

Mayville State University – Pre- Arrival Information for International Students

Home Country Physical Presence: Students intending to travel to the US for the purpose of education will need an F-1 visa. This important document can be obtained through the U.S. Embassy or Consulate with jurisdiction, or authority, over your place of permanent residence. As part of the visa application process, an interview at the embassy consular section is required for visa applicants and an ink-free fingerprint scan will be taken. For more information about the visa application process and to obtain the proper forms and pay the appropriate fees, please consult the US State Department or check out their website at <http://travel.state.gov/visa> . You must establish to the satisfaction of the consular officer that you have binding ties to a residence in your home country which you have no intention of abandoning, and that you will depart the United States when you have completed your studies.

Acceptance to Mayville State University: Once you have been notified that you have been accepted to attend Mayville State University, you should:

1. **Examine your acceptance letter and Form SEVIS I-20 for accuracy.** Please make special care to examine the following:
 - **Spelling of your Family (Surname) and First (Given) names**
 - **Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)**
 - **Gender (Male or Female)**
 - **City of Birth**
 - **Country of Birth**
 - **Country of Citizenship**

If you notice any typographical errors, please notify the DSO in the Office of Academic Records immediately

2. **Review Housing Contract and Complete Housing Application.** Students who are younger than 21 are required to live in the residence halls and eat their meals in the cafeteria using a pre-paid meal plan. All students with a confirmed visa will be pre-assigned a room through the Office of Enrollment Services. Housing and room-mate switches can be arranged after you arrive based on availability following Mayville State University's normal policy and procedures. Students will be required to sign a housing contract upon arrival. We recommend that you review the enclosed housing contract prior to departure so that you are aware of the housing rules and regulations.

Travel and Entry into the United States: Because the United States is such a large country, the port of entry may vary. Examples of Ports of Entries include New York, New York, Minneapolis, Minnesota or Denver, Colorado. The port of entry is where you enter the US for the first time from a foreign country. This is the airport where you will meet with US Customs Officials and have your passport stamped. Have the following documents ready when you get in the line marked, Visitor:

- Passport and Visa
- Form SEVIS I-20
- Acceptance/Appointment Letter from Mayville State University
- Letter of Financial Support with Bank Statement

The official may also ask you questions about your stay in the US and may ask to look through your luggage. After you go through the final exit, you will then check your bags for the next portion of your journey to Mayville. If you are stopping in other cities to change planes, you will not need to collect your luggage again. If your luggage has not arrived, you can receive assistance from the Customs Office in the claim area or at the airline counter of the airline with which you traveled. The airline counter is located in the airport terminal, outside of the customs area.

Once in the United States, if you experience any flight delays, cancellations, or difficulties, please contact Mayville State University at **1-800-437-4104, ext. 34842**. This is a free number that can only be used in the United States any day from 8:00 am to 4:30 p.m. Central Time. If no one answers, please leave a detailed message with your name, location, cell phone (if applicable) and situation. Many times, we will not be able to call you back so tell us when you will call again. The nearest airports to Mayville State University which is located in Mayville, North Dakota, are located in Fargo (60 miles) and Grand Forks (40 miles). Fargo is served by Delta, American, Southwest, United Express airlines and Grand Forks is served by Delta airlines. Students should plan to arrive in Fargo or Grand Forks one day prior to the start of the formal orientation program. As soon as their travel itinerary is known, students should e-mail or write the Enrollment Services Office giving the time and place of arrival. Airport pick up can be arranged if a student gives sufficient notice.

Upon arrival in Mayville, students should call or go to the Office of Enrollment Services in Main 107 if during business hours. The office is located in Main Building 107 and is open between 8:00 – 4:30 PM Central Time, Monday through Friday. The telephone number 1-800-437-4104, ext. 34842. Students arriving after regular business hours should follow the preparation for arrival instructions sent with the immigration document and check in the assigned residence hall.

Arrangements for Payment of Tuition, Fees and other related expenses: A \$35 Admission application fee, a \$100 processing fee and a \$50 housing reservation fee are required of all international students who apply to Mayville State University and must be received before a student is admitted and/or assigned to campus housing. In addition, a visa processing fee (about \$200 US), a visa issuance fee if applicable, and a separate SEVIS I-901 fee are required. For more information about the SEVIS I-901 fee, go to <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/index.htm>.

All students are expected to pay tuition/fees when they arrive on campus. Tuition/fees are charged on a semester basis. The first half is due in August and the second half is due in January. Tuition/fees can be paid by bank wire, travelers' checks, international money order, or by credit card. Students must pay their tuition/fees in order to remain enrolled at Mayville State University. Be advised that Mayville State University waivers may only be applied to the cost of tuition, whereas scholarships may be applied to other costs including room and board. **Please refer to your acceptance letter for the estimated costs of program participation.**

Other Costs for International Students: Other costs to consider including , school supplies, and personal expenses such as washing clothes, shopping, local travel, and entertainment. Most students should prepare to spend approximately \$1,500.00 US a year. Students will receive assistance with opening a US bank account upon arrival. **IMPORTANT: Banks in Mayville do not do instant exchange of foreign currency. Students are encouraged to depart for the US with at least \$200 in American currency or a debit/credit card.**

Health Care and Insurance: All international students are required to provide Mayville State University with documentation and proof of required measles/mumps/rubella immunity. This immunization report is part of the International Student Admission Application packet and is available at:

<http://www.mayvillestate.edu/Admissions/InternationalCanadianStudents/InterCanadianAdmissionRequirements/Pages/InternationalFreshman.aspx>.

This form should be completed and sent to the Office of Admissions at Mayville State University prior to enrollment. All international students from identified countries will be tested for tuberculosis upon arrival. Students needing such testing will be notified when they arrive on campus. The required test is free and performed by Mayville State University's Student Health Service. Any student found to have tuberculosis must seek immediate treatment and meet our requirements in order to continue their studies at Mayville State University. Because of the high costs of medical care in the United States, all students (except those from Canada and Norway) will be enrolled in an international medical insurance policy designated by the Higher Education Board of the State of North Dakota. Having health insurance will reduce the cost of medical care in the US if you need to see a doctor or go to the hospital. The international health insurance fee is added to your student account and must be paid at the beginning of each academic year. The current cost of this international student health insurance is approximately \$900/year for a single student and is included in the annual tuition and fee billing.

A medical clinic, dental clinic, optometry clinic and hospital are located in Mayville and provide basic health care services. Additional services are available through an affiliation with the Sanford Medical Park in Fargo. In addition, Mayville State University has a student health office that is staffed by a nurse for 16 hours per week. This nurse can provide minimal health related care and screening and can refer students to the local clinic for further diagnosis and treatment. Each enrolled Mayville State University student is entitled to one free clinic referral each year.

Other Information:

You will experience four distinct seasons during your studies at Mayville State University. Fall (August-November) temperatures range from 40 F to 70 F or 4 C to 22 C. Winter (December-March) temperatures range from -30 F to 40 F or -37 C to 4C. Spring (April- June) temperatures range from 50 F to 70 F or 10 C to 22 C. Summer (July- August) temperatures range from 70 F to 100 F or 10 C to 38 C. You will experience rain and snow. Fortunately, winter clothing can be purchased inexpensively in the US.

Residence halls are fully furnished but you must provide your own pillow, linens, blankets and towels as well as toiletries and other personal effects such as clothes hangers, alarm clocks, laundry detergent, etc. Many items you will need can be purchased in the United States upon arrival. Remember to pack as lightly as possible and keep all important documents in the bag you will be carrying with you. Packages can be sent to:

Your Name
Mayville State University
330 3rd St. NE
Mayville, ND 58257

In addition to your clothing, bring any important documents that relate to your academic, medical, and legal history. We recommend carrying these items in your personal bag. It is especially important to bring original versions as well as English translations of the following:

- School Records
- Medical Records, including certificates of immunizations and vaccinations
- Information about medical conditions or treatments, prescriptions for medication and eyeglass or contact lenses
- Form SEVIS I-20 and SEVIS I-901 fee receipt (Form I-797) Letter of Financial Support and Bank Statement (translated to English)
- Emergency Contact Information
- MSU admission letter, academic transcripts and standardized test scores
- Form I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record – white form)
- Form CBP-6059B (customs declaration form – if applicable)

If arriving by air, these forms will be distributed on the aircraft before landing. Finally, don't forget your international calling cards and bilingual dictionary!

Once these forms are successfully inspected at the port of entry, the immigration official will stamp forms I-94 and SEVIS I-20 or DS-2019 for duration of status (D/S) with date and port of entry, indicating F-1 for student or F-2 for dependents. Be sure these documents are stamped and kept in a safe place, as they are proof of your legal entry and authorized stay in the United States as a full-time student at Mayville State University. You are expected to report to Mayville State University by the program start date listed on your I-20 or DS-2019.

The Mayville State University Diversity Committee and Multicultural Student Organization will be hosting year-round events which celebrate global and cultural diversity. If you have any traditional clothing, souvenirs, photographs, or items from your country which you would like to share with others, please bring them!