

Packing List



CGE- International Student Scholar Services
www.jmu.edu/global/iss/orientation/overview

Cultural baggage:

- ▶ Even experienced travelers and people who have lived in other parts of the world go through a period of cultural adjustment when moving to a new place.
- ▶ You will experience many differences and many similarities that you may not have initially anticipated. Some of these experiences can be pleasant and funny, and at times irritating and frustrating.
- ▶ Distance and time differences have a huge impact on relationships, as such we urge you to spend and take time to say your goodbye not simply as you step into the plane.
- Refer yourself to our [↻ Cultural Adjustment](#) resources page

Money

- ▶ In addition to the deposit and the agreed upon monthly rent you may be expected to pay the equivalent of 2 months-worth of rent before you can obtain the key to your apt.
- ▶ Additional fees (like an internet activation fee...) that you may have to pay. you will most likely be asked to pay with a certified check (which you can obtain at Food Lion grocery stores to request a money transfer from Western Union).
- ▶ Don't anticipate to rely on your graduate assistantship stipend to pay for your initial expenses as you may not be able to see this money till a month and a half after you arrive in the US.
- Bring additional cash

Phone-

- ▶ Will your phone plan be working in the US? How will you initially communicate with your family and friends to reassure them that you have arrived safely? What if you need an uber or taxi?
- ▶ Consider obtaining a US sim card prior to your trip.
- With [↻ CampusSIMS](#) you can request to have it sent to your home address, and configure your new card prior to leaving your country, so that you can use your phone as soon as you arrive in the U.S

Misc.

- ▶ Travel voltage Converter (for the first few days)
- ▶ Medicine and prescription
- ▶ In your carry on make sure you have your:
 - ▶ Boarding pass
 - ▶ Passport
 - ▶ I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1)
 - ▶ SEVIS fee receipt,
 - ▶ admission letter,
 - ▶ evidence of financial resources,