 weeks ago				Once fully vaccinated, upload records as above.
On 1 dose (Moderna/Pfizer)	<u>Required</u>	<u>Required</u>	<b><u>Recommended</u></b> <b>Potentially required.</b> Keep a lookout for mass mails closer to move-in.	When ready for 2nd, look at <a href="#">CUPHD</a> for vaccine clinics. Be sure to call and check for correct vaccine.
Not vaccinated				Check above link for vaccine clinics. Schedule appointment ASAP.



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## Making the Journey There

# I

## Things to Bring

- Formal Wear
- Winter Wear (only if you already own some)
- Stationery (2B pencil leads, stapler/staples, etc.)
- Personal Medication
- Adapters for US (110V, 60Hz AC)
- Spare Pair of Spectacles/Contacts

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## Things to Leave in Singapore

- A4 Paper, Files
- 2-Ring hole punchers
- Bed Sheets

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## More About Things...

- Clothes/Winter Wear
  - Buy during Chicago trip/online
- Pillows/Linens
  - Can be found at Walmart/Meijers, or online from OCM (convenient but more expensive)
- Everything Else in Life...
  - You'll most likely be able to find most things at Walgreens/Walmart/Meijers/Best Buy or on Amazon, don't fret too much!

# I

## During Travel: Hand-Carry Items

- Passport with Visa
- I-20
- Admission Letter
- Medical Check-up Forms/Personal Medical Records
- Bank Statement/Proof of Financial Support
- Physical Copy of Bus/Train Ticket
- **COVID Test result (no older than 3 days from date of departure)**

# I

## During Travel: Customs and Immigration

- **I-20 must accompany your passport during entry**
- Check for entry stamp and signature



## During Travel: Getting from Chicago to UIUC

- **Bus (Peoria Charter)**
  - **Usual and recommended mode of transport**
  - **Buy tickets online before departure**
- Train (Amtrak, from Downtown Chicago),
  - Cheaper, but may be a hassle for first-time arrival
- Plane (O'hare/Midway to Willard Airport)
  - Much more expensive



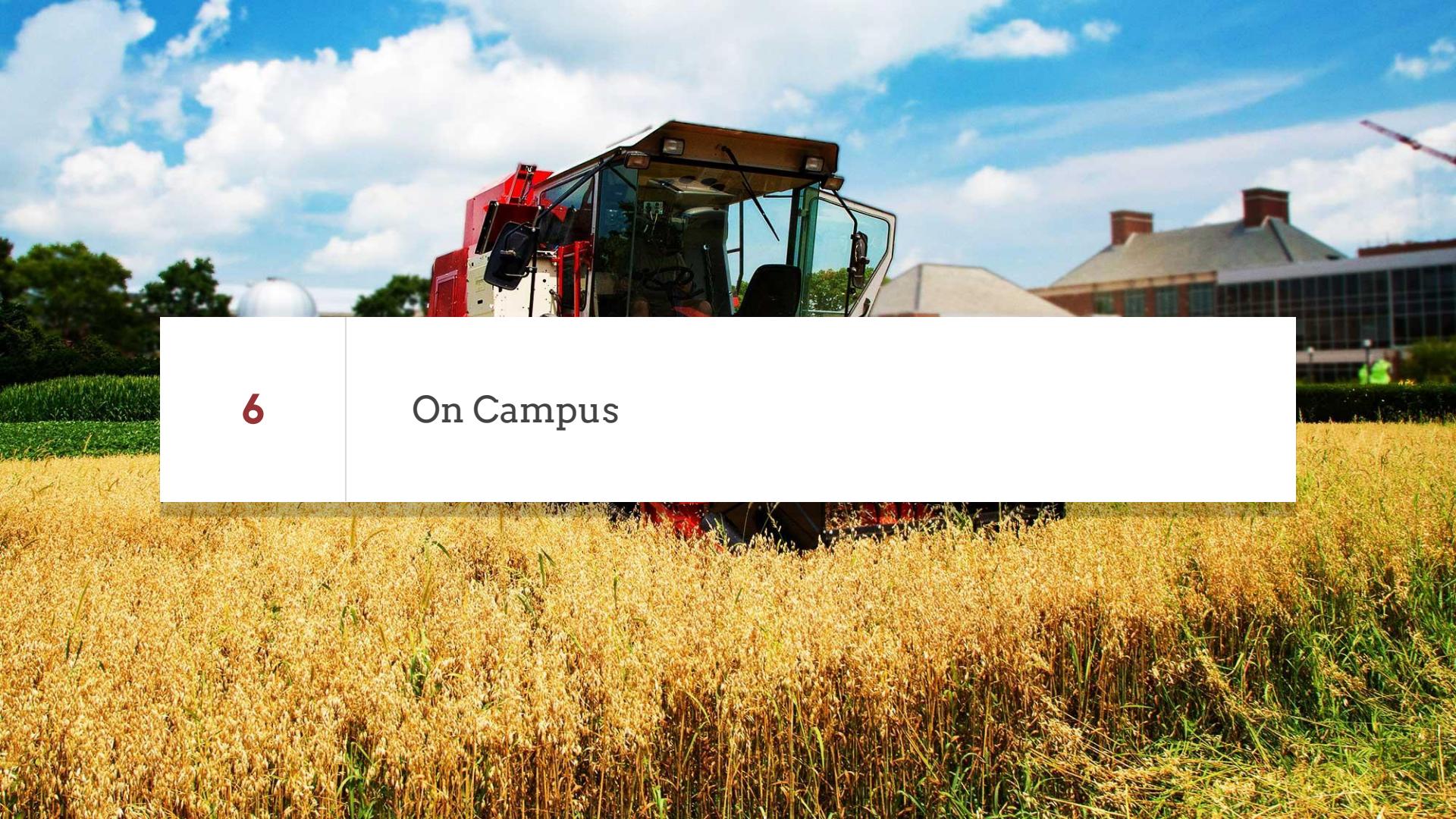
## Arrival in UIUC: Checklist

- ISSS Check-In online (immediately upon arrival)
- I-Card (I-Card Office)
- TB Screening and Immunizations (McKinley HC)
- Update Address (via self-service)
- **Post-arrival COVID test**
  - If fully vaccinated, still recommended.



## Arrival in UIUC: Checklist

- Phone Number
  - Many options, do ask us if you're lost!
  - **Starter to consider: (Buy Online) AT&T \$25/mo Prepaid-12mo**
- Bank Account
  - Likewise many options, feel free to ask us too!
  - **Starter to consider: PNC Bank**



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## On Campus



## On Campus: Testing

- **Required** to test at least every 4 days if not fully vaccinated
  - Risk losing building access and facing disciplinary action if not followed.
- Download [Safer Illinois App](#)
  - Access to test results, testing locations, building access status.
- If you are fully vaccinated
  - Upload vaccination records to [MyMcKinley](#) to be exempted from testing (subject to change). If not done, you **MUST** continue to test as usual.





## On Campus: Transport

- Bus - CUMTD
  - For travelling around campus/Urbana-Champaign
- Rail - Amtrak at Illinois Terminal
  - For travelling to Chicago/other towns and cities
- Car - DMV Office
  - For drivers licence application
  - No need for an SSN at Champaign branch
  - Can contact seniors for steps to buy a car



# On Campus: Food





## On Campus: Entertainment

- Shopping
  - Marketplace Mall
- Arts and Culture
  - Krannert Center
  - The Art Theatre
  - Parkland Community College
- Nightlife
  - Legends, Kams, Joes, Lions, etc.
  - The Canopy Club



## On Campus: Others

- Medical
  - McKinley Health Center/Carle Hospital
  - **Student health insurance** (default = UHCSR)
- Haircuts
  - G and R (一剪美): Decent
  - The Pizzazz: May not be used to Asian hair
  - Tricoci University: Students-in-training cut your hair
  - Ask around!



## Questions You've Asked

- **Is there anything I should expect/be prepared for?**
  - Cultural differences
  - Substance use
- **When should I book my flight?**
  - Things to note:
    - “*Earliest Admission date*” on I-20 (**cannot** arrive on visa before that)
      - Should be 17th July
    - University housing move-in dates: **8/18** Regular, **8/15-17** Early (upto \$60/night extra), **8/4** early drop-off (\$40 one-time fee).
- **Any tips for first year?**
  - Have lots n lots of fun
  - Join RSOs
  - Look out for potential research positions



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## Upcoming Events



## Upcoming Events

- Pre-Departure BBQ/Gathering\*
- Quad Day (on Campus)
- Chicago Shopping/Sightseeing Trip
- Midwest Games @ UMich

**\*Event tentative due to the COVID-19 situation**



Thank You! Any Questions?



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