



UIUC SSA ILLINI DAY 2022

Welcome! Please sign in!



tinyurl.com/uiucssacheckin22



UIUC SSA

Illini Day 2022

I Scope

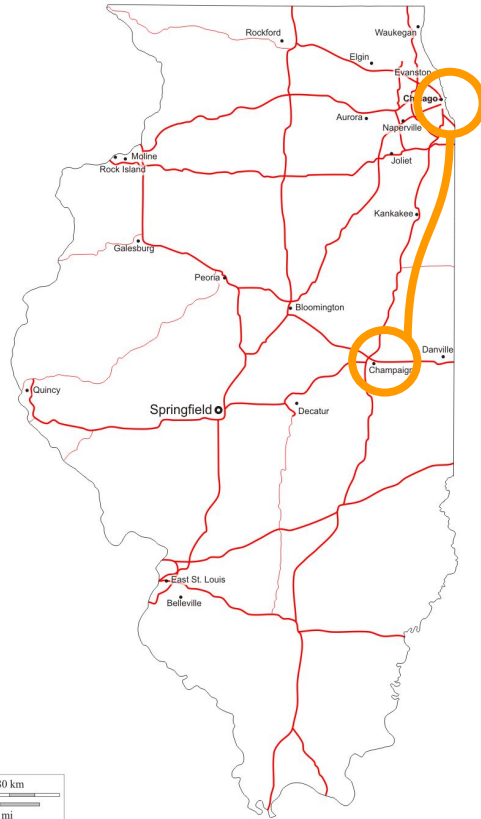
1. Introduction to UIUC
2. UIUC Singapore Students Association
3. Resources
4. Pre-Departure Checklist
5. Making the Journey There
6. Life on Campus
7. Questions You've Asked

1

Introduction to UIUC

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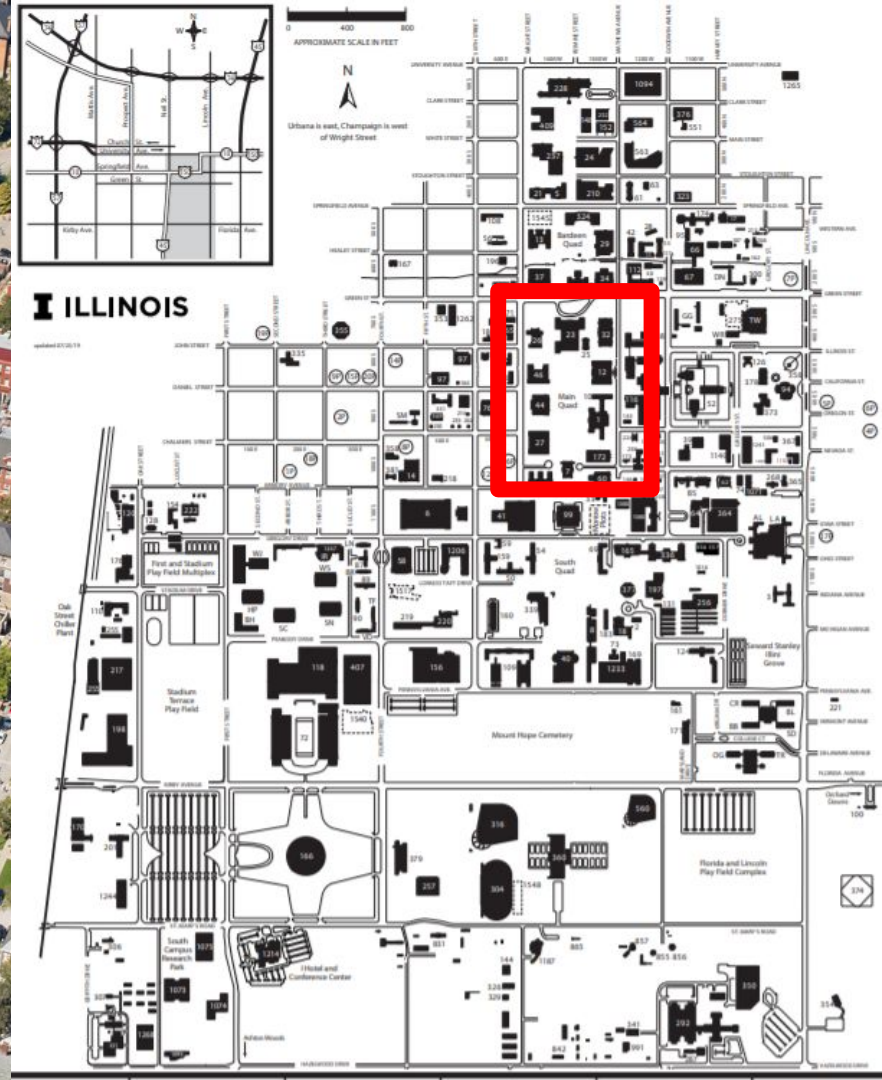


From Chicago...

140 miles (225 km)

2.5 hours by car

3-4 hours by bus



2

UIUC Singapore Students Association

I About us!



I Executive Committee AY22-23



Jennifer Lahey
President



May Lee
Vice-President (External)



Hanpu Liu
Vice-President (Internal)



Ethan Handojo
Secretary



Davis Zhang
Treasurer

3

Resources

I Resources

- Telegram
 - <https://tinyurl.com/uiucssatele>
- Website: www.uiucssa.com
 - UIUC SSA 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>

4

Pre-Departure Checklist

I Pre-Departure Checklist

- VISA & I-20 Application
- NetID
- Required Immunizations
- Exit Permit (NSmen)
- Housing
- Registration, Placement & Proficiency Tests
- Covid Vaccination & Tests

I Pre-Departure Checklist: VISA & I-20 Application

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



I 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 2022

I Pre-Departure Checklist: NetID

- Access to university email/portals/forms
- Allows you to access internet-related applications/services on campus
- Submit photo prior to collection to prevent queuing

I Pre-Departure Checklist: Immunizations

- 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:
 - Recommended: Get immunizations done on campus (Walgreens/McKinley). You can claim the cost from insurance.
 - Alternatively, TTSH Travellers' Clinic/Vaccination Clinics at Various Polyclinics

I Pre-Departure Checklist: Exit Permit

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

I 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 May 2022)
- **We'd strongly advise all first-year freshmen to stay in UH or PCH, even if exempted**
- Join our Telegram group and ask us!
 - ISR: May (Wardall), Jiajun (Townsend)
 - FAR/PAR: Jennifer (PAR), Ethan (FAR)
 - IKE: Hanpu (Wassaja), Davis (Lundgren)

I Pre-Departure Checklist: Housing

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

I 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
- Advisable to get this done quick, the sooner you are done with your appointment, the sooner you can register for classes.

I Pre-Departure Checklist: 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

I Pre-Departure Checklist: Covid Vaccination & Tests

- Pre-Departure Test: Show a negative Covid test result taken < 1 day before travel (Alternative: documented recovery from Covid in the past 90 days)
- Proof of Vaccination: Visitors need to be fully vaccinated



Quick Break for Questions!



5

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 (Make sure your electronics work with 120v 60Hz)
- Spare Pair(s) of Spectacles/Contacts

I Things NOT to Bring

- Pillows, Bedsheets, Comforters
- 2-Ring hole punchers
- A4 Paper & Files

I Things to Buy (In the US)

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

I Travelling: 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
- Proof of Vaccination ([Notarise.sg/Healthhub](https://notarise.sg/Healthhub)) + Negative Covid Test Result

I Travelling: Immigration

- I-20 must accompany passport (with visa) during screening
- Check for entry stamp and signature

I Travelling: Chicago to Champaign

- Bus (Peoria Charter)
 - Usual and recommended mode of transport
 - Buy tickets online before departure (Sales open one month 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

I Arrival in UIUC

- 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.
 - May be required by the school, watch out for emails from the school

I Arrival in UIUC

- Phone Number
 - Many options, do ask us if you're lost!
 - Starter to consider: (Buy Online) Mint mobile \$15 3-month prepaid (Available as E-SIM!), AT&T Family Plan (\$20 for 5GB high speed data)
- Bank Account
 - Likewise many options, feel free to ask us too!
 - Starters to consider: PNC Bank, Chase
 - More PNC ATMs in school, but Chase has better nationwide coverage

6

On Campus

I 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 (Temporary Visitor Driving License)
 - Can contact seniors for steps to buy a car
 - Current market prices are high

I On Campus Food: Dining Halls

- Meal Plans
 - Popular: 10/45 (10 Meals/45 Dining Dollars), 12/15 (12 Meals/15 Dining Dollars)
 - 12/15 is cheaper, 10/45 offers more flexibility
- Dining Halls
 - FAR, PAR, IKE, ISR, LAR (with Kosher Kitchen), Field of Greens (Vegetarian)
- Food Trucks
 - One near IKE, one near Union
 - Can use meal swipes
- Dining Dollars
 - Convenience stores: snacks, hot meals, microwaveable meals
 - Locations at IKE, ISR, PAR
 - Dining Hall meals

I On Campus Food

- Chain Restaurants
 - Panda Express, Chipotle, Potbelly
- Asian
 - Evo Cafe, Spoon House, Kung Fu BBQ, Midsummer's Night Lounge
- Others
 - Maize Mexican, Shawarma Joint, Paris Super Crepes

I On Campus Activities

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

I On Campus Activities (Miscellaneous)

- 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!

7

Frequently Asked Questions

I Commonly Asked Questions

- **Is there anything I should expect/be prepared for?**
 - Cultural differences
 - Substance use
 - Lack of good Asian food
- **When should I book my flight?**
 - “*Earliest Admission date*” on I-20 (**cannot** arrive on visa before that)
 - Should be 17th July
 - University housing move-in dates: **8/17-8/18** Regular, **8/14-15** Early (\$40-\$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



Thank you! Any questions?





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