

# ISORP NEWS

International Student Orientation and Registration Program  
Spring 2013 Semester

## Congratulations and Greetings from WMU!

International Admissions and Services (IAS) is pleased you have chosen Western Michigan University (WMU) for furthering your academic studies in the United States. Of its approximately 25,000 students, WMU hosts more than 1,390 international students from 93 countries. WMU's community is committed to furthering international understanding and you will be a valuable asset to this process. Have a safe journey to Kalamazoo. We look forward to meeting you at the International Student Orientation and Registration Program (ISORP). **ISORP will be held on Thursday, January 3 and Friday, January 4, 2013 in the Bernhard Center East Ballroom.**

Check out the online orientation information at <http://international.wmich.edu/ISORP>

### Start Preparing Now

- Obtain your passport and U.S. visa as soon as possible.
- Make travel arrangements to Kalamazoo.
- Make arrangements for funds to be sent in advance or to be brought with you.
- Make arrangements for a place to stay during ISORP. (Read the information about temporary housing).
- Advise your friends and family of your *temporary* mailing address.
- Visit the International Admissions webpage to learn more about life at WMU.

### Welcome to WMU!



### ISORP IS MANDATORY

ISORP was designed specifically to assist newly admitted international students in adjusting to WMU. University departments and staff make special arrangements to meet you, share important information, and answer questions during orientation. **Attendance at ISORP is mandatory.** Please do not miss any orientation sessions. Currently enrolled WMU student leaders will assist you through orientation. Students who miss ISORP sessions or who are granted any exemption will still be considered responsible for the information provided during ISORP. Please read this newsletter carefully. It will answer many of your questions regarding WMU and ISORP. Welcome to WMU!

#### HOW TO CONTACT IAS

**Office Phone:** (269) 387-5866 Monday-Friday 8 a.m.—5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time  
**Fax:** (269) 387-5899 Monday-Friday 8 a.m.—5p.m.  
**Emergencies Only:** Maran Subramain, program coordinator (269) 203-5482  
email: [intl-activities@wmich.edu](mailto:intl-activities@wmich.edu)



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
Diether H. Haenicke  
Institute for Global Education

**WHEN**

ISORP will begin on Thursday, January 3, 2013 at 8 a.m. and continue through Friday, January 4. **Attendance** each day **is required**. Classes begin on Monday, January 7.

**WHERE**

ISORP will be held in the Bernhard Center West Suite (see map on back page).

**WHAT**

Please bring all your immigration documents to ISORP including your **passport** with **visa**, your **I-94** card and your **I-20** or **DS-2019**.

**SCHEDULE**

ISORP registration will be open from 8 to 10 a.m. in the Bernhard Center East Ballroom. The opening session will begin promptly at 10 a.m. You will receive a complete schedule of ISORP activities during registration. ISORP sessions will include:

- Academic advising
- Course registration
- Grading
- Advising on transfer credits
- U.S. immigration rules & regulations
- Medical insurance and health care
- Campus tours
- Shopping trips
- Social activities with other students

**COST**

All newly enrolled international students will be assessed a mandatory \$135 fee for Spring ISORP services and meals. **Housing and meals are not included**. Free breakfast is provided every morning.

**TRAVEL PLANS**

We recommend that new students arrive 1-2 days prior to ISORP to rest and adjust to the time change. Plan to fly directly to the Kalamazoo Airport (airport code: AZO). Even though Chicago and Detroit appear to be nearby, both are at least **three hours away** by car. **Transportation from the Kalamazoo Airport will be provided free of charge starting January 1, 2013.** Please **locate the transportation desk in the baggage claim area for further information.**

**TEMPORARY HOUSING**

**Students with a WMU apartment contract:** Please check in with the WMU Apartment office Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., for move-in procedures. The office is open until 5 pm. Find more at [www.wmich.edu/apartment](http://www.wmich.edu/apartment)

**Students with a residence hall contract:** If you have a residence hall contract, the earliest you may move-in is Thursday, January 3 from 5 pm - 6 pm as a part of orientation. You will be charged an early move-in fee of a little more than \$20 per day until January 6, when halls officially open.

**\*\* Note:** Students will not be able to move-in earlier than the move-in date for apartments and residence halls. If you are planning on arriving before the move-in dates provided above, you will need to find other arrangements until the specified move-in date.

**Students without a housing contract:** You will need to make a reservation with a hotel before and during ISORP. We suggest the Super 8 Motel below. Please mention during your reservation that you are an international student to receive a 10% discount. WMU will provide a shuttle service to campus during ISORP week for those students staying at the hotel. Be ready at the hotel door between 8 and 8:30 a.m.

Super 8—Kalamazoo, [www.super8.com](http://www.super8.com) (reserve online)  
Phone: (269) 345-0146, Fax: (269) 345-0146

**YOUR TEMPORARY MAILING ADDRESS**

YOUR NAME c/o ISORP  
International Admissions and Services  
4255 Ellsworth Hall  
Western Michigan University  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008 -5246 U.S.A.

## LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

**WMU Residence Halls** provide safe on-campus housing and opportunities to meet other WMU students. Be sure to indicate your preference on your housing request forms. Permanent accommodations will be available starting Thursday, January 3. All questions about residence hall reservations and contracts should be directed to the **WMU Residence Life Office**.

Please apply online at <http://www.wmich.edu/housing>

Residence Life  
Western Michigan University  
1903 W. Michigan Ave.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5312  
Phone: (269) 387-4735  
Fax: (269) 387-4786  
rl-info@wmich.edu

Transfer/graduate/sophomore and above students are eligible to live in **WMU Campus Apartments**. Apply online at: [www.wmich.edu/apartment](http://www.wmich.edu/apartment)

WMU Apartments  
Western Michigan University  
1903 W. Michigan Ave.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5312  
Phone: (269) 387-2175  
Fax: (269) 387-4786  
ca-info@wmich.edu

## FINANCES

WMU's total cost of attendance per academic year is approximately \$24,700 for graduate students and \$33,900 for undergraduates. Do not rely on working in the United States. Like most U.S. schools, WMU has little financial aid for international students. If you have a government scholarship, bring enough money for two months (about \$3,000) to pay for rent, food, books, deposits, and warm clothing. If privately sponsored, undergraduates enrolled in 12 - 15 credits will need approximately \$11,200, and graduates enrolled in 6 credits will need \$6,300 for the first semester's tuition and fees. Payment in full is due on the first day of classes. Carry with you international travelers checks or a bank draft payable to WMU. Tuition and fees will be reviewed by the university in August every year.

## ORIENTATION ATTENDANCE CONFIRMATION

Please confirm that you will attend orientation at the following website:

[international.wmich.edu/rsvp/isorp-rsvp](http://international.wmich.edu/rsvp/isorp-rsvp)

If you have any further questions please contact: [intl-activities@wmich.edu](mailto:intl-activities@wmich.edu)

## FURTHER INFORMATION ON LIFE AT WMU

The International Student Handbook is full of valuable information. Find it here:

[international.wmich.edu/handbook](http://international.wmich.edu/handbook)

## ABOUT YOUR MEALS

During ISORP you will be provided with daily breakfast and lunch during your first day at no extra cost. However, you will be responsible for your meals for the rest of the week. Dining halls will be open on Monday, January 7.

## TRANSFER CREDITS

If you expect to receive advanced transfer credits, it is helpful to bring extra copies of your transcripts, diplomas or certificates. A syllabus or course description is also helpful and sometimes required.

## ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

If your admission letter states that you are required to enroll in ENGL 3600 or 3610, your admission counselor will register you for this class prior to the beginning of the semester. This course counts toward the bachelor's degree only and cannot be waived. You must receive a grade of "C" or higher to pass this course

## HEALTH CARE & MEDICAL INSURANCE

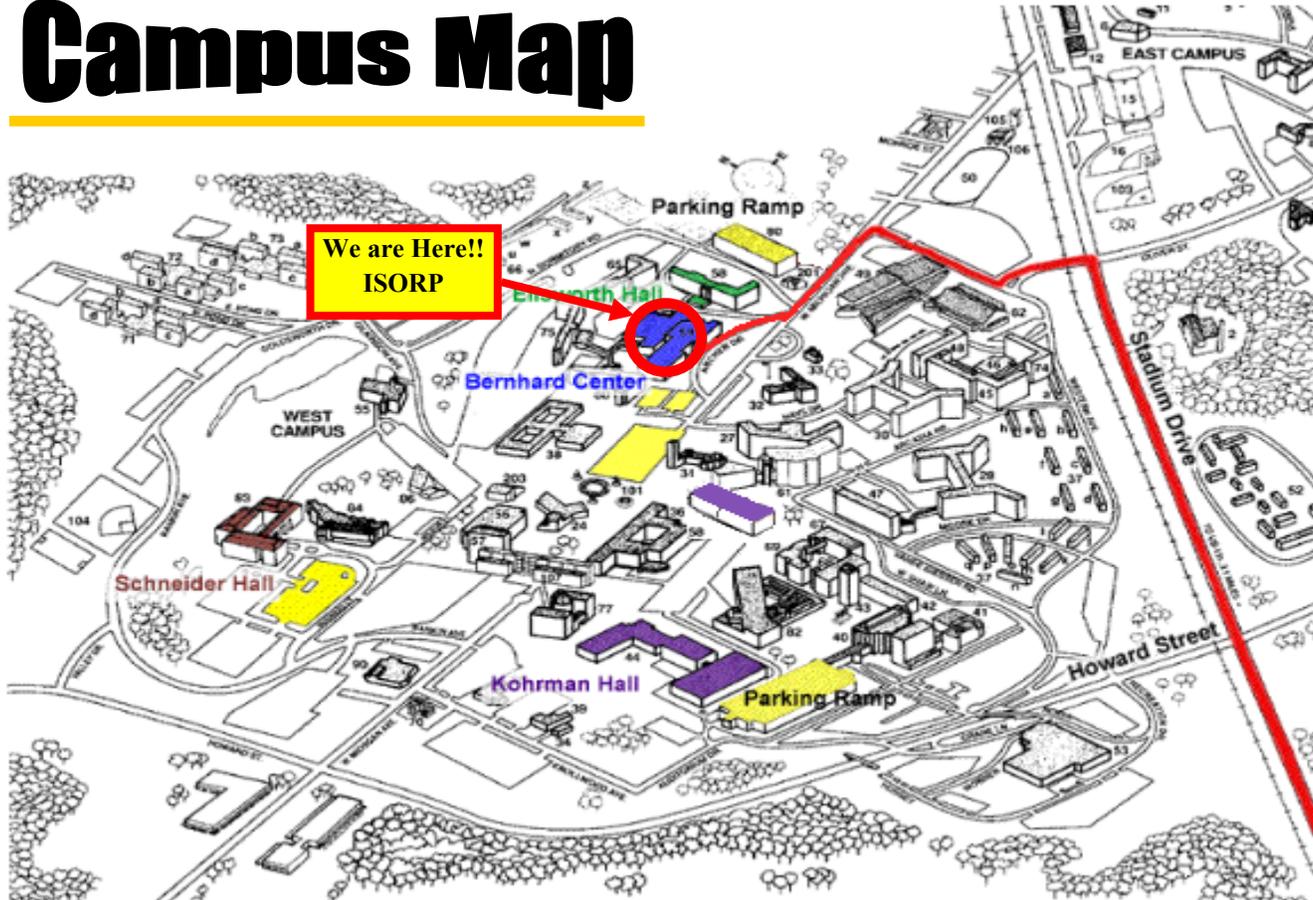
Western Michigan University requires all international students to have comprehensive medical insurance. Your university account will be automatically charged for WMU insurance unless you submit a copy of your insurance policy that meets WMU's waiver requirements, listed at <http://www.wmich.edu/healthcenter/insurance/student.htm>. All health care or insurance related inquiries should be directed to the Sindecuse Health Center Insurance Manager at [shc-usip@wmich.edu](mailto:shc-usip@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-3266.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO F-1 & J-1 STUDENTS

An I-901 (SEVIS) fee for F-1 students of \$200 and J-1 students of \$180 has been implemented by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The fee must be paid and fully processed prior to your visa interview. Please read all immigration documents carefully. By signing your copy of the form I-20 or DS-2019 and accepting your U.S. visa, you agree to all terms and conditions set forth by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

For details, visit [www.ice.gov/sevis/faq.htm](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/faq.htm).

# Campus Map



# Bernhard Center Map

## Second Floor

