

OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY

Information for new students in preparation for their arrival on campus

*New Student
Information and
Pre-Arrival Packet
2011-2012*

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Welcome to Oklahoma City University!

Congratulations on your admission to Oklahoma City University! We are pleased that you have decided to make Oklahoma City University your “home” for the next few years. All of us in the International Admissions Office extend to you our warmest welcome to the United States, the state of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, and Oklahoma City University. The entire staff of International Admissions is ready to help you make your personal, academic, social, and cultural transition.

I certainly hope that you will take advantage of your stay in the United States and explore the rich variety of opportunity available throughout the campus and the Oklahoma City community. I am sure you will meet and make friends with students who have come to OCU from nearly every state in the United States or well over 60 countries worldwide.

The purpose of this Pre-Arrival Packet is to provide you with useful information as you prepare to come to OCU and to answer as many questions as possible. You will also get the opportunity to participate in orientation shortly after you arrive.

Please take time to read this packet and contact us if you have additional questions.

Again, congratulations on your admission and best wishes for a safe trip to Oklahoma City. We will look forward to seeing you on our beautiful campus!

Best Regards,

Mahmood Shandiz, Ph.D.

Associate Vice President of International Admissions
Oklahoma City University

Oklahoma City University Mission Statement

Oklahoma City University embraces the United Methodist tradition of scholarship and service and welcomes all faiths in a culturally rich community that is dedicated to student welfare and success. Men and women pursue academic excellence through a rigorous curriculum that focuses on students' intellectual, moral, and spiritual development to prepare them to become effective leaders in service to their communities.

OCU Fast Facts

University founded in 1904

Campus is 104 acres located in the heart of Oklahoma City

Total enrollment is about 3800 students – 2100 undergraduate and 1700 graduate

Students from 50 all states in the United States and 60 countries around the world

11:1 student to faculty ratio

Average class size for freshman is only 17 students

All classes taught by professors, NOT teaching assistants

81% of faculty members hold the most advanced degree in their field

More than 60 undergraduate majors and more than 12 graduate degrees

38 National Athletic championships

60 student organizations

Rankings

Oklahoma City University is consistently ranked in the Top Tier of Master's-Level Universities by *U.S. News & World Report*.

- Top 25 Master's-Level programs in the West – *U.S. News & World Report*
- Consistently named one of "America's Best Colleges" – *U.S. News & World Report*
- Named one of "America's Best Christian Colleges"
- Named one of America's "Best College Buys"

Accreditation

Oklahoma City University is accredited by **The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges**. <http://www.ncahlc.org/>

Other Accreditations

University Senate of the United Methodist Church

Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation

Meinders School of Business

Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs

Wanda L. Bass School of Music

National Association of Schools of Music

Kramer School of Nursing

National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc.

Oklahoma Board of Nursing

School of Law

American Bar Association

Association of American Law Schools

OCU Admissions Staff and Contact Information

International Admissions Office:

Phone: (405)208-5358

Fax: (405)208-5279

Email: IA@okcu.edu

Website: www.okcu.edu/international

Mailing Address:

Oklahoma City University

Office of International Admissions

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Admission Requirements

Oklahoma City University seeks highly motivated, experienced professionals and students. Important factors to be considered are academic records, achievement on standardized tests, desirable traits of character and personality, and the interest and goals of the applicant in relation to the programs of study offered by the University.

Requirements vary by program. For more information on specific program admission requirements, please see the OCU website or contact an Admissions Counselor.

Definitions:

Regular Admission: Student is fully admitted with no conditions

Provisional Admission: Student is admitted and may begin full-time courses. Must meet additional requirements due to low English Proficiency score. Undergraduate students must maintain a 2.75 GPA for the first 24 credit hours. Graduate students must maintain 3.0 GPA for first 15 credit hours.

Conditional Admission: Student meets academic requirements but does not meet English Proficiency requirements. Student must attend ELS Language Centers and/or meet language requirements prior to enrollment.

Probation: Student is admitted and may begin full-time courses. Must meet additional requirements due to low GPA. Undergraduate students must complete 12 credit hours with “B” average. Graduate students must complete 9 credit hours with “B” average.

Applying to the University

Oklahoma City University does not have application deadlines for international students for most programs. We recommend submitting applications no more than 6 weeks before the program start date to ensure that we have enough time to process the application.

Please be aware that several programs, including music, nursing, and law do have application deadlines. The deadline for fall music applications is April 1 and October 1 for spring applications. The deadline for nursing and law vary from year to year.

To apply, students must submit the following documents:

1. Application: Online and paper applications are accepted. Both can be found on our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/admission/international/apply.aspx>
 - a. Online application fee is \$50
 - b. Paper application fee is \$70
2. Official or certified copies of all transcripts (academic records)
 - a. Must be issued by the school directly to Oklahoma City University OR original documentation must be brought to Oklahoma City University so a certified copy can be made
 - b. Must be accompanied by a certified English translation
3. Financial Statement of Support. This is usually a bank statement or letter which shows financial support for at least \$40,320 for undergraduate students or \$31,288 for graduate students. If the student will be sponsored by a parent or family member, they should also include the financial statement form which can be found on our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/admissions/iso/financialstatement.pdf>
4. Proof of English Proficiency: Official TOEFL, IELTS, or intent to study at ELS Language Center. All applicants from countries not defined as “English Speaking” by the Cambridge Book of Languages must submit proof of English Proficiency. Official scores must be received directly from ETS (TOEFL) or Cambridge (IELTS).
5. Personal Statement: This should tell us something about your background and your future goals, particularly in relation to your studies.
6. Recommendation letters: **(Graduate Only)** Two letters of recommendation preferably from academic sources. References can use this form found on our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/admissions/iso/isrecform.pdf>
7. SAT/ACT score **(Freshman Scholarship Applicants only):**
8. GMAT/GRE score **(MBA and MS Accounting Applicants only)**
9. Audition CD/DVD **(Music, art, dance, or film Applicants only)**

Please be aware that while photocopies are acceptable for admission purposes, all students are required to submit original or certified copies of all documents at the time of enrollment.

Course Dates and Program Costs

2011-2012 Start Dates

Fall Semester: August 22, 2011 – December 16, 2011

Spring Semester: January 9, 2012 – May 4, 2012

Summer 1: May 14, 2012 – June 19, 2012

Summer 2: June 21, 2012 – July 30, 2012

The most up to date information on important dates and university events can be found on the official OCU calendar: <http://www.okcu.edu/calendar/>

2011-2012 Cost Information

Costs listed are estimates and are subject to change without notice.

Undergraduate

Costs are for one academic year (fall and spring semester only). Estimate based on 12-16 credit hour block tuition (\$840 per credit hour) and on-campus housing with meal plan.

Tuition and fees	\$28,550
Living Expenses	\$10,000
Books and Health Insurance	\$1,770
Total	\$40,320

Graduate

Costs are for one academic year (fall and spring semester only). Estimate based on 9 credit hours (\$936 per credit hour) and on-campus housing with meal plan.

Tuition and fees	\$19,518
Living Expenses	\$10,000
Books and Health Insurance	\$1,770
Total	\$31,288

If any dependents (children or spouse) will be accompanying the student to the United States, an additional \$2000 must be shown on the financial statement for an accompanying spouse and \$1000 for each accompanying child.

The costs listed above are the costs that will be documented on the I-20, and are the University's best estimate for the costs the average student can expect their first academic year.

Scholarships

Each year OCU awards scholarships to more than 80% of eligible and promising freshman, transfer, and graduate students. The application for admission is also the application for most scholarships. Scholarships are based on academic merit or performance. Interest in scholarships may be marked on the International Application form. Once an application is complete with all required documents, the application will be automatically evaluated for all possible scholarships.

Undergraduate Scholarships

Freshmen University Academic Merit Scholarships

Academic scholarships are based on ACT or SAT test scores, high academic ability as indicated by grade point average, and writing ability as demonstrated within the essay portion of the application for admission. Full-time enrollment (at least 12 credit hours) is required for scholarship.

ACT or SAT with 3.0 GPA and above*	Award	Amount (per year)
33-36/1440-1600	Trustee Award	\$7,000
29-32/1290-1430	Presidential Award	\$5,000
26-28/1170-1280	University Award	\$4,000
24-25/1090-1160	Achievement Award	\$3,000

*Test scores exclude writing portion. All awards are renewable up to 7 consecutive semesters with 3.0 minimum cumulative GPA.

Freshmen Departmental Awards: Petree College of Arts & Sciences, Meinders School of Business and Kramer School of Nursing

In addition to the University Academic Merit Scholarships, students who are admitted to the Petree College of Arts & Sciences, Meinders School of Business, or the Kramer School of Nursing will be awarded a departmental scholarship which will be combined with the academic merit scholarship.

ACT or SAT with 3.0 GPA and above*	Amount (per year)
33-36/1440-1600	\$13,000
29-32/1290-1430	\$9,000
26-28/1170-1280	\$6,000
24-25/1090-1160	\$4,000

*Renewable by maintaining 3.0 GPA

For example: A freshman undergraduate student is admitted to the Bachelor of Business Administration program. The student has an SAT score of 1190 (Math and Reading sections ONLY – the Writing section is not included). This student will receive an Academic Merit Scholarship of \$4000 AND a department award of \$6000 for a total of \$10,000 per year.

Freshman International Student Academic and English Proficiency Achievement Awards

Freshman international students with a minimum high school GPA of 3.0 and TOEFL (IBT) of at least 80 or IELTS 6.0 are eligible for these scholarships. They may NOT be combined with Academic Merit Scholarships or Departmental Awards listed above.

International Student Academic Award

International Student English Proficiency Award

High School GPA	Award (per year)	TOEFL/IELTS	Award (per year)
3.75-4.0	\$4,000	110+/8.0+	\$6,000
3.5-3.74	\$3,000	100-109/7.5	\$5,000
3.25-3.49	\$2,000	90-99/7.0	\$4,000
3.0-3.24	\$1,000	85-89/6.5	\$3,000
		80-84/6.0	\$2,000

*The High School GPA and TOEFL awards can be combined together, but may not be combined with any other scholarship. Renewable by maintaining 3.0 GPA.

For example: A freshman undergraduate student is admitted to the Bachelor of Science in Business program. The student does not have an SAT score, but does have a high school GPA of 3.3 and a TOEFL score of 96. This student would receive the High School GPA award of \$2000 and the TOEFL/IELTS award of \$4000 for a total of \$6000 per year. In the event that this student DID have a qualifying SAT or ACT score, the student would have to choose between the two sets of scholarships, he would not be able to accept both.

Transfer International Student Scholarships

International students transferring from another university either in the United States or a recognized foreign university may be eligible for the following transfer awards.

Eligibility Requirements	Award	Amount (per year)
Cumulative GPA 3.70 and up Renewable by maintaining 3.0 GPA	Transfer Presidential Award	\$7,000
Cumulative GPA 3.50-3.69 Renewable by maintaining 3.0 GPA	Transfer University Scholarship	\$5,000
Cumulative 3.0-3.49 Renewable by maintaining 2.75 GPA	Transfer Achievement Scholarship	\$3,000
Cumulative GPA 2.50-2.99 Renewable by maintaining 2.5 GPA	Transfer Opportunity Scholarship	\$1,000

Additional Undergraduate Scholarships:

Freshman – Methodist Scholarships

The Bishop Scholar Award provides up to the full cost of tuition for four years for eligible applicants. To be eligible, students must:

- Be a high school senior entering OCU as a first year student.
- Hold membership in the United Methodist Church
- Obtain recommendation from the senior pastor of the student's church
- Maintain full-time enrollment in the Wimberly School of Religion and plan to pursue a career in Christian service in the United Methodist Church
- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- Reside in campus housing freshman through senior years.

Methodist Congregation Award

- \$1000 annually based upon membership in the United Methodist Church
- Must submit a letter from student's pastor indicating their membership in a United Methodist Church

Minister Spouse or Dependent

Prospective students who are a spouse or dependent of an ordained, United Methodist Minister who actively serves the United Methodist Church may be eligible for Minister's Dependent Remission.

Freshmen and Transfer - Talent Scholarships

Fine Arts Scholarships are based upon the results of performance auditions or portfolio review. For information about auditions or portfolio review, click on the links below or contact the Office of University Admissions.

Music Scholarships

- Based on audition
- May be combined with academic scholarship, not to exceed the cost of tuition

Art Scholarships (studio, graphic, or photography)

- Based on portfolio assessment
- Renewable at discretion of the art faculty
- May be combined with academic scholarship, not to exceed the cost of tuition

Theatre Scholarships

- Based on audition
- May be combined with academic scholarship, not to exceed the cost of tuition

Dance Performance and Dance Management Scholarships

- Based on audition
- May be combined with academic scholarship, not to exceed the cost of tuition

Transfer - Phi Theta Kappa

Candidates must be an active member of their Phi Theta Kappa chapter, have 48 semester-quality hours and at least a 3.5 GPA. This scholarship may be combined with other Oklahoma City University institutional scholarships but may not exceed the cost of tuition.

Graduate Scholarships

Oklahoma City University offers scholarship to graduate students enrolled in the following majors: Master of Arts in TESOL, Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Accounting, and Master of Science in Computer Science.

Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Eligibility	Award
TOEFL 600/ IELTS 8.5 or above, GPA 3.00	\$5,000
TOEFL 575/ IELTS 7.5 or above, GPA 3.00	\$4,000
TOEFL 560/ IELTS 6.5/ completion of ELS 112 or above, GPA 3.00	\$3,000

MA in TESOL Academic Scholarship \$1500 per semester up to 3 semesters (GPA of 3.8 or higher. Renewable with GPA of 3.8) Must complete 1 semester before award is made. Cannot be combined with previous scholarship.

MA in TESOL Summer Scholarships \$1000 for 6-8 credit hours taken in summer I and II together or \$500 for 3-5 credit hours taken in summer I and II together (GPA of 3.8 or higher)

Eun Ju Lee MA in TESOL Memorial Scholarship \$1,500 for students in their last semester (GPA of 3.90 in TESOL coursework and leadership skills in the TESOL profession

Meinders School of Business Graduate Merit Scholarships

These scholarships are available to students studying in the MBA, MS Computer Science, or MS Accounting programs. These awards are given at the time of admission only and may not be combined with any other scholarships. Scholarships may be applied to tuition only and may not exceed 50% of full tuition.

GMAT/GRE Scholarship (MBA, MSA*)

Eligibility: Domestic and International Students

Awarded on: GMAT or GRE score at the time of admission

Renewal: Student must maintain 3.0 cumulative graduate GPA and academic good standing.

GMAT (MBA and MSA*)

- 600 > \$15,000
- 550-599 \$12,000
- 500-549 \$9,000

GRE (MBA Only)

- 1500-1600 \$15,000
- 1300-1499 \$12,000
- 1100-1299 \$9,000

*Scholarship for MSA may not exceed \$12,500

Graduate Business Scholarship (MBA, MSA*, MSCS)**

Eligibility: Domestic Students and international students graduated from a regionally accredited U.S. institution

Awarded on: Cumulative Undergraduate GPA at Admission

Renewal: Student must maintain a 3.00 cumulative Graduate GPA and Academic Good Standing

- Cumulative GPA 3.750> \$12,000 (\$1,000 per class)
- Cumulative GPA 3.500-3.749 \$9,000 (\$750 per class)
- Cumulative GPA 3.250-3.499 \$6,000 (\$500 per class)

*Scholarships for MSA may not exceed \$10,000

**Scholarships for MSCS may not exceed \$11,000

Graduate Business Performance Scholarship (up to \$9,000) (MBA, MSA, MSCS*)

Eligibility: Domestic and International Students*

Awarded on: Must have 3.0 UG GPA to qualify. Renews based on OCU Cumulative Graduate GPA

Restriction: Scholarship is offered in portions based on Graduate GPA

Renewal: Student must maintain 3.0 GPA and Academic Good Standing to qualify. Renewal amount will be based on Graduate Program Cumulative GPA in accordance with Award Table below.

*International students taking foundation or prerequisite courses may be eligible for a partial tuition waiver.

Award Level	Graduate Program Cumulative GPA	Scholarship amount per semester
1	3.500 >	\$3,000
2	3.250-3.499	\$2,000
3	3.000-3.249	\$1,000

- Scholarship cannot exceed \$3000 per semester.
- Total Scholarship award may not exceed \$9000.

Scholarship Taxes

Students who receive certain types of scholarships are required to pay taxes on those scholarships. This mostly applies to athletic scholarships that include housing or meal plans. Students must complete their registration in Glacier after they enroll to ensure that their tax information is documented correctly. Most academic scholarships are not taxed.

Flat-Rate Fee Scholarships

Oklahoma City University offers a special Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship to graduate international students admitted to the MBA, MS Computer Science, MS Accounting, or MA TESOL programs. Students who qualify for the Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship are eligible to pay their tuition in one lump sum at the start of their program and will receive a large discount in the total amount of tuition and fees owed for their program. The Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship may NOT be combined with any other graduate scholarship.

Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship for MBA, MS Accounting, and MS Computer Science

Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship cannot be combined with any other scholarship. Scholarship includes tuition and most fees, however does not include parking pass, health insurance, books, or accommodations.

- \$23,000 – One Payment Flat-Rate Scholarship. Students make one payment at the beginning of their program and this amount covers the cost of ALL tuition and fees for the entire Master's program.
- \$25,000 – Two equal payments of \$12,500. Cost includes all tuition and fees for the entire Master's program, however payment is made in two installments.
 - First installment paid prior to the beginning of MBA, MScS, or MSA course
 - Second installment paid at the beginning of the enrollment cycle which includes the 18th core credit hour (normally the start of the second year).

For example: A graduate international student is admitted to the MBA program. He is awarded the Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship and chooses to pay the Flat-Rate Fee of \$23,000 at the start of his program. This student saves a total of \$16,036. If you consider the total cost of tuition and fees for one academic year is \$19,518, over the course of a two years Master's program, a student can expect to pay \$39,036 in tuition and fees for their full program. Therefore, one payment of \$23,000 is a savings of \$16,036 when compared to paying full tuition and fees each semester. This is a significant discount to the student.

Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship for MA TESOL

To qualify, TESOL students must have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 and a minimum TOEFL (IBT) of 80, IELTS 6.0 (no sub-band lower than 5.5), OR must have completed level 112 of ELS. Flat-Rate Fee Scholarship may not be combined with any other scholarship.

- \$21,000 – 36 Credit Hour Flat-Rate Plan. This applies to most students. \$21,000 includes the cost of all tuition and fees for the full Master of Arts in TESOL program.
- \$15,000 – 24 Credit Hour Flat-Rate Plan. This plan applies only to students who have completed 12 credit hours with a grade of "B" or higher in a recognized graduate TESOL program.

What to Expect after You've Been Admitted

Congratulations! You've been admitted to Oklahoma City University! There are still several very important things to take care of:

1. Apply for your visa
2. Make housing arrangements and choose a meal plan
3. Make travel arrangements
4. Plan your arrival: schedule airport pickup and housing check-in, make sure you have all of your necessary documents.

Applying For a Visa

After you are admitted to the university, you will receive an admission letter as well as an I-20 form. You will use the I-20 form to obtain your F1 student visa. You can find more information on the Department of State website about applying for your F1 visa:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1270.html and www.ice.gov/sevis

Steps to apply for your visa

1. Contact your local U.S. Consulate or Embassy to ask about the procedure to apply for an F1 student visa. A list of Consulates and Embassies can be found at <http://www.usembassy.state.gov/>
2. Once you receive your I-20, follow the U.S. Embassy/Consulate's instructions for scheduling an interview for your student visa. It is important to schedule your interview as far in advance as possible as visa processing times may vary. Many consulates recommend that appointments be made no more than 90 days from the intended date of travel, but some can make earlier arrangements.
3. Pay your SEVIS (I-901) fee. The fee is \$200. It can be paid online at <http://www.fmiffee.com>
4. Print the I-901 fee receipt
5. Complete the Online Nonimmigrant Visa Electronic Application (Form DS 160) http://travel.state.gov/visa/forms/forms_4230.html and pay the visa application fee.
6. Print the DS 160 visa application fee receipt
7. For your visa interview, bring the following documents: Form I-20, visa application form DS-160, a valid passport, one 2x2 photograph, your visa application fee receipt, the SEVIS I-901 fee receipt, and be prepared to provide the following:
 - a. Transcripts and diplomas from previous institutions attended
 - b. Scores from standardized tests required by OCU (such as TOEFL, IELTS, SAT, GRE, GMAT, etc.)
 - c. Financial evidence that shows you or your sponsor has sufficient funds to cover your tuition and living expenses during the period of study. Your financial statement should be for the amounts discussed in the cost section of this packet that are also listed clearly on your I-20 form. Financial statements can be provided in the form of bank statements, tax documents, loan or scholarship guarantees, etc.
 - d. Proof of scholarships received
8. Be calm and answer any questions openly and honestly.

On-Campus Housing

Oklahoma City University provides four distinctive living and learning communities for undergraduates where students will find both private time and numerous opportunities to get connected to campus activities—and to build their own home away from home.

OCU offers both coed and same-gender facilities. Meal plans are required in each of the undergraduate facilities.

Students who are under 21 and not living with an adult guardian must live on campus.

We strongly encourage students to apply for on-campus housing as soon as they decide that they will be attending Oklahoma City University. On-campus housing is limited and has a tendency to fill up quickly. Students can submit their housing application and deposit online:

<http://www.okcu.edu/students/reslife/application/>

FRESHMEN & UPPERCLASSMEN HOUSING

[Oklahoma United Methodist Hall](#) is an exciting addition to on-campus housing. The hall is a coed facility for freshmen and upperclassmen.

[Banning Hall](#) is OCU's coed honors hall, offering housing for freshmen and upperclassmen honors students.

[Walker Hall](#) is OCU's women's hall, offering housing for freshmen and upperclassmen women.

[Smith Hall](#) is OCU's men's hall, offering housing for freshmen and upperclassmen men.

All dorms include all the necessary amenities for comfortable college life: high speed Internet access, laundry, big screen TV, microwaves, and games like pool and table tennis.

GRADUATE, LAW & UPPERCLASSMAN HOUSING

Students who are upperclassmen or graduate students can enjoy the freedom and amenities of independent apartment-living at [University Manor](#) and [Cokesbury Court](#).

AMENITY RENTALS

MicroFridge Rentals: Rent or purchase the 3-in-1 MicroFridge® and help protect the environment. OCU endorses the MicroFridge® 3-in-1 unit due to its Safe Plug® circuit protection and because it uses less energy. Rent or buy now and it will be in your room when you arrive. Additionally, OCU students can rent or buy bedding, linens, laptop locks, and safes.

For more information about housing and residence life, call the housing director at (405) 208-7907, or e-mail us at studentlife@okcu.edu. You can also visit the housing website:

<http://www.okcu.edu/students/reslife/>

Housing Options 2011-2012

Housing – Fall & Spring

Centennial Hall – per person, per semester **

Single – 1 bedroom	4,175
Double – 2 bedroom	3,150
Suite – 4 bedroom	2,560

Walker, Banning, Smith & Draper Hall – per person, per semester**

Walker Suite	2,545
Double	1,795
Triple*	1,795

Cokesbury Apartments – per person, per semester

Efficiency – Single	4,250
Double – 2 bedroom	3,085
Double – 4 bedroom	2,425

University Manor – per person, per semester

Single Apartment	2,445
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Housing – Summer

Centennial Hall & Cokesbury– per person, per **summer semester**

Single – 1 bedroom	1,260
Double – 2 bedroom	930
Suite – 4 bedroom	770
Family - 1 bedroom	\$852.50 / - 2 bedroom \$912.50

Summer Storage Charge **735**

University Manor Entire Summer

Single Apartment	1,680
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Room Damage Deposit (\$75 refundable)	250
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*Walker only

Meal Plans

Good friends and good food are always on the menu at the Commons Food Court. More than just a place to eat, it offers great atmosphere and a wide variety of main dishes, sides, and desserts for every taste.

Vegetarian entrees are offered daily, as well as soup and a salad bar. A chef's station provides students with fresh, "straight-from-the-pan" meals such as hamburgers and fries, pasta, or stir-fry. Managed by Sodexo Food Service, the Commons Food Court always offers something good to eat.

And don't forget [Alvin's Café](#), an Oklahoma City University favorite! It offers a variety of signature deli sandwiches on freshly baked breads, salads and sandwiches to go, pastries, desserts, and snacks. Alvin's serves Starbucks' coffees and a variety of other delicious beverages and has a lounge where students can hang out.

Visit the OCU Dining Website for more information on OCU dining options: <http://www.ocudining.com/>

Students who live on-campus must purchase an OCU Meal Plan.

Meal Plans 2011-2012 Costs

**Fall/Spring available meal plan options

Plan A -19 meals per week plus \$200 Points & \$50 Stars Cash	2,145
Plan B -14 meals per week plus \$150 Points & \$50 Stars Cash	2,040
Plan C - 150 block meals plus \$200 Points & \$50 Stars Cash	1,925

Commuter Plan, with \$50 Stars Cash	495
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Cokesbury/University Manor***

Fall/Spring, per semester	175
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Effective Summer I 2011 and subject to change without notice

**All students living in a residence hall are required to purchase a full meal plan.

***Cokesbury Court and University Manor residents are required to purchase a plan consisting of \$125 in Campus Cash and \$50 in Stars Cash.

Life in Oklahoma City

Looking for a city that stimulates your mind and enriches your college experience? Check out the sights and sounds of one of America's most dynamic Southwestern cities, Oklahoma City! Located in the heart of [Oklahoma City](#), the Oklahoma City University campus is within easy driving distance to a wide range of cultural, educational, civic, religious, entertainment, sports, shopping, and dining options.

Oklahoma City's hip, spirited environment blends with its deep western heritage to create a place where culture and commerce thrive. With renowned festivals, national sporting events, treasure-filled museums and a variety of districts highlighting arts and entertainment, the possibilities for adventure and fun in Oklahoma City are endless.

Quick Facts about Oklahoma City:

- Oklahoma City is the capital city of the state of Oklahoma with a metro area population of 1.1 million - the second largest city in the continental U.S. based on geographic size
- Places Rated Almanac cites Oklahoma City as one of the "Best Places to Live in North America"
- A mild climate with four distinct seasons and more than 3,000 hours of sunshine a year.
- Renowned festivals, professional sporting events, treasure-filled museums and a variety of arts and entertainment districts.
- Oklahoma City is home to the NBA basketball team the Oklahoma City Thunder.
- Oklahoma City has one of the lowest cost of living in the United States.
- #3 on *Business Week's* "Forty Strongest U.S. Metro Economies" list.
- #1 on *Forbes* magazine's list of "Most Affordable U.S. Cities" based on low cost of living and low unemployment rate.

For more information about Oklahoma City, please visit the Oklahoma City Convention and Visitor's Bureau website: <http://www.visitokc.com/>

Climate

Oklahoma City's climate is mild, with four distinct seasons and an average temperature of 60F/15C. With more than 3,000 hours of sunshine per year, outdoor recreation and activities are plentiful in Oklahoma City.

- On average, the warmest month is July – temperatures average in around 92F
- The average coolest month is January – temperatures average around 26F

Prepare for all types of weather! We have sunshine, rain, hot, cold, and even occasional snow!

Public Transportation

Many students find that it is most convenient to purchase a used car upon arrival at school. Oklahoma City is a large city and public transportation options are limited as there is no Metro or Subway system.

Oklahoma City has a well-organized bus system operated by METRO Transit. Information on riding the bus and bus routes can be found on their website: <http://www.gometro.org/service-guide>

Taxis are available, especially from places like the airport or bus station. If students need to take a taxi from someplace other than the airport, most likely they will need to call for cab service. Yellow Cab of Oklahoma City can be reached at (405)232-6161.

What to Eat

Oklahoma City is a diverse community full of restaurants and grocery stores catering to people with all sorts of food preferences, religious restrictions, and budgets. Oklahoma City University is located within a five minute walk of one of the largest Asian Districts in the Midwest. There you can find a very large Asian grocery store and many Asian inspired restaurants. The Asian District website details some of the restaurants students will find very close to campus: <http://www.okcasiandistrict.com/index.php>

For students who prefer to shop for organic and all natural foods, Oklahoma City has a Whole Foods Market that should be open by the time school starts in Fall 2011. A variety of grocery stores (with a variety of prices) can also be found: Wal-Mart, Crest Mart, and Buy For Less are all located near campus.

Oklahoma City also has a variety of Halal restaurants and markets:

<http://www.zabihah.com/c/Oklahoma-City+25>

Oklahoma City University has several dining options for students on-campus. From the Caf to Alvin's Café, we have options for everyone. For information about food options on campus:

<http://www.ocudining.com/index.html>

Pre-Departure Checklist

- ✓ Representatives should inform OCU of a student's visa approval and intention to attend.
- ✓ As soon as a student's visa is approved, the student should apply for on-campus housing if the student intends to live in the Residence Halls (dorms) or University Apartments.
- ✓ As a general rule, orientation takes place the week before school starts. The international student orientation session is normally the Friday before school starts. Students should make arrangements to arrive on campus no later than the Thursday before school begins so that they can attend the international student orientation session and enroll for classes before school begins the following week.
- ✓ Students should bring enough money with them to cover the first few weeks of travel and living expenses. Traveler's checks or cash in US dollars is strongly recommended as foreign credit cards usually but do not always work in the US.
- ✓ Students should make photocopies of important documents, such as passports, visas, I-20s, medical records, etc. They should bring an extra copy with them, and they should leave a copy at home with their parents in case anything happens to the original documents.
- ✓ Students should inform OCU of their travel arrangements and complete the "Airport Pickup Request Form" if they would like to be picked up upon their arrival. Airport pickup information is available on our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/admission/international/arrival.aspx>
- ✓ Students should carry with them something with the Oklahoma City University address and phone number, as well as the name, address, and phone number of their accommodations.
- ✓ If a student will be arriving late at night (after 11:00 pm) it is recommended that the student arrange a hotel room. A list of hotels that give discounts to OCU students can be found on our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/visitors/lodging.aspx>
- ✓ Students should clearly label their luggage inside and out with their name, address in Oklahoma City, and Oklahoma City University. Students should also check with the airlines about baggage fees and limitations.
- ✓ Students should be reminded to carry their I-20 and passports with them NOT to pack them in their luggage.

Arriving in Oklahoma City

The closest airport to Oklahoma City University is the Oklahoma City Airport, called Will Rogers World Airport (OKC). Most international flights do not fly directly to Oklahoma City – most students will have to connect through Chicago, LA, San Francisco, or another US city prior to arrival in Oklahoma City. For information on arrival in the United States, Passport Control, and US Customs, please visit the US Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) website: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/id_visa/

Airport Pickup Service

The International Admissions office will conduct airport pickups the week before school begins (for fall

2011: August 15-21) between the hours of 8:00 am and 11:00 pm. Students who would like to be picked up at the airport by a member of the OCU International Admissions staff should complete the Airport Pickup Request form (can be found on our website:

<http://www.okcu.edu/admission/international/arrive.aspx>). Airport pickup requests must be received no less than one week prior to a student's arrival in Oklahoma City. Upon receipt, we will email the student to let them know that the request has been received. The student will receive a second email in the week prior to their arrival with confirmation that one of our advisors will meet them at the airport. Students who will be arriving after hours or on a date outside of our normal pickup schedule may still request airport pickup. These requests will be considered on a case by case basis and will be accommodated when possible.

Students also have the option to take the Airport Express Shuttle. The charge is normally \$22 USD (must be paid by cash or credit card to the driver). Students should be sure to carry the address and phone number of where they will be staying (the dorms, a hotel, etc.). The shuttle is a blue van with yellow lettering that can be found in the shuttle pickup lane outside the baggage claim.

Checking in to Campus Housing

The official move in date for fall 2011 is August 16 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. It is VERY important that students make arrangements to arrive on campus in time to move in on this date. Students who wish to move in on a different date will have to make special arrangements with University Housing. Special move in requests will be considered on a case by case basis and will be accommodated when possible. No move ins will be scheduled between 11:00 pm and 8:00 am, so students arriving after 11:00 pm should arrange a hotel room for their first night.

To make a special move in request, please contact:

Residence Halls (dorms): Ade Okediji (aokediji@okcu.edu)

University Apartments (Cokesbury or University Manor): Ashleigh Arnall (aarnall@okcu.edu)

Students who arrive in January for spring semester should take note that the University is closed each year for the Christmas Holiday usually until the week before school starts. Please refer to the University academic calendar for specific campus holiday closure dates: <http://www.okcu.edu/calendar/>

Area Hotel Accommodations

Oklahoma City University does not have temporary housing available on campus. Students will need to make hotel accommodations if:

- They plan to make living arrangements after arrival in Oklahoma City
- They are not yet able to move in to university housing because of a late or weekend arrival

There are a number of hotels near campus that offer discounts to Oklahoma City University Students. To view information on these hotels, please see our website:

<http://www.okcu.edu/visitors/lodging.aspx>

Students should let the clerk know at the time of check in that they are an Oklahoma City University student to receive a discount. Many of these hotels also offer shuttle services that will be able to bring students to campus at no charge. Students should check with the hotel in advance to find out if a shuttle is available.

What to Bring

Immunization Records

The state of Oklahoma requires proof of certain immunizations from all students. All students must show immunization records upon arrival for **Hepatitis B** and **MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella)**. Additionally, all freshman living in the dorms are required by Oklahoma state law to provide documentation that they have received vaccination against **Meningococcal disease** or to sign a waiver. Students should bring a copy of the immunization record to the Campus Health Clinic. Students who do not have one or both of the required vaccinations can get them at the Campus Health Clinic for a fee. For more information, see our website:

<http://www.okcu.edu/students/studenthealth/immunizations.aspx>

Official Academic Records

Official or certified copies of all admission documents are required at the time a student arrives on campus to enroll. We must have official or certified copies of all academic records (transcripts) plus certified translations, as well as an original financial statement (photocopies cannot be accepted), and official test scores received directly from ETS or Cambridge. OCU absolutely will not accept any “student copies” of TOEFL or IELTS exam results, nor can we accept photocopies of exam results. Only official copies received directly from ETS or Cambridge will be accepted.

Appropriate Clothing

Students should bring appropriate clothing for four distinct seasons. In the summer, it can be quite hot in Oklahoma, and students will want light-weight clothing. In the winter, a warm coat is often necessary. Many students may want a light jacket for spring and fall weather when temperatures can be cooler, but often are not cold enough for a heavy coat. Clothing can be purchased at many locations around Oklahoma City, so students shouldn't worry if they forget something. There are options at all price ranges.

Housing needs

Students may want to bring items like pillows, blankets, or towels. These things can be heavy and hard to pack, so students should know that these items can easily be purchased upon arrival at stores like Wal-Mart or Target for fairly inexpensive prices.

For students who will live on campus in University Housing, here are some suggestions:

http://www.okcu.edu/students/reslife/to_bring.aspx

Cash or Traveler's Checks in U.S. Dollars

Students should carry with them enough cash or Traveler's Checks in USD for at least two weeks' worth of expenses. International credit cards usually work in the United States, but from time to time, they do not, so we strongly recommend that students carry some cash with them just in case. Students can open a bank account immediately after arriving on campus (there are several banks nearby) and money can be wire transferred to their bank account from their home country for future expenses. Money can also be directly transferred to a student's BlueLink account (Bursar) for tuition and other on-campus expenses.

Many students can use ATM machines to withdraw money from bank accounts in their home country, but do not assume that all bank cards will work. Most do, but from time to time they do not, so for this reason we recommend that students carry cash or traveler's checks as a back-up.

What to Expect When You Arrive

Students on an F1 student visa are allowed to enter the United States no more than 30 days prior to the start date of classes. Once you arrive in Oklahoma City and have settled in (and gotten a little sleep!) your first step will be to come to the International Admissions office to complete the enrollment process. The International Admissions Office is located in the Ann Lacy Visitors and Admissions Center. Call 405-208-5358 for directions.

You should bring the following documents with you:

- ✓ Passport (with visa)
- ✓ Stamped I-20
- ✓ Stamped I-94 card (arrival/departure card – normally stapled in passport)
- ✓ Passports and I-20s of all dependents accompanying you to the United States
- ✓ Any original documents that were not submitted at the time of the application including:
 - Original transcripts: **We must have original transcripts sent directly from your previous school (unless additional copies are not provided). We cannot accept “issued to student” transcripts.** Please contact all previous institutions to request original transcripts be sent to OCU.
 - Original diplomas (certified copies will be taken – the original will be returned)
 - Original financial statements
 - The application fee if it has not already been paid
 - Verify that OCU has received your original TOEFL or IELTS score report. **We cannot accept “issued to student” score reports.** If your original TOEFL or IELTS has not already been submitted, please contact ETS (for TOEFL scores) www.ets.org to request an original score report, or Cambridge (for IELTS)

http://www.ielts.org/test_takers_information.aspx . OCU’s institutional code is 6543.

After completing your enrollment in the International Admissions office, you will be an active Oklahoma City University student! You will be given a list of instructions, a map of campus, and information on orientation activities.

Enrolling for Classes

Your next step will be to make an appointment to see your academic advisor to enroll for classes. You will be given the contact information for your academic advisor in the International Admissions office.

Below is a list of most advisors:

Program	Advisor	Email	Phone	Location
Graduate Business (including MSCS)	Cindy Treadway	ctreadway@okcu.edu	405-208-5154	MS 106
TESOL	Dr. Robert Griffin	Rgriffin@okcu.edu	405-208-5941	WC 263C
Music	Rachel McCarthy	rmccarthy@okcu.edu	405-208-5980	BC A313
Undergraduate Arts and Sciences	Denise Binkley	dbinkley@okcu.edu	405-208-5931	WC 105
Undergraduate Business (all)	Geoff Seay	gwseay@okcu.edu	405-208-5269	MS 106

Your academic advisor will work with you to select your classes after you arrive on campus. There is generally no reason to enroll prior to your arrival on campus.

Student Accounts

After enrolling for your classes, your next step will be to visit the student accounts office to get your Student ID card (Star Access Card) and to make payment arrangements. Students must make arrangements to pay their tuition and fees prior to the end of the first week of classes. Students may pay their tuition charges in full at that time or they may choose to set up a payment plan. Students will be charged a deferred payment fee and small interest charge for deferred or late payments.

All students will receive a Student ID Number at the time of admission (also called the “B Number”). Students should also receive an email with their BlueLink Log-In and Password soon after they are admitted. With the B Number and the BlueLink log-in, students will be able to log in to their student account and to pay money to be used for expenses such as tuition, fees, health insurance, on-campus housing, and meal plans. This is the recommended method of payment for students who would like to make a deposit (tuition deposit or housing deposit) or who would like to transfer money to pay their student expenses prior to leaving their home country.

We do not recommend that students transfer money to this account with the intention of withdrawing it once they arrive in the U.S. The student account is not a bank account. It is the account that the University uses to bill the students for University-related expenses. Students should open a bank account after arrival in Oklahoma City for other expenses. Cash and traveler’s checks are recommended

for students to use prior to opening a bank account

Student Health

Students must submit health records to the Student Health Clinic no more than 2 months after school starts. Please refer to the section above (What to Bring: Immunization Records) for the exact documents you should bring with you.

Glacier

All international students must create a Glacier account and fill out all of the appropriate information. Glacier is used to assist international students with tax filing. Every year in the United States, everyone must file a tax return between February and April. International students are included. Glacier helps international students to file their tax return. You will be given more information about what you need to do in Glacier at the International Student Orientation Session

International Student Orientation Session

For the fall 2011 semester, the International Student Orientation Session will take place on the Friday before school starts (August 19) from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm. At this session, students will get information about different activities on campus, important immigration basics, information on health insurance, and Glacier (taxes).

In addition to the International Student Orientation Session, there will be other orientation activities throughout the week of August 15-19. For more information, see our website:

<http://www.okcu.edu/students/fye.aspx>

Student Resources

Student Health Clinic

Primary healthcare services are offered at a very low cost to students at the Campus Health Clinic located on campus. The Campus Health Clinic offers a variety of services such as: Assessment and treatment of illness or injury, prescriptions writing, vaccine administration, TB testing, and more. Except in the case of a health emergency, it is highly recommended that students visit the Campus Health Clinic first before visiting an off-campus health facility or the hospital. This can save students hundreds or even thousands of dollars!

The Campus Health Clinic also oversees the Student Health Insurance Plan for international students and provides assistance to students who have questions about what their health insurance covers. They can refer students to the appropriate health care facilities for more advanced care when necessary and can also provide guidance about billing and other issues that can arise. For more information about the Student Health Clinic, services offered, immunization records that are required, or student health insurance questions, see our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/students/studenthealth/index.aspx>

Learning Enhancement Center (LEC)

OCU offers many resources to help our students to be successful. One of these resources is the Learning Enhancement Center (LEC). Services offered include personal tutoring, paper critiques, assistance improving grammar and writing skills, assistance improving research skills, conversation groups for improvement of English language skills, access to computers and internet for paper writing and research, and more. The LEC is open 8:00 am – 9:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 9:00 am – 5:00 pm on Fridays. Students only need to make an appointment for one-on-one tutoring in any subject. For more information on the LEC, see our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/students/lec/>

Multicultural Student Affairs

Oklahoma City University is dedicated to creating a campus environment that embraces diversity. We have more than 60 student-led organizations, including leadership scholars, multicultural organizations, and sororities and fraternities. International students can participate in a multitude of activities such as Mr. and Miss International OCU, International Food Fair, and FACES – a multicultural student talent show. For a list of OCU Student Organizations, see our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/students/organizations.aspx>

Career Services

The Career Services Office offers a variety of resources to assist students with their search for the perfect career. Resources include individual career counseling, resume writing, interviewing techniques, job search strategies, career fairs, and more. Specifically for international students, the Career Services Office offers access to an online International Student virtual job fair. For more information about OCU's Career Services Office, see our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/services/career/>

Safety

Safety of our students is a top concern. Oklahoma City University employs its own Police Department dedicated to providing our campus community with emergency and non-emergency services in a timely and efficient manner. Additionally, our 24-hour police force is extremely proactive in identifying and eliminating potential crimes and safety concerns.

Religious Life

Oklahoma City University is affiliated with the United Methodist Church; however we welcome and embrace students from all cultural and religious backgrounds. The university provides a variety of ways for students to pursue their own religious interests. For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.okcu.edu/religiouslife/about.aspx>

Post Office

Oklahoma City University has a fully operational post office located on campus.

Health Insurance

Oklahoma City University has a Student Health Insurance Policy (SHIP) administered by Academic Health Plans. The policy offers up to \$100,000 for each covered injury or illness. Students on the SHIP pay a \$100 deductible per policy year, then Academic Health Plans will cover 100% of a covered injury or illness up to the basic health maximum of \$5,000. After \$5,000, the major medical health benefit pays 80% up to the max of \$100,000. For information about the University Health Insurance Policy, please visit the website: <https://www.academichealthplans.com/okcu/index.php>

The OCU Student Health Insurance Policy is mandatory for all international students. Even if a student has a separate health insurance policy through their home country, all international students have the OCU SHIP. It is billed automatically to the student's account along with tuition and other fees. The cost is \$726 per year.

ELS Language Center at Oklahoma City University

ELS Oklahoma City is located on the Oklahoma City University campus and offers many study options to students. The location offers a safe community with one of the lowest costs of living in the United States. Affordable apartments and homestays are available.

OCU offers conditional admission to ELS students and accepts ELS level 112 in place of the TOEFL or IELTS. Students may apply for conditional admission to OCU with no TOEFL or IELTS if they plan to attend ELS.

Oklahoma City University has a wonderful relationship with our ELS center, and we work very closely together to be sure that the ELS students have a good experience on OCU's campus. ELS students can use many of the OCU facilities, including the dorms and on-campus apartments. This allows students the opportunity to adjust to the campus environment before they begin their degree program. Additionally, ELS students are invited to participate in many OCU events.

OCU offers concurrent enrollment to ELS students in level 110, 111, or 112. Students in level 110 are allowed to enroll in one class at OCU, students in 111 may enroll in 2 classes, and students in 112 may enroll in 3 classes. Additionally, OCU offers the added benefit that ELS students in level 110, 111, or 112 and who are enrolling in undergraduate classes may enroll in up to 9 credit hours of OCU classes free of charge. If the student enrolls at OCU after completing level 112, these classes will be counted toward their program and the student will not be charged for them. If the student wishes to transfer to another university, they may transfer the credits with them, however they would be required to pay for the classes at that time.

For more information about the Oklahoma City University ELS Language Center, please visit their website: www.els.edu/oklahomacity.