



Life. Changing.

You have been accepted into Indian Hills Community College!

Now what!?

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

What to do now...

1. Please make sure to pay your **SEVIS fee** at the [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement](#) web page. Some countries do not allow online payment for the SEVIS fee. If this is the case with your country, please visit the [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement](#) web page for more information on how to pay your SEVIS fee. You must show proof of payment of your SEVIS fee at your student visa interview.
2. Apply for your student visa (F-1 or M-1, whichever is applicable) as soon as possible. Please keep the International Affairs Office up-to-date on the status of your visa (in the event of an acceptance or denial). **At the top of your I-20 Form it will indicate which nonimmigrant visa you need to apply for.**
3. It is your responsibility to make your own **housing arrangements** BEFORE you arrive. If you are interested in on-campus housing, please complete your Ottumwa campus housing application form as soon as possible. The application form can be found online at www.indianhills.edu/housing. Please note that a US\$200 dorm deposit, along with a completed housing application, is required before a dorm room can be assigned to you. To pay this, please refer to the instructions below.

How to make your US\$200 residence hall (dormitory) deposit:

1. Log in to your IHCC Web Advisor Account at www.indianhills.edu/webadvisor
 - a. Click on "Log In" at the top right of the page.
 - b. Enter your username: firstname_lastname (refer to your acceptance letter for your username)
 - c. Enter your password: 7-digit IHCC ID# with "Az" at end (example: 0312345Az)
 - d. You will then be prompted to change your password.
2. Click on the "Students" tab on the right side of the screen
3. Under "Financial Information" on the left side of the screen, click on "Student Account Suite."
4. Click "Click Here to Continue." A new tab will open on your internet browser.
5. At the top, click on "eDeposits."
6. Click on the dropdown arrow and select the term that you wish to make your dormitory deposit for (example: Winter 2015). Click on "Select" (green button).
7. Under "Make Deposit Payment," click on the dropdown arrow and select "Dorm Deposit." Click on "Select" (green button).
8. Click on "Continue" at the bottom of the webpage.
9. Select your preferred payment method for the US\$200 deposit. (Please note that the "Electronic Check" option is only for bank accounts located within the United States. If you do not currently have a bank account within the United States, then you will need to select "Credit or Debit Card" as your payment option.)
10. Click on the "Select" button, and then enter payment information in the required fields.

4. Please make your **travel plans** so that you arrive at the airport on the appropriate term's Airport Pickup Dates between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (see "Important Dates" on the *Airport and Arrival* tab at www.indianhills.edu/internationalstudents). These are the International Affairs Office scheduled dates/hours for airport pick-up in Des Moines, Iowa (Airport Code: DSM). The Des Moines International Airport is approximately an hour and 30 minute drive by car to the Indian Hills Ottumwa campus. Please email your full flight itinerary/details to internationals@indianhills.edu as soon as you have made arrangements. If you arrive after 8:00 p.m. on the first pickup date for the term, you will need to make hotel arrangements near the airport for the night – and we can then pick you on the second pickup date. Our website includes Des Moines hotel information for your convenience. **Please note that you cannot enter the United States more than 30 days prior to the start date on your I-20.**
 - Even if you plan to arrive on campus *without* our transportation assistance, we still need to know when you will be arriving. Please email internationals@indianhills.edu to report your arrival date and time, but alert us that you will **not** need transportation assistance.

Other important information for you...

- ✓ Please note that **health insurance** is *required* for all international students. You will be *automatically* enrolled in the Indian Hills Community College insurance plan, and the fee will be added to your IHCC student account. Even if you have health insurance coverage in your home country, you are still required to enroll in the international student health insurance plan at Indian Hills Community College. For more information, please email internationals@indianhills.edu.
- ✓ If you are living on-campus, you will be arriving before the actual "move-in date" for the term (due to mandatory International Student Orientation). Please note that you **will** be accommodated in the dormitory; however, you MAY be housed in a temporary room prior to the term "move-in date." If this is the case, you will have the opportunity to move in to your permanent room on the first day of the term.
- ✓ Please note that you can **bring your own linens for the dormitory or you may purchase a Bedding Package** (Twin XL comforter, Twin XL fitted sheet, Twin XL flat sheet, pillowcase, pillow, and mattress protector) from the International Affairs Office for US\$45 for your dormitory room. Please note that if you are living on-campus, the size of the bed is Twin XL. If you decide to purchase the Bedding Package, the US\$45 fee will be added to your student account. Please inform the International Affairs Office if you are interested in a bedding package.
- ✓ If you are living on-campus, Indian Hills Community College Room & Board rates/costs **do not include** staying during college breaks (Winter break in December, Spring break in April, Early Summer break in May, and Late Summer break in August). If you plan to stay on-campus during these breaks, you will incur an extra charge on your student account. Please contact the [Housing Office](#) if you have specific questions.

- ✓ You will receive a **Student ID card** during orientation. Your Student ID card has many purposes here on-campus, and is what you use for your meal plan. Your meal plan is not active until the first day of the term. *For meals on-campus prior to the start of term (when you arrive)*, you can either pay out-of-pocket with cash or a credit/debit card. Starting on the first day of the term after you have received your Student ID card, you will use your Student ID card for your meal plan.
- ✓ Please make note of the **weather** here in Iowa, and prepare yourself accordingly. Iowa, being a part of the Midwest, has a humid continental climate with extremes of both heat and cold. We experience four distinct seasons – with cold snowy winters and hot humid summers. If you are arriving or planning to be at IHCC during the winter months (November to March), you will need a winter coat. The state's average temperatures are (please note it is common for temperatures to go outside of these ranges):
 - Fall (September – November): range between 0° C to 23° C
 - Winter (November – March): range between -11° C to 1° C
 - Spring (March – June): range between -2° C and 23° C
 - Summer (June – September): range between 16° C and 35° C
- ✓ For a **campus map**, please visit:
 - Ottumwa campus: www.indianhills.edu/campusmapottumwa
- ✓ **International Student Organization:** Indian Hills has a student club called the International Student Organization, where international and US students get together for different events such as: food nights, local community events, dinners, and other fun get-togethers. If you're interested in joining, please contact club advisor Ashley Albertson at Ashley.Albertson@indianhills.edu for more information! We would love to have you! Scholarship funds may be available for active members!