

Welcome to Clemson Email Series
Email #2 | December 4, 2024

Thank you to everyone who read our first [Welcome to Clemson email](#). We hope you found the information valuable and helpful.

Welcome to the second installment of our *Welcome to Clemson* email series. This series will give all new international students the vital information you need to best prepare for your arrival to the U.S. and arrival at either the main campus or one of our Innovation Campuses across South Carolina.

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Finding Housing:

Securing housing will need to be a priority for you as you prepare for your upcoming move to Clemson. Finding housing while outside the U.S. is a challenge. Here is some information to help with the challenge:

- **Undergraduate Student Housing:** All unmarried, first-year students who are under the age of 21 at the time of enrollment are required to live in university-owned housing for the fall and spring semesters. For information on on-campus housing, visit the [Clemson Home webpage](#).
- **Graduate Students:** On-campus housing is not available for master’s or Ph.D. students. International Student Organizations are a good source of information on where most international students live in the area. For guidance on off-campus housing, please refer to the helpful information below:
 - International Students Student Arrival Guide section on [housing](#).
 - Clemson’s Office of Advocacy and Success’ [Off-Campus Student Services Webpage](#).
 - Clemson University [Off-Campus Housing website](#).
 - [International Student Organizations](#) for guidance on where other students live around the University.
 - Students attending classes in Greenville, Charleston, and/or other locations should contact their program coordinators for information on housing options in these specific areas.



Travel to the U.S.:

As a reminder, international students are allowed to arrive in the U.S. no earlier than 30 days prior to the start of classes. Clemson University will begin classes on **January 8, 2025**, so new students can enter the U.S. on or after **December 9, 2024**. If you are an international student transferring your active SEVIS record to Clemson University from another U.S. school, you can remain in the U.S. this winter or return to the U.S. with a Clemson I-20 prior to December 9, 2024.

- Prior to traveling to the U.S., you must review your I-20/DS-2019 for accuracy and **print and sign** the bottom of page 1 by hand.
- Make sure to have easy access to your passport and I-20/DS-2019 while traveling. You will need to show these items to officials so having them safely in your carry-on bag is preferred. Clemson also recommends having documents proving funding on you as well when you arrive.
- Remember to carry physical documents with you. Do not present digital copies of your documents through an electronic device to the Customs and Border Protection officer.

International Student Orientation:

Our office will host New International Student Orientation at the date, time and location below. This is a separate session than Undergraduate and Graduate Student Orientations and will focus primarily on maintaining your immigration status as a Clemson University student. We will provide important information on course requirements, synchronous vs. asynchronous course enrollment, work authorization opportunities and timelines, etc.

Please mark your calendar to attend the session below. Our session will be provided both in-person virtually via Zoom.

New International Student Orientation:

Date: Tuesday January 7, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)

Location: Watt Family Innovation Center | Room 208

Virtual Link: Will be posted on our International Student Orientation Page at a later time.

Airport Shuttles:

Clemson University offers airport shuttles from Greenville-Spartanburg Airport and the Charlotte Douglas International Airport. You can find information on the shuttle service [here](#). If the Clemson shuttle is not convenient for your arrival time or location, you can use commercial shuttles/taxis to bring you to Clemson. Commercial shuttles/taxis can be expensive, especially if you arrive in Charlotte or Atlanta. Please email or call shuttle or taxi companies in advance for cost and availability of transportation if you wish to use their services.

- The distance from Greenville-Spartanburg Airport to Clemson is 45 miles (72.4km) [55- minute drive]. Information on shuttles and taxis can be found [here](#).
- The distance from the Charlotte Douglas International Airport and Clemson is 130 miles (209km) [2-hour drive]. Information on shuttles and taxis can be found [here](#).
- The distance from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Clemson is 130 miles (209km) [2-hour drive]. Information on shuttles and taxis can be found [here](#).

If you are arriving to study at one of our Innovation Campuses in and around Charleston, you can arrive



at the Charleston International Airport in Charleston, SC. Information on shuttles/taxis from this location can be found [here](#).

Another option for transportation to Clemson may be current students in one of Clemson's many international student organizations. Information on these organizations can be found in the link in the below section. You are welcome to contact them for guidance and assistance on arriving at Clemson.

International Student Organizations:

Clemson has a multitude of international student organizations that are a valuable support system for new international students. Please take time to review the various student and community organizations listed in our [Arrival Guide](#).

COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Options:

- Clemson University relies on individuals' awareness and commitment to their own health and to the health of all Tigers and the greater community. The following resources and recommendations, which are aligned with [CDC Guidance](#), are provided to help each of us manage our own health and protect the health of others.
- Currently, optional COVID-19 testing remains available. Additional information can be found [here](#).

Required Immunizations:

All new students are required to have specific immunizations. Student Immunization Forms or a verified copy of your immunization record must be uploaded to Clemson's Student Health Services' secure, online health portal. These items must be submitted prior to December 1. Students not in compliance with the immunization requirements may have a hold placed on future registrations. Information on the immunization requirement can be found [here](#).

Student Health Services offers several immunizations at Redfern Health Center for a nominal fee. The list of immunizations offered by Redfern can be found [here](#). For additional questions on immunizations, please review our [arrival guide](#) and contact Redfern Health Center [here](#).

Deadline for Payment of Tuition and Fees:

International students can pay their tuition and fees from their home country using the [instructions found on the Student Financial Services' webpage](#). However, once you arrive in the U.S., you can pay with a credit card or sign up for the [Clemson University Four Payment Plan](#) via [iRoar](#). You can contact Student Financial Services with billing questions via phone at +1-864-656-5592, via chat on their [website](#), or via email at studentbillquestions@clemson.edu. Additional information on paying your tuition and fees can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Office Closure Dates:

As we approach the Holiday Season, please note our office will be closed and our staff will be unable to respond to emails during the following dates:

- Thursday, November 28, 2024 – Friday, November 28, 2024
- Monday, December 23, 2024 – Friday, December 27, 2024
- Wednesday, January 1, 2025

We hope you find the information above useful and helpful. If you have any questions regarding the



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information above, please [contact us](#). We are available for questions via phone, email, and/or Zoom meeting. Once again, we are very excited to meet you and welcome you to Clemson University!

We will be sending more helpful information next week!

Take care,

Lindsey Hill, Director

Taylor Rigot, Associate Director

Wasim Gendi, International Services Advisor

Nathaniel Hazel, International Student Advisor

Phyllis Lawless, Administrative Assistant

