Welcome to Georgia Tech!
Spring 2021
Pre-Arrival Webinar
Welcome to our Pre-Arrival Webinar for new students!

We will cover:

• International Student Check-In
  ▪ Prior to Arrival
  ▪ Upon Arrival
  ▪ Getting Your Hold Removed
• Arriving in Atlanta & Getting to GT
• First Days at GT
• Q &A (immediately after the webinar presentation)

Find information at https://oie.gatech.edu/ISSS_Pre-Arrival
International Student Check-In

- Log-in to **iStart**: istart.gatech.edu
- Go to F/Student Arrival and Check-in
- Select OIE Check-in Spring 2021
  - Arrival Confirmation
  - Immigration Regulations Acknowledgement
  - Immigration Document Upload
International Student Check-In
Prior to Arrival to U.S.

• Log-in to iStart to access Check-in e-forms.
  (F/J Student Arrival and Check-In → OIE Check-In)

Arrival Confirmation – *Choose one of the following options*:
  • Arrive in Atlanta to start my program at Georgia Tech
  • Arrive to Atlanta this term to attend Georgia Tech but would like support with late arrival
  • Start program remotely this term
  • Start program at one of Georgia Tech's campuses outside the U.S.
  • Will not start program this term and will defer admission
  • Will not come to the Atlanta campus to attend Georgia Tech
International Student Check-In
After Arrival to U.S.

• Log-in to iStart to access Check-in e-forms.
  (F/J Student Arrival and Check-In → OIE Check-In)
  • Immigration Regulations Acknowledgement
  • Immigration Document Upload
International Student Check-In

Getting Your Hold Removed

After all of the required check-in e-forms have been submitted, an advisor will review your submission, activate your F-1 record, and remove the OIE hold! 😊

Your F-1 record will not be activated until you complete OIE check-in after arrival to the U.S. You are required to complete this process within 30 days of the start of classes.
International Student Check-In Troubleshooting

If you have any challenges with completing the International Student Check-In process, please try the following:

• Make sure the file you are uploading is a PDF or JPEG file
• Make sure the file size of the PDF or JPEG is under 1 MB
• Upload the PDF or JPEG file using a different browser
• Upload the PDF or JPEG file using a different computer
• If you are still having trouble after completing the above steps please email us at info@oie.gatech.edu

For support with IT or Georgia Tech account issues, please contact OIT
OIE Video Series
http://oie.gatech.edu/video_series

- Created to help international students prepare for life at GT and in the U.S.
- Included videos
  - Arriving in the U.S.
  - Academic Transitions: Successful Interactions with Faculty & Staff, Academic Expectations, A Student’s Role in the U.S. Classroom
  - Cultural Transitions
  - Safety in the U.S.
  - Health insurance in the U.S.
  - GT Videos
  - Community organizations
Arriving in Atlanta

• Documents Required to Enter the U.S.
  o I-20 or DS-2019
  o Valid Passport
  o Valid U.S. Visa
  o Copy of I-901 SEVIS Fee Receipt (strongly recommended)
  o Pro tip! Carry these documents on-board with you. Do not pack in luggage.

• You will be issued an electronic I-94 record
  o Find your electronic I-94 record at cbp.gov/i94
  o You will upload your electronic I-94 record as part of international student check-in

Customs and Border Protection Video available on OIE website:
http://oie.gatech.edu/video_series
Getting to GT from the Airport

• GT is located in Midtown Atlanta: 12 miles north of the airport

Transportation to Georgia Tech

Taxi:
  - Available outside baggage claim at airport
  - Typically a flat rate of $32, but may differ a bit
  - Before putting luggage inside, agree upon how price will be determined (meter or flat rate)

  - Follow signs at baggage claim
  - Purchase a Breeze Card: re-loadable card that you can use again
  - Card is $2 plus additional fare for trip ($2.50)
  - Closest stops to GT: North Avenue and Midtown

*Uber and Lyft is available if you download the app!*
OIE International Welcome Series
https://oie.gatech.edu/isss/welcome-series

- OIE’s Welcome Series is designed to offer various immigration, informational, and social events/workshops for your interest!
- Attendance is strongly encouraged
First Days at Georgia Tech

Orientation

• **Undergraduate students:** *FASET* - [https://nssp.gatech.edu](https://nssp.gatech.edu)

• **Graduate students:** *Graduate Orientation and Academic Department orientations* - [http://www.gradadmiss.gatech.edu/orientation-gradexpo](http://www.gradadmiss.gatech.edu/orientation-gradexpo)
  • GradHiring - [https://hr.gatech.edu/gradhiring](https://hr.gatech.edu/gradhiring)

• **OIE’s Welcome Series** - [https://oie.gatech.edu/welcome/sessions](https://oie.gatech.edu/welcome/sessions)

Getting a Buzzcard (GT identification)

• Used to enter buildings, check out books from library, use your meal plan, etc.

• After you have confirmed your acceptance to Georgia Tech, you are eligible for a BuzzCard.
  • Submit your BuzzCard photo online. Contact the BuzzCard Center for BuzzCard pick-up instructions: [https://buzzcard.gatech.edu](https://buzzcard.gatech.edu)
Additional Information

Public transportation on and around campus
- MARTA around Atlanta: www.itsmarta.com
- GT has multiple transportation services and parking available on campus: http://pts.gatech.edu

Health insurance & immunizations requirements
- Automatically enrolled in the mandatory/core health insurance. Submit a waiver to opt out.
- Stamps Health Services:
  - https://health.gatech.edu/finance/insurance
  - http://health.gatech.edu/immunization/requirements

What can OIE do about visa administrative processing?
- Please communicate visa delays to OIE by submitting Student Administrative Processing Visa Delay e-form
- What if you don’t get a visa on time to arrive for spring semester?
  - Remote Courses, International Campuses, Late Arrival, Deferral
Important Dates

First Official Day of Classes
Thursday, January 14

Phase 2 Registration
January 8 – January 22 (4pm)

Tuition and Fees Payment deadline
Monday, January 25th at 4:00pm (www.bursar.gatech.edu)

School Holiday – GT will be closed
Monday, January 18th (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

For other important dates for Spring 2021 semester, please see comprehensive Academic Calendar here:  http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/calendar/
Questions & Answers

• Sample topics for your questions
  ▪ International Student Check-In
  ▪ Preparing for Arrival
  ▪ Arriving in Atlanta
  ▪ Getting to GT
  ▪ First Days at GT

Example:
Is MARTA a safe option?

Additional Resources:
Information Sessions Weekly: https://oie.gatech.edu/isss/home
Pre-Arrival Info: https://oie.gatech.edu/ISSS_Pre-Arrival
Advising Options: https://oie.gatech.edu/isss_advising
Email: info@oie.gatech.edu
Follow us on Instagram: instagram.com/gt_isss