

## *Welcome to Michigan Technological University* 2010-2011 Pre-Departure Information

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### *You have been accepted to attend Michigan Technological University. Now what?*

- **Examine your acceptance letter and I-20 or DS2019 for accuracy.** If you notice any typographical errors, please notify the International Programs and Services Office immediately at [ips@mtu.edu](mailto:ips@mtu.edu). Pay special attention to the following fields:
  - Family Name
  - First Name
  - Country of Birth
  - Date of Birth
  - Country of Citizenship
  - Level of Education

NOTE: Only students who have submitted proof of finances are eligible to receive an I-20. To meet this requirement, all students must submit the following. If an I-20 is not included, please make sure the following documents have been submitted:

1. Completed Affidavit of Financial Support which can be found online at [www.mtu.edu/international/admissions/apply/pdfs/AffidavitofFinancialSupport.pdf](http://www.mtu.edu/international/admissions/apply/pdfs/AffidavitofFinancialSupport.pdf).
2. Official bank statement demonstrating funds for at least one full year of studies, less any Michigan Tech scholarships

- **Pay your SEVIS I-901 Fee.** This fee is required for all students who plan to enter the United States as a student or exchange visitor. *Spouses and dependent children (F-2) of students or exchange visitors (J-2) do not pay this fee.* The fee is \$200 for all F-1 students and \$180 for all J-1 students. This fee must be paid before going to the US Embassy for your interview. Canadian students are required to pay this fee before they appear before the Port of Entry. For more information about the fee or to make your payment online, go to [www.fmjfee.com](http://www.fmjfee.com)
- **Apply for your student visa.** 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>. NOTE: This does not apply to Canadian students.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are a transfer student (student already in the U.S.), you must notify Michigan Technological University immediately of your status.

- **Submit Enrollment Deposit (\$100) and Make Financial Arrangements to Pay for Fees.** All students are expected to pay fees before the first day of classes. Fees are charged on a semester basis. Please refer to your I-20 for the estimated costs of attendance. **Students are expected to purchase their own textbooks and supplies, which can cost up to \$1200 US per academic year.** NOTE: Enrollment Deposit does not apply to exchange students.
- **Calculate Spending Money.** Most students prepare to spend \$2,000 US a year for personal expenses. Students will receive assistance with opening a US bank account upon arrival. **IMPORTANT: Banks in Houghton do not do instant exchange of foreign currency. Students are encouraged to depart for the US with at least \$200 in American currency or traveler's checks but no more than \$500.00 for safety reasons.**
- **Make Housing and Travel Arrangements.** If you plan to live in university housing, please complete and submit the online housing forms. The university cannot assist you with finding off-campus housing but can provide you with temporary housing (at a minimal cost) until you can move into your permanent apartment or house. The nearest airport to Michigan Technological University is the Houghton County Memorial Airport (airport code CMX) and is located about eight miles north of campus in Hancock, Michigan. SkyWest <[www.united.com](http://www.united.com)>, a partner of United Airlines, is the only service to the Houghton area. Please make sure that regardless of your first port of entry in the United States, your flight continues on to O'Hare International Airport (ORD) in Chicago, Illinois. From Chicago (ORD), schedule your flight via SkyWest to the Houghton County Memorial Airport (CMX). You can request that a representative from Michigan Tech meet you at the Houghton County Memorial Airport and bring you to the university. Please complete the Arrival Information Form through HuskyHub.

**IMPORTANT: If you do not receive an email confirmation from the International Programs Office 72 hours before you depart for the US, please contact us immediately.**

**Please refer to the academic calendar to assist you with your roundtrip air ticket purchase.**

- **Pack.** You will experience four distinct seasons during your studies at Michigan Technological University. You will experience heavy rain and snow. Fortunately, winter clothing and accessories can be purchased inexpensively in the US.
- **Travel to the US.** Because the United States is such a large country, the port of entry may vary. 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. An official will staple the departure portion of the Form I-94 to your passport and stamp your I-20.

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT REMOVE THE I-94 FOR ANY REASON AND MAKE SURE THAT THE OFFICIAL STAMPS YOUR I-20 or DS2019.**

For more details about living and studying at Michigan Technological University, visit our website at [www.mtu.edu/international/newly-admitted/welcome](http://www.mtu.edu/international/newly-admitted/welcome)

## I-901 SEVIS FEE FOR F & J NONIMMIGRANT STUDENTS & EXCHANGE VISITORS

Beginning September 1, 2004 the Department of Homeland Security will collect a congressionally mandated fee to cover the costs for the continued operation of the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP). International students and exchange visitors are subject to this fee.

Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) is the automated system for collecting, maintaining and managing information about foreign student and exchange visitors during their entry to, stay in, and exit from the United States, will be used to record and track the I-901 fee payment.

### Who pays the fee?

Those who wish to enter the United States either as a student or an exchange visitor with a Form I-20 or DS-2019 dated on or after September 1, 2004.

*Spouses and dependant children (F-2) of students or exchange visitors (J-2) do not pay this fee.*

### How much is the fee?

For students (F-1)	\$200
For spouses and dependent children (F-2 or J-2) of students or exchange visitors	None
For exchange visitors (J-1)	\$180

### When do prospective students or exchange visitors pay the SEVIS fee?

- Applicants who require a visa to enter the United States must pay the SEVIS fee before going to the U.S. embassy or consulate for their visa interview.
- Applicants who are citizens of Canada, Bermuda, Bahamas and residents of certain other islands (see 8 CFR 212.1a) wishing to apply for F-1 or J-1 status at a Port of Entry into the United States must pay and process the SEVIS fee before appearing at the Port of Entry.
- Nonimmigrants currently in the United States who apply for student or exchange visitor status must pay the fee prior to filling their change of status application.

### How is the fee paid?

- Complete I-901 Fee for Remittance for Certain F and J Nonimmigrants Form online and pay by credit card at <[www.fmjfee.com/i901fee](http://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee)> or ,
- Mail completed I-901 Fee for Remittance for Certain F and J Nonimmigrants Form along with check or money order drawn on a US Bank and payable in US currency; or
- By a third party such as a school or sponsor; or
- By selected sponsors of an exchange program by submitting a bulk or group payment.

### When must the fee be paid?

The fee must be paid to ensure that the payment can be deposited and recorded in SEVIS prior to the scheduled visa interview. The interviewing consular officer will confirm that the fee has been paid by accessing SEVIS. To allow for adequate processing time the fee must be paid:

- At least three business days prior to the visa interview date for electronic submissions.
- At least three business days before the scheduled visa interview for mail submissions to allow for delivery at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) address listed on the Form I-901. This time frame allows the fee payment to be deposited and recorded in SEVIS.

### How will the payment be verified?

The payment will be recorded in the SEVIS system. However, it is recommended that the paper I-797 or the Internet generated receipt be brought to the visa interview.

- DHS will issue an official paper receipt (I-797) for every payment received.
- Individuals who file electronically will be able to print an electronic receipt immediately at the time of payment.
- Individuals may request Express delivery service for the I-797 receipt at an additional cost of \$30.