



IPPMI Learning Life Guidebook

APPENDIX



1st Edition
2026 Fall semester

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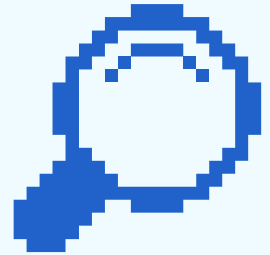
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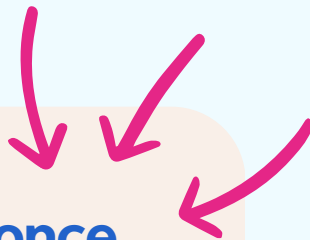
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Measure twice, cut once

Please make sure that you are following required steps for your campus life!



Hello,

Learning Life

Hello, IPPMI students

Welcome to the University of Kentucky. This guidebook has been created to provide you with comprehensive information across various areas to ensure your success at the university:

- Initial immigration application procedures
- Opening a bank account
- Setting up telecommunications (phone/internet)
- Managing utilities (electricity, water, and sewage)

If you have any questions that are not addressed in this guidebook, please feel free to contact the IPPMI staff or fellow students.

Thank you!



From Director,

Welcome to IPPMI

Welcome to the International Public Policy and Management Institute (IPPMI) at the University of Kentucky. IPPMI connects American public service professionals with international professionals and government officials, focusing on practical and academic knowledge of U.S. policy and management.

Our certificate programs are tailored to participants' specific career needs, independent of standard Martin School courses. IPPMI also offers Master in Public Administration (MPA) and Master in Public Policy (MPP) programs combining a year and a half of graduate study with a six-month internship, plus flexible options ranging from short-term executive programs to visiting scholar and legislative fellows programs. As an implementing agency for the U.S. Department of State's professional exchange program, we provide personal support to help each participant settle into life at UK.

Participants also travel beyond campus to Washington DC, Chicago, Atlanta, and other centers to connect with professionals in their field.

Whatever your career stage, IPPMI and UK offer up-to-date, customized learning opportunities to meet today's evolving challenges.

Thank you for your interest in IPPMI—please reach out if you'd like to learn more about our programs. We look forward to helping you research, learn, and grow at UK.



Dr. Doo Oak Kim
Director of IPPMI
Professor

I. Pre-Application

The **basic pre-arrival registration** process is generally divided into four main categories.

If you have **successfully completed** the procedures posted on the University of Kentucky (UKY) IPPMI registration site, your next steps will include preparing the necessary documentation, attending your Visa interview, and making personal arrangements for your departure.

Admission Approval

DS-2019

Visa Interview

Get ready

Admission Approval

Contact **Professor Doo-Oak Kim** (doo-oak.kim@uky.edu) to obtain the necessary approval for admission.

For detailed admission requirements, please visit <https://martin.uky.edu/ippmi> and navigate to your program of choice



DS-2019

Once your admission is successfully processed (which can take up to three weeks), you will receive your DS-2019 form via email. Please keep this document in a safe place, as it is required for your visa interview.

The DS-2019 form confirms your admission to the University of Kentucky and serves as the University's endorsement for your J-1 visa application. It is the primary document used to record and track your participation in the program.

For this reason, even if your information changes and a revised form is issued, it is essential that you retain copies of every DS-2019 you receive.



Visa Interview

DS-2019 is the most critical document for your visa interview. Please make sure to have multiple physical copies ready, as it is a mandatory requirement.

The basic documents required for a visa interview are listed below. For more specialized assistance, you may consult a study abroad agency.

While you can choose to use an agency, it is also possible to complete the process on your own by following this guidebook and conducting your own research.



SEVIS FEE Verification

SEVIS FEE Receipt

Visa Photo

Size is 5cm x 5cm
if you uploaded while processing DS-160
it is not mandatory
*Taken within previous 6 months

DS-2019

Interview Appointment Verification

Passport

Must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the end date of your program

DS-160 Verification

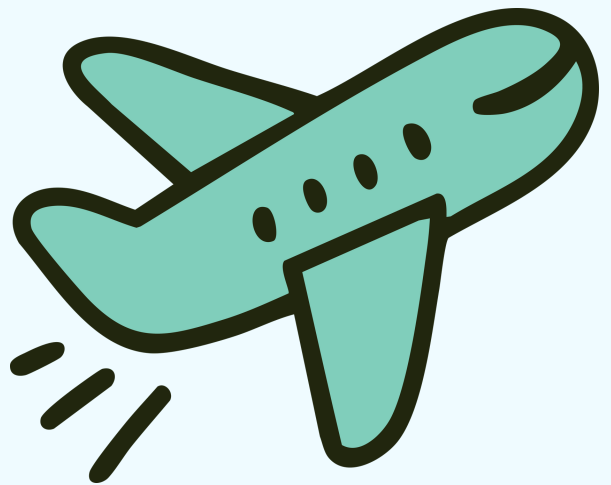
DS-160 is a different file so please make sure to keep it

Get Ready

Blue Grass Airport (LEX) in Lexington, Kentucky, is the airport you will arrive at. Currently, there are no direct flights from South Korea, so most travelers arrive via a layover, typically in Atlanta.

You are permitted to arrive in Lexington up to 30 days prior to the start date listed on your DS-2019.

We recommend that you begin your final departure preparations at least two weeks before the first day of class. Please carefully review the checklist on the following page.

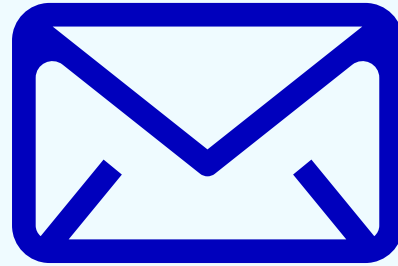


II. Authentication

Departure preparation covers school service registration, flight arrangements, and other essential items.

Regarding administrative systems and registration procedures, you will receive detailed instructions via your official university email.

For more specific inquiries, please contact isss@uky.edu or follow the contact instructions provided in the relevant emails to receive further assistance.



School Administration

Linkblue & Multi-factor Authentication

Please be advised that the following matters regarding visa administration and student registration are of critical importance. To ensure a smooth process, please follow the instructions below step-by-step in the exact order provided.

What is Linkblue?

Your linkblue is your personal University of Kentucky username and password. It gives you access to important campus resources such as email, Wi-Fi, and more.

You can activate your linkblue account here:

<https://myuk.uky.edu/Activate>

To activate your account, you will need your UK ID number and temporary passcode. An IPPMI staff member will email this information to you a few weeks before your start date.



During the activation...

- Create your password
- Set up multi-factor authentication (MFA) on a device
- Add password recovery options
- Choose your university email address

iCat Login

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

ICAT

Welcome to iCAT

Our staff are available through multiple channels including email, virtual meetings, in person appointments, and phone. You can find individual staff member email addresses and links to set up virtual meetings through Calendly on our [Staff Directory](#). As always, we will process requests through iCAT.

F-1/J-1 Students, H-1B/J-1 Scholars

Using your linkblue/MyUK user name (ex:abc123) and password, students and scholars can access the following:

1. New student or exchange visitor information e-forms
2. View and update information on your record
3. Submit e-form requests to an Immigration Specialist
4. Access notes on file that require action in order to maintain legal status

Login

A network ID and password are required.

Limited Services (do not use if you are a current student with active LinkBlue credentials)

When using the limited services login you will be asked to enter your 8 digit University of Kentucky Student or Employee number assigned by your hosting/hiring department (e.g., 12099999) number (without leading '9') or a Temp iCAT ID number and date of birth. Note: If you are an F-1 Optional Practical Training (OPT) student who has completed a program of study, and your linkblue/MyUK account is no longer active, please use limited services.

[Limited Services Login](#)

CLICK HERE

Go to the iCat website.

<https://icat.uky.edu/istart/controllers/start/StartEngine.cfm>

Click Limited Serviced Login

- Do **NOT** use the login section that is crossed out in red.
- You will **ALWAYS** log in to iCat using “Limited Services Login”.
- You will **NOT** use your linkblue username and password to log in to iCat.

ICAT

Login to iCAT - Limited Services

When using the limited services login you will be asked to enter your 8 digit University of Kentucky Student or Employee number found on your admission letter or assigned by your hosting/hiring department (e.g., 12099999) number (without leading '9') or a Temp iCAT ID number and date of birth. Note: If you are an F-1 Optional Practical Training (OPT) student who has completed a program of study, and your linkblue/MyUK account is no longer active, please use limited services.

(*) Information Required

Wildcard Temp ID Number*

Date of Birth*

Limited Access PIN*

Please enter a valid value.

Your Limited Access PIN is necessary to confirm your identity. If you have yet to receive it, or have forgotten it, you may request that the system e-mail it to you.

Login

[E-mail me my Limited Access PIN](#)

Click Email me my Limited Access PIN

Your PIN number will be sent to your email address.

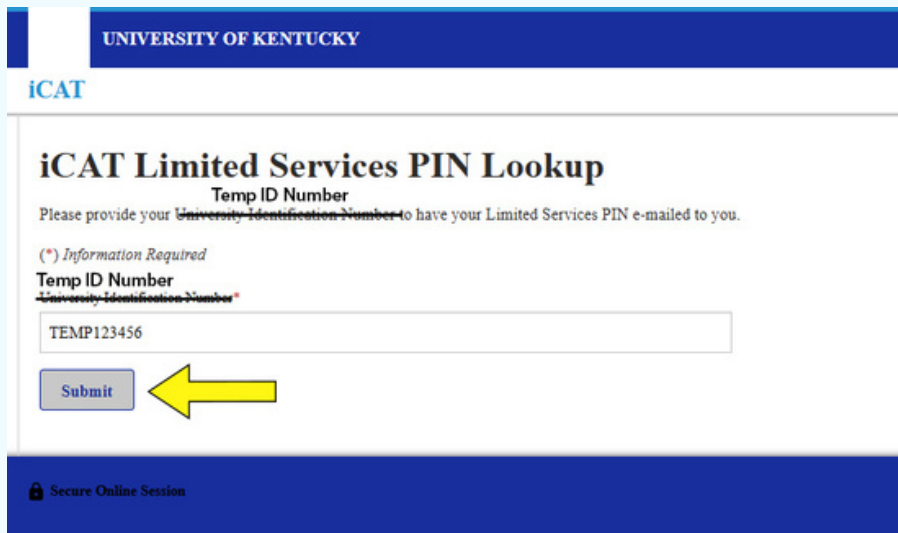
If you already know Limited Access PIN

Please enter your

- Temp ID Number
- Date of Birth
- Limited Access PIN

If you've successfully logged in, you can skip the next steps

iCat Additional part



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

iCAT

iCAT Limited Services PIN Lookup

Temp ID Number

Please provide your ~~University Identification Number~~ to have your Limited Services PIN e-mailed to you.

(*) Information Required

Temp ID Number

~~University Identification Number~~*

Submit

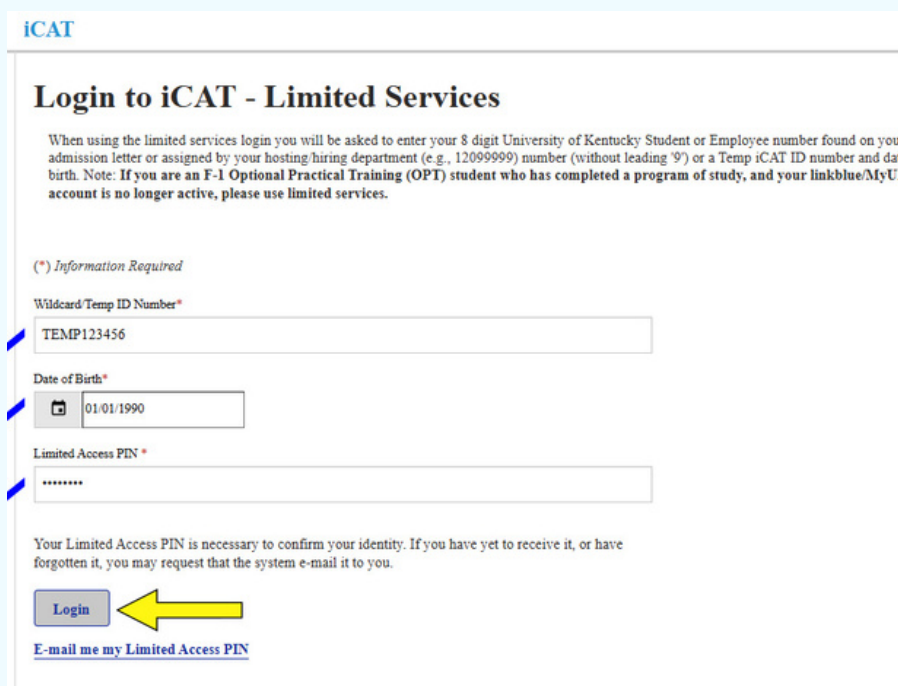
Secure Online Session

**Enter your
Temp ID Number**

And click “Submit”

Your Temp ID Number was sent to you by ISSS via email when you check-in forms become available.

If you **cannot** find your Temp ID Number, please contact an **IPPMI** staff member for help.



iCAT

Login to iCAT - Limited Services

When using the limited services login you will be asked to enter your 8 digit University of Kentucky Student or Employee number found on your admission letter or assigned by your hosting/hiring department (e.g., 12099999) number (without leading 9) or a Temp iCAT ID number and date birth. Note: If you are an F-1 Optional Practical Training (OPT) student who has completed a program of study, and your linkblue/MyUK account is no longer active, please use limited services.

(*) Information Required

Wildcard Temp ID Number*

Date of Birth*

Limited Access PIN *

Your Limited Access PIN is necessary to confirm your identity. If you have yet to receive it, or have forgotten it, you may request that the system e-mail it to you.

Login

[E-mail me my Limited Access PIN](#)

**After you receive your
Limited Services
Access PIN**

Return to the Limited Services Login page and enter your

- Temp ID Number
- Date of Birth
- Limited Access PIN

Then, Login!

iCat Check-in

iCAT

Home
Departmental Services
E-Forms
Taxes

E-Forms

Tasks

	Invited EV Check-In E-Form		SEVP Portal Request
	Concurrent Enrollment Request		Departure Notification
	Extension Request		I-20/DS-2019 Request

After you log in

Click **E-Forms** on the left side

Then, click
Invited EV Check-In E-form

E-Forms

- ☐ REQUIRED [Housing information](#)
- ☐ REQUIRED [Pre-Arrival Documents](#)
- ☐ OPTIONAL [Dependent Pre-Arrival Documents](#)
- ☐ REQUIRED [Health Insurance Information](#)
- NOT YET AVAILABLE [Pre-Departure Checklist](#)

- ☐ REQUIRED [Post-Arrival Documents](#)
- ☐ OPTIONAL [Dependent Post-Arrival Documents](#)
- ☐ REQUIRED [Emergency Contact Information](#)
- NOT YET AVAILABLE [J-1 Non-Degree Compliance Agreement](#)

You will now see a list of E-forms

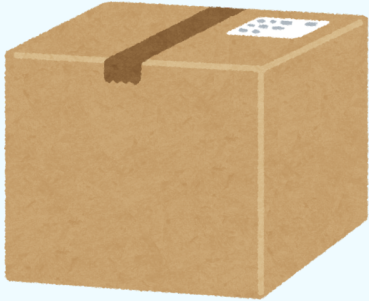
YELLOW BOX

The forms highlighted in **YELLOW** **MUST BE** completed and submitted **BEFORE YOU DEPART** for the USA

RED BOX

The forms highlighted in **RED** **MUST BE** completed and submitted **WITHIN 3 DAYS** after you arrive in the United States

III. Way to IPPMI



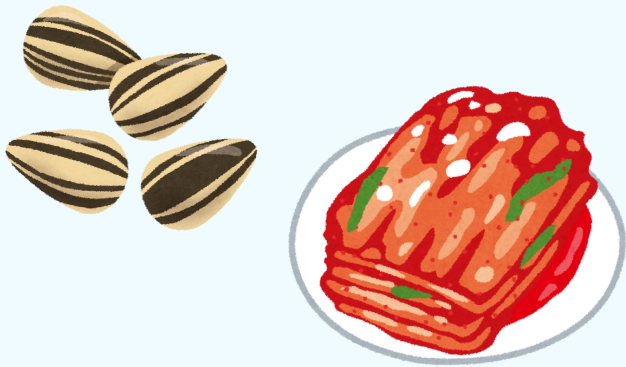
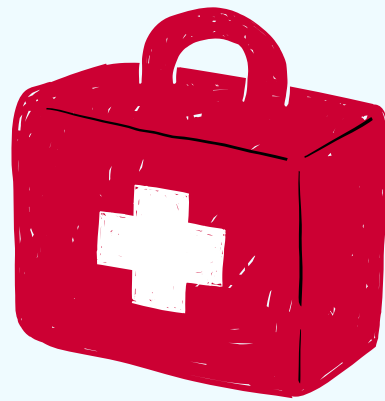
Packing & Luggage

While baggage allowances vary depending on your seat class and any additional fees paid, we generally recommend bringing one carry-on backpack and two checked bags. Most other necessities can be purchased locally once you arrive.

We advise against using international shipping services such as EMS, as they can be costly and subject to delays.

Recommendation

- First-Aid Kit & Essential Medications: For personal use and emergencies
- Fall & Winter Clothing (Summer clothes are easily available for purchase)
- Computer Power Supply/Cables: Note that the U.S. uses 110V. Please ensure your devices are compatible or bring appropriate power adapters
- 110V Power Adapters (Plug Adapters): To convert your existing plugs
- Personal Toiletries/Cosmetics: Please check your airline's regulations regarding liquids in checked baggage
- Physical Copies of Immigration Documents: At least two sets of copies for your records
- Unlocked Smartphone: Ensure your device is SIM-unlocked



Inappropriate

- Korean Food: Especially items prohibited in both carry-on and checked baggage (e.g., liquids, unsealed food, or items with strong odors)
- Heavy and Bulky Items: Such as books or thick stationary, which can quickly exceed weight limits
- Excessive Luggage: Bringing more than three suitcases is not recommended as it makes travel and local transportation difficult
- Prohibited Items: Seeds, plants, and meat products (including jerky or processed meat) are strictly prohibited by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- Unnecessary Bulk: Avoid packing items beyond what is strictly essential

US Cellphone

While a single smartphone is sufficient if you use an eSIM, we highly recommend bringing an additional SIM-unlocked device to ensure seamless connectivity and flexibility during your stay.

U.S. mobile phone plans often utilize a "Pre-paid" system. Unlike the long-term contract systems common in Korea, you purchase a device (or use your own) and pay for your service every month or on a set cycle.

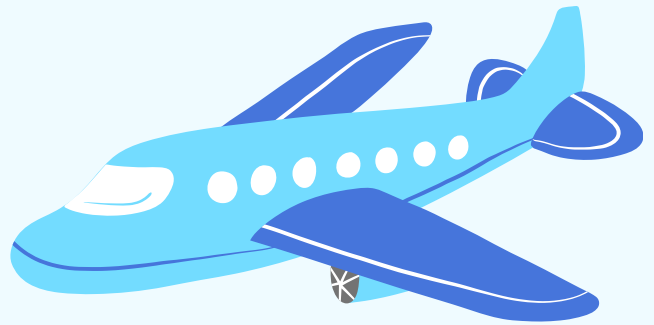
Major carriers include Verizon, AT&T, and Mint Mobile. You can check the availability of eSIM options directly on each carrier's official website.

Local Transportation

While we are sometimes able to arrange airport pickup through local volunteers, this is not guaranteed.

We know this may be an inconvenience after a long journey, but the options below will get you to your new home safely and easily.

If you have any questions or need additional support, please reach out to an IPPMI staff member.



Rideshare & Taxi

Blue Grass Airport (LEX) is small and easy to navigate. There is only one terminal exit.

Once you exit, the Uber, Lyft, and taxi pickup areas are located directly across from the terminal lobby, just a short walk away.

[Please refer to this map](#) for the specific rideshare and taxi pickup areas at the Bluegrass Airport.

Uber and Lyft work similarly to Kakao Taxi and are the most convenient way to get from the airport to your home. Rides are requested through the app and paid by credit card (**no reservation needed**).

Drivers are typically available within 10 minutes, though wait times may vary depending on the time and date of your arrival.

[If you have a lot of luggage](#), select **Uber XL** or **Lyft XL** to ensure enough space for you and your bags.

Keep in mind that XL vehicles can be harder to find late at night or during peak hours, so allow extra wait time if you are arriving after midnight.



Before you travel

We recommend downloading Uber & Lyft before you leave Korea

Lyft requires U.S. phone number

Unlike Uber, Lyft requires a U.S. phone number to create an account, so you will need your U.S. SIM card active before signing up. If you have trouble with your U.S. SIM upon arrival, Uber accounts can also be registered with a Korean phone number as a backup. You can use the airport Wi-Fi to book your ride if that occurs.



Notify your bank

Uber and Lyft accept Visa, Mastercard, and Amex. Before departing, notify your Korean bank and credit card company that you will be traveling to the U.S.—otherwise, your card may be flagged as fraudulent and declined. We also recommend adding a backup payment method just in case.

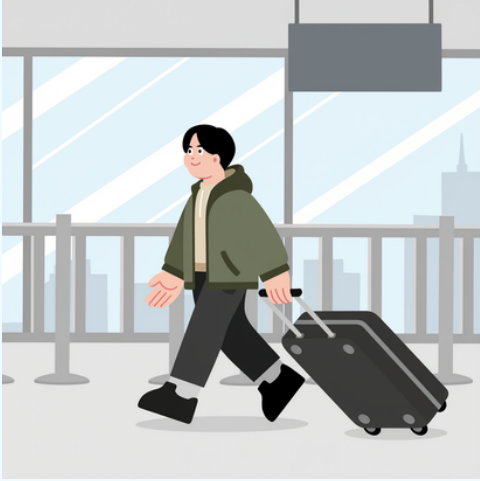
Currency & Address

Set your app's currency to U.S. dollars to avoid hidden conversion fees.

Have your Lexington home address saved and ready to enter into the app upon arrival.



Arrival Process



If you have successfully completed the previous steps, there are only a few remaining procedures for your entry into the U.S.

However, as immigration and customs records are highly sensitive matters, please ensure that you double-check all your information.

Additionally, for any administrative issues that may arise due to the specific timing of your arrival, please contact an IPPMI staff member or iss@uky.edu.

I-94

Upon entry to the U.S., a CBP officer will place an admission stamp on your passport and create an electronic I-94 record. The I-94 is official proof of your entry as a nonimmigrant.

Once you have entered the U.S., you will be able to access your I-94 admission record here: <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/search/recent-search>

You will be required to enter your passport number and entry information in order to obtain your I-94 record.

We highly recommend that you keep copies of this document in both PDF and printed formats, as you will need it when requesting benefits from agencies such as the Social Security Administration and Driver's License Office.

A screenshot of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection I-94/I-95 Website. The header includes the U.S. Customs and Border Protection logo and the text "I-94/I-95 Website Travel Record for U.S. Visitors". Navigation links include "Home", "Apply for I-94", "Get Most Recent I-94/I-95", and "View Tra". The main heading is "Get Most Recent I-94/I-95". Below this is a note: "Get your most recent I-94/I-95 form to prove your legal visitor status in the United States (I-94 available going back to 1983 for most c and those admitted under the Compacts of Free Association. I-95 response is restricted to only return an I-95 that is not expired.)". The section "Enter Your Traveler Info" contains a note: "Note: The info returned may not reflect applications submitted to or benefits received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or Required fields are indicated by an asterisk *". The form fields are: "First (Given) Name*", "Last (Family) Name", "Date of Birth*" (with a calendar icon), "Country of Citizens", "MM/DD/YYYY", and "Document Number*" (with a dropdown arrow icon).

Arriving During Winter Break?

The University of Kentucky is closed from December 24 through January 2 each year, and all staff including IPPMI staff are off during this time.

We strongly discourage arriving during this period for several reasons.

- First, no one will be available to support you or answer questions.
- Second, arriving while the university is closed will delay the validation of your SEVIS record, which may in turn delay your ability to apply for a driver's license, as your SEVIS record is required to confirm your U.S. status.

If you do arrive during this time, please also be aware that Uber, Lyft, and taxi availability may be limited on major holidays such as Christmas Eve (December 24), Christmas Day (December 25), and New Year's Day (January 1). Allow extra time when requesting your ride

IV. Life in Lexington



The following apartment complexes are commonly chosen by IPPMI students

- [Beaumont Farms Apartments](#)
- [Lakewood Park Apartments](#)
- [The Reserve at Merrick](#)
- [Merrick Place Apartments](#)

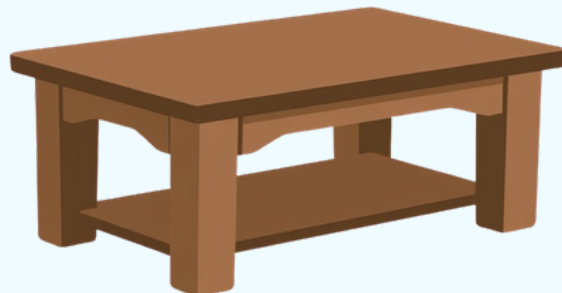
You are welcome to choose based on your personal preferences and needs. In addition to these options, many private housing and rental units are available near campus.

Contract



In most cases, housing contracts (leases) are for a 12-month period.

Furniture



Most off-campus housing in Lexington is unfurnished, so it is worth considering furniture costs and logistics when selecting your housing. If you do need to purchase furniture, good options include Amazon, IKEA, Walmart, local thrift stores, and Facebook Marketplace.

Children



For those traveling with children, we highly recommend choosing a residence based on its proximity to your child's school.

Average



Unless you are looking for a studio apartment, the average rent is approximately \$800 USD per month per person.

Take Over & Recommendation



Housing can be secured in two ways: finding your own place or taking over a lease from a departing IPPMI student

- Review the housing list provided by students scheduled to return home and select a suitable option.
- Contact the outgoing tenant directly to confirm your move-in date and agree on terms for any furniture, vehicles, or other items being handed over.
- Contact the property management company to confirm and reserve your move-in date.

Before committing to a take-over, carefully review the remaining lease term, renewal conditions, and your expected departure date. To connect with students offering housing handovers, contact Dr. Doo Oak Kim.

Housing webs

Individual housing listings can be found through the right websites. Since each property's location is marked on a map, pay close attention to its proximity to campus.

Keep in mind that leasing requirements and processes vary by property.

- <https://www.lexingtonoffcampus.com/>
- <https://www.rentcollegepads.com/off-campus-housing/university-of-kentucky/search>
- <https://www.zillow.com/lexington-ky/rentals/>

Soundproof



Residential buildings in the U.S. can sometimes have relatively thin walls. If you are sensitive to noise, we recommend considering a private detached house (single-family home) rather than an apartment.

Old



Please check the construction date of the property. Older buildings may have outdated facilities or infrastructure that could require maintenance.

Waitlist



Please be aware that all contracts and administrative processes may take a considerable amount of time to finalize. For this reason, we strongly advise beginning your housing search as early as possible.

Utilities

After finalizing your housing, confirm with your property manager or landlord which utilities you are responsible for setting up. Some apartment complexes include certain utilities in the rent. Once confirmed, you will need to apply for whichever combination of electricity, water, and internet applies to your situation.

Before you begin – Important Note

- A local U.S. phone number is required for utility applications, school registration, vehicle purchase, and various online accounts. We recommend purchasing a U.S. SIM card in Korea and activating it before departure.
- Utility websites may be difficult to access from Korea. If you have trouble, you can wait until you arrive in Lexington or try using a VPN.
- As a J-1 visa holder, you are permitted to arrive in the U.S. up to 30 days before the start date on your DS-2019. We recommend arriving a few days early so you have time to handle administrative tasks like utility setup before your program begins.
- Utility applications can take anywhere from a few days to several weeks to process. We advise getting started at least two weeks in advance.
- For Beaumont and Lakewood apartments (managed by Andover), utility applications can also be submitted at the management office after arrival.

Water – American Water

Contact Info

Contact: <https://www.amwater.com/kyaw/>
859-269-2386 (24 hours)

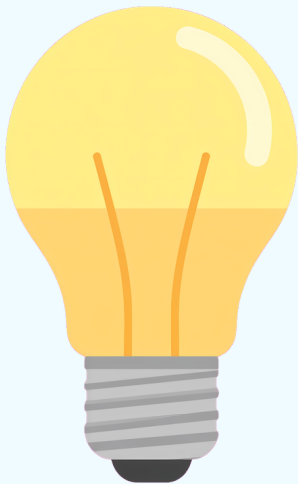
1. Go to the website and select "Start New Service."
2. Search for your address by entering your street name and unit number (e.g., 1101 Beaumont Centre Ln 28204).
3. Enter your personal information, apartment address, and service start date.
4. Within 23 days, you will receive an email requesting additional information, followed by an account activation email. Use the provided credentials to complete your Sign Up



Sewer

Contact Info 888-987-8111

Approximately 12 months after your water service is activated, you will receive a sewer bill by mail. You can also confirm by phone at 888-987-8111. To pay your sewer bill, create an account at <https://billpay.lexingtonky.gov/iwr/user/login.seam>.



Electricity – Kentucky Utilities

Contact Info <http://lge-ku.com> | 800-981-0600 (7am-7pm)

1. Go to the website and select "Start, Stop or Move Service."
2. Enter your personal information, apartment address, and service start date.
3. When asked for a Social Security Number (SSN), enter 123-45-6789 this is necessary to proceed with the application.
4. Within 23 days, you will receive an email requesting documents to verify your identity. You will typically be asked to provide:
 - Your housing contract or move-in application
 - A copy of your passport
 - A photo of yourself holding your passport
5. Once your documents are accepted, you will receive a confirmation email. Use the provided details to create your account under "Sign Up."

Note: A security deposit is typically required, paid in installments over 6 months and refunded at the end of your stay.

Gas – Columbia Gas

Contact Info <https://www.columbiagasky.com/>

It is unlikely you will need gas service, but if required, you can enroll at the above website

Internet – Spectrum

Contact Info

<https://official.spectrum.com/sem/internet>
833-566-0111

Korean-language support

www.internetcablekorea.com/internet/ | 855-500-1004

Internet setup often takes the longest among all utilities, so apply as early as possible. In the meantime, campus Wi-Fi and your smartphone's mobile data (via eSIM) can be used as a temporary solution. If you are asked for an SSN during the application process, contact Spectrum's customer service directly by phone to resolve the issue or visit the Spectrum store in person.



Other Internets

<https://www.metronet.com/>

https://www.gokinetic.com/locations/ky/lexington?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=gbp&utm_term=lexington-ky

Bulk Internet Service

Beaumont Farms & Lakewood Park Apartments

Approximately 12 months after your water service is activated, you will receive a sewer bill by mail. You can also confirm by phone at 888-987-8111. To pay your sewer bill, create an account at <https://billpay.lexingtonky.gov/iwr/user/login.seam>

Equipment

Your modem and router will be shipped via UPS at the time of application and may arrive before you do. If you are unable to receive the equipment in advance, pick it up at a local Spectrum store reserve your visit at www.spectrum.com/stores (Lexington Nicholasville / Barton Spectrum locations).

Enrolling your child in school

Fayette County Public Schools (FCPS) handles all K12 enrollment in Lexington. For full details, visit: <https://www.fcps.net/school-resources/registration-enrollment>

Who must attend school

Kentucky law requires all youth between the ages of 6 and 18 to attend school. To enroll in kindergarten, your child must turn 5 on or before August 1

School Placement

FCPS assigns students to a school based on your home address. Once all required documents are received, the school will confirm your child's enrollment. To find which school your child is zoned for, use the SchoolSite Locator at <https://www.schoolsitelocator.com/apps/fayette/>

Step 1 – Documents

Collect the following before beginning registration. Items marked with (*) are required before your child can attend class you may register without them, but your child cannot start school until they are submitted

Identity & Residency

- Child's birth certificate or other reliable proof of identity
- Two proofs of residence (e.g., property deed, lease agreement, utility bill, or tax bill in your name)
- Parent's passport (with visa) and child's passport (with visa)

Health Documents*

- Up-to-date Kentucky immunization certificate*
- Proof of a recent preventative health exam*
- Proof of a dental exam (due by January 1)
- Proof of an eye exam (due by January 1)

Note on immunization records

Your Korean immunization records must first be translated into English, then converted into the Kentucky immunization certificate format. See the "Getting Your Kentucky Immunization Record" section below for where to do this.

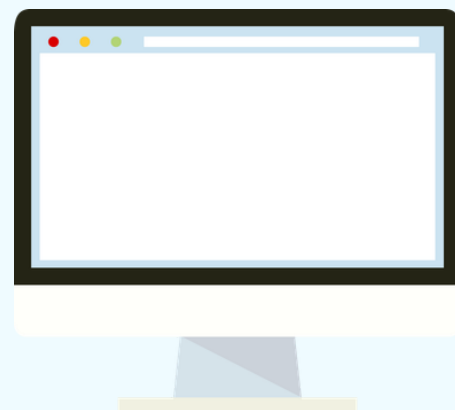


Step 2: Complete Online Registration

Begin the enrollment process online at

<https://www.fcps.net/school-resources/registration-enrollment/online-registration-for-school>

Upload digital copies of your documents during this step



Step 3: Visit the School in Person

After completing online registration, call your assigned school's registrar to schedule an in-person appointment to finalize enrollment.

Important

If FCPS buildings are closed (for example, due to severe weather), your appointment will need to be rescheduled.

Bring the following to your appointment:

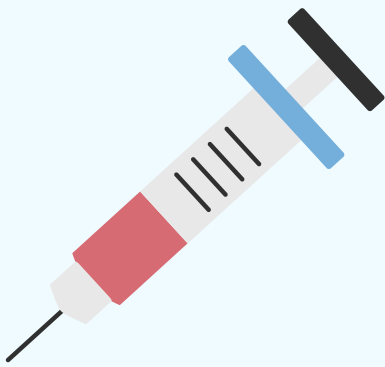
- Original copies of all documents uploaded during online registration
- Parent's passport (with visa)
- Child's passport (with visa)

At this appointment, you will receive information about your child's class, teacher, school schedule, and transportation (walking zone or school bus route)

Preschool (Age 3 ~ 4)

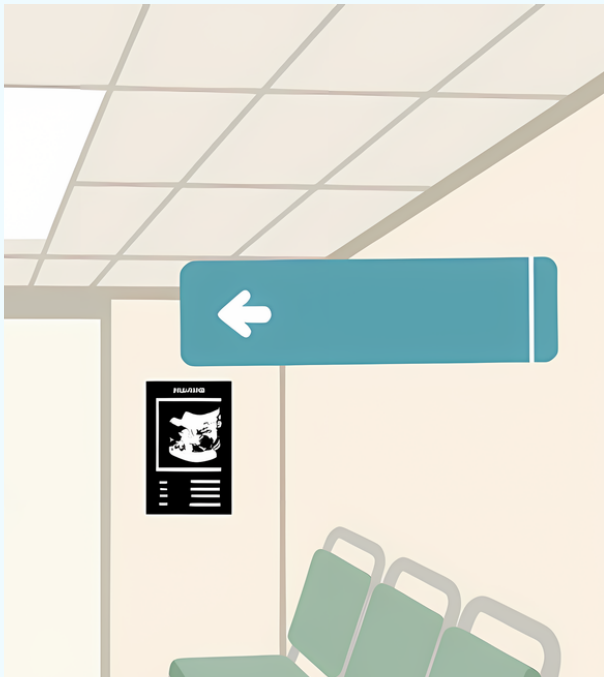
Younger children may be eligible for preschool. Requirements differ from K12 enrollment. For questions, contact:

- Kindergarten/Preschool Office: 859-381-4105
- Pupil Personnel Office: 859-381-4130
- FCPS Preschool webpage: <https://www.fcps.net/preschool>



Getting Your Kentucky Immunization Record

Kentucky schools require immunizations to be documented on a specific Kentucky state form. You will need to bring your English-translated Korean immunization records to one of the following locations, where they can update it to the required Kentucky format.



Information

The Little Clinic (inside Kroger)

- Schedule online at www.kroger.com/health-services/scheduler/ (select "Physical" as the appointment type)
- 3101 Richmond Rd, Lexington, KY 40509 (Richmond Kroger)
- 3175 Beaumont Centre Cir, Lexington, KY 40503 (Beaumont Kroger)

Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD)

- 650 Newtown Pike, Lexington, KY 40508

Visa Expiration

Please be aware

that your legal stay is determined not by the expiration date printed on your visa foil in your passport, but by the program end date listed on your DS-2019 form, plus a 30-day "grace period". If you exit the United States during this 30-day grace period, your legal status expires immediately, and you will not be able to re-enter using that same document. You must strictly follow this timeline when planning your post-semester activities.

As visa regulations are highly sensitive and subject to change, please contact isss@uky.edu or the U.S. Embassy for more detailed and official information.



Bank Account

For J1 visa holders, there are no significant differences between bank branches. Most banks offer phone-in translation services, so don't worry if English is a barrier.

We recommend Chase or Bank of America both are large, nationwide banks with ATMs widely available across the U.S

Recommended Branches in Lexington – Chase

Gardenside (recommended)

1785 Alexandria Dr, Lexington, KY 40504
(859) 231-2554

Euclid

727 Euclid Ave, Lexington, KY 40502
(859) 231-2565



The Gardenside branch is familiar with the IPPMI program and has assisted many past participants . We recommend starting here.



For all Lexington Chase locations, visit

<https://www.chase.com/locator/us/ky/lexington>



For all Lexington Bank of America

<https://locators.bankofamerica.com/ky/lexington/>

Hamburg Place

1808 Alysheba Way, Lexington, KY 40509
(859) 629-3660

Palomar

3850 Fountainblue Ln, Lexington, KY 40513
(859) 310-6498



BANK OF AMERICA

How to Open Your Account

Walk-ins are welcome, but we recommend scheduling an appointment through the bank branch's website in advance. You will typically need to bring the following:



Passport or ID



J1 Verification (DS-2019)



Minimum Deposit
(Vary depending on bank)

Please be aware

For more information on what to prepare, please visit the respective bank's website

Car Insurance & Registration

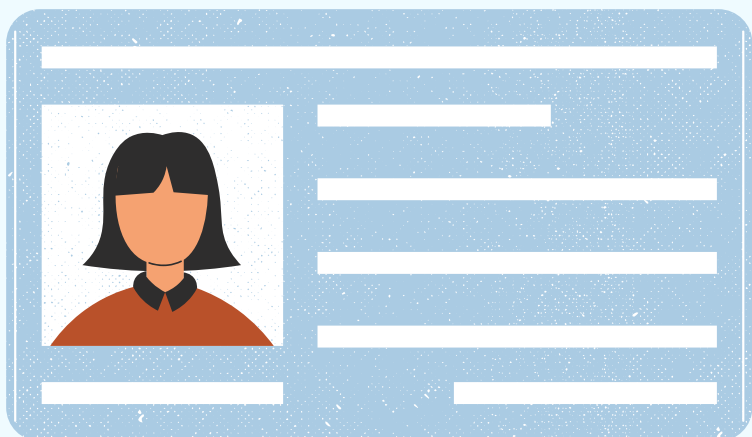
Driver's License

This section walks you through the steps to obtain a driver's license in Lexington

Step 1: Letter of Ineligibility from the Social Security Administration (SSA)

To apply for a driver's license, you'll first need a Letter of Ineligibility (Denial Letter) from the SSA. Because you are not employed in the U.S., you do not qualify for a Social Security Number (SSN) this letter officially confirms that

- Visit the SSA office in person to request the letter. When you arrive, clearly state: "I am not eligible for an SSN but need a denial letter for a driver's license."
- **Important:** Wait at least 10 days after arriving in the U.S. before visiting the SSA. Your immigration status needs time to update in their system if you go too early, they may be unable to process your request and ask you to return later.
- Avoid going on Mondays, the morning after federal holidays, or at the start of the month, as these tend to be the busiest times.



Lexington SSA Office

Address: 2241 Buena Vista Rd., Suite 110, Lexington, KY 40505

Phone: 1-866-530-7754

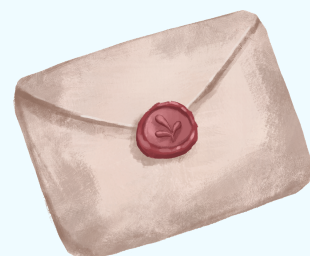
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

No appointments walk-ins only, first-come, first-served

Step 2: Support Letter from ISSS

You'll also need a letter from International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) confirming your enrollment status at the University of Kentucky.

- Log in to iCat and open the "Letter Request" e-form.
- Select the "Driver's License/State ID Card" option and submit.
- You'll receive an email once your letter is ready.



Step 3: Visit a Driver Licensing Regional Office

Once you have both letters, visit one of Lexington's two Driver Licensing Regional Offices. You can walk in or [schedule an appointment online](#).

If booking online, select your payment type → Standard ID → Book → choose your preferred location.

Leestown Regional Office

141 Leestown Centre Way, Suite 125, Lexington, KY 40511

Hours: MonFri 8:00 AM4:00 PM

Spindletop Regional Office

2624 Research Park Dr., Lexington, KY 40511

Hours: MonFri 8:00 AM4:00 PM



Please bring the following documents with you

- Valid passport and visa
- Valid I-94 or Homeland Security admission stamp
- Form DS-2019
- ISSS support letter (INS School Compliance Form TC 94-159 must be dated within the last 30 days)
- SSA Letter of Ineligibility or SSA card
- Proof of address (dated within the last year)

For more information, visit the [Kentucky Driver Licensing page for Non-U.S. Citizens](#)



V. Campus Facility

Please be advised that the university facilities listed on this page may incur additional fees. Some facilities are accessible only to those who hold a valid UK Student ID (WildCard).



William T Young Library

With your UK ID, you can reserve study rooms and check out books. The library also has a Starbucks, providing a comfortable space for your breaks. Since it operates 24 hours a day, you can stay and study throughout the night whenever necessary.



Gatton Student Center

These facilities are open to everyone and house the UK Bookstore, Starbucks, and various dining options, including "Champions Kitchen." Additionally, one of the campus fitness centers is also located within this building.

UKY Dining

In addition to Champions Kitchen, there are various other dining options available, such as "The 90" and "Panda Express." For a detailed campus dining map and information on how to apply for a meal plan, please visit the website below.

<https://uky.campusdish.com/>



Campus Transportation

As a UK ID holder, you can use the campus shuttle buses operated by the university free of charge. For bus stop locations and detailed route information, please visit the website below.

<https://transportation.uky.edu/>



UK Health

University of Kentucky operates its own university hospital system (UK HealthCare). Due to the complexity of healthcare regulations and the vast amount of medical information available, it is difficult to categorize every service here.

We strongly recommend visiting the official website below to find the specific information that meets your individual needs.

<https://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/university-health-service>

UKY Transportation Service

Parking facilities on campus require a paid permit, and securing a spot can be quite difficult as they often cannot be reserved in advance. Please carefully consider the distance from the parking areas to the Gatton College of Business and Economics, which is located in the heart of the campus.

You can purchase single day permits through the website below using your UK ID. **Occasionally, non-degree students may find** that they are not automatically registered in the system. If you encounter this issue, please visit the Transportation Services office in person or contact them via email for assistance.

<https://transportation.uky.edu/>

VI. Departure Process

The move-out process is generally straightforward, as it primarily involves canceling the various services you initially set up. Please follow these guidelines for a smooth departure:

1. Housing Move-Out

- Security Deposit: Confirm the process for receiving your security deposit refund
- Inspection: Schedule a move-out inspection with your landlord to check the property's condition before your lease ends.
- Forwarding Address: Request a change of address for all final bills
 - Note: The "Change of Address" service provided by USPS (U.S. Postal Service) does not support permanent moves to South Korea. You must update your address directly with each service provider

2. Utilities Cancellation (Electricity / Water / Internet)

Visit the same websites where you initially applied to request a service cancellation via email, online portal, or phone

- Final Billing: Please note that the final billing cycles vary by service
- Equipment Return: For certain services (especially internet), ensure that all rented equipment is returned to avoid additional charges

3. Closing Your Bank Account

Visit your local bank branch in person to close your account. The process is simple and usually takes less than 30 minutes.

4. Canceling Auto Insurance

It is highly recommended to manually cancel your auto insurance before leaving. Many policies are set to "auto-pay," and canceling in advance helps avoid potential disputes regarding vehicle ownership transfers or unnecessary charges after your departure.

VII. Miscellaneous

For any matters not covered in this guidebook, please contact IPPMI or ISSS.

If an IPPMI Associate is working, feel free to reach out to them for personalized guidance based on your needs. While this guidebook summarizes essential information for your relocation, it does not include every individual detail. Furthermore, it does not guarantee all degree of personalized assistance. Please note that we have excluded step-by-step instructions for processes that can be completed independently by following the official websites, such as opening a bank account or applying for utilities from A to Z.

Furthermore, minor or supplementary details that were difficult to include here are organized within the IPPMI community or the communities managed by our associates.

We sincerely cheer for your success and hope you have a rewarding experience at the university.

Thank you