

Planning Your Arrival

Overview

Arriving early may seem like a good option, but keep in mind that your move-in to your residence hall is restricted to specific move-in dates and times that you will be selecting through the One Book steps. Take a close look at the options below as they will impact when and how you arrive to JMU.

I will be arriving...

with a relative/friend

- Go directly to your assigned residence hall during your specific move-in date & time
- Move-in with the assistance of the residence hall advisors and orientation leaders
- [OPTIONAL] Shopping trip (get bed sheets...), JACard, Dinner at D-Hall, & Let's discover the campus together
- [REQUIRED] Attend the international student orientation session- Sunday, August 20 9am - 2pm

on my own

- Take the 10:40am Megabus from IAD to arrive on campus at 12:50.
- The ISSS team will greet you in person at the (JMU) bus stop.
- Check-in & move-in with the ISSS team and other students who do not have a car
- Shopping trip (get bed sheets...), JACard, Dinner at D-Hall, & Let's discover the campus together
- [REQUIRED] Attend the international student orientation session- Sunday, August 20 9am - 2pm

How will you arrive to JMU?

If with friends or family, please consider:

- **What date and time does your flight arrive in the US?**
- **How do you plan to get from the airport to JMU?**
- **When is your move-in day and time on campus?**
- ISSS will be assisting other international students arriving to campus on Friday, August 18 or Saturday, August 19. If you would like to join any ISSS activities on Friday, August 18 or Saturday, August 19, such as shopping, dinner, getting cellphone connected, etc., please join us in [The Union](#) room 256 from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

If on your own, please consider:

- **What date and time does your flight arrive in the US?**

- **How do you plan to get from the airport to JMU?** We suggest students arriving at Dulles International Airport (airport code IAD) take the Virginia Breeze bus (run by Megabus) from the Washington DC area to JMU campus. (You'll need a credit card to book the ticket. ISSS will pick you up at the bus stop on JMU's Campus at 1:00pm.
- **Move-in to your residence hall will happen on Friday, August 18 in the evening after ISSS activities have concluded.**

We recommend that you arrive on August 18, or depending on when you can move into your residence hall. Reserve a seat on the 10:40am Megabus, so that you will arrive on campus by 12:50pm! We will meet you (and your bags) at the Megabus stop on campus and from there we will guide you with check-in, the move-in process, and sessions and assistance specifically provided to international students.

Completing the Pre-Departure Form - <https://jmu.questionpro.com/pre-departureform>

Please take note, move-in assistance from ISSS is transportation to the residence hall. Resident Advisors and other staff in your residence hall building will help you move your bags into your room.

Once you complete the Pre-Departure Form, you will be provided with a transportation and lodging flyer for your arrival at Dulles International Airport.

Getting from the Dulles International Airport to JMU:

- The [Virginia Breeze/Megabus](#) provides a daily round-trip bus to JMU/Harrisonburg and the Dulles International Airport. A one-way ride to JMU is approximately \$20, and it drops you off right on campus near the bookstore. Please note: to reserve your seat you will need to pay online in advance with a credit card.
- Getting an [Uber](#) or a taxi will cost \$200+

Overnight Stay:

Based on when you land and how long it takes to go through customs, etc., you may not be able to find a ride to Harrisonburg on that day.

- Nearby airport hotel. Our office has connections with the following hotels, which also offer a free shuttle to and from the Dulles International Airport:
 - [Comfort Inn & Suites Airport Dulles](#) (45515 Dulles Plaza, Sterling, VA) and ask for the special LSTUDY rate of \$119 + tax/night.
 - [HYATT House Sterling/Dulles Airport](#) (45520 Dulles Plaza, Sterling, VA). To make a reservation call +1 (703) 435-9002.
- In Harrisonburg. Your ability to stay overnight in Harrisonburg will be limited, as most of the [Harrisonburg hotels](#) will be booked by families bringing their new students to campus.

Baggage

What to pack?

Look for the Office of Residence Life's detailed [list](#) of what to prepare for your residence hall room.

In your carry-on

Make sure you have your:

- Passport
- Form I-20 (F-1) or Form DS-2019 (J-1)
- I-901 SEVIS Fee Receipt
- Credit Card
- Travel voltage converter and plug adapter for charging electronic devices
- Required medicines and/or prescriptions

In case your checked luggage is lost

Ask the airline to deliver the luggage to:

JMU's Center for Global Engagement
100 East Grace Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Have them contact:

Cheryl Helmuth Logan

Cell: (540) 568-7594