



ISORP NEWS



International Student Orientation and Registration Program
Summer 2012 Session

Congratulations and Greetings from WMU!

International Admissions and Services (IAS) is pleased that 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, May 3 and Friday, May 4, 2012 in the Bernhard Center West 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 IAS Web page to learn more about the international student organizations and how they can assist you.

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:** Craig VanGalder, Program Coordinator (269) 203-5482

WHEN

ISORP will begin on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. and continue through Friday, May 4. **Attendance** each day **is required**. Summer classes begin on Monday, May 7.

WHERE

ISORP will be held in the Bernhard Center West Ballroom (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 8:00 to 10 a.m. in the Bernhard Center West 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 \$125 fee for Summer ISORP services and materials. **Housing and meals are not included.**

**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 (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 from April 29 through May 11, 2012.** Please locate the transportation desk in the baggage claim area of the airport for further information.

**TEMPORARY
HOUSING**

Students with a WMU apartment contract: Please check in with the WMU Apartment office Monday through Friday, 9:00a.m. - 4:00p.m., for move-in procedures. The office is open until 5pm. Find more at www.wmich.edu/apartment

Students with a residence hall contract: If you have a residence hall contract, you may move in early starting Wednesday, May 2, 2012. You will be charged an early move-in fee of a little more than \$20 per day until May 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 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 ISORP on Thursday, May 3 and Friday, May 4, for those students staying at the hotel. Be ready at the hotel door between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m.

Super 8—Kalamazoo, www.super8.com (reserve online)
Phone: (269) 345-0146, Fax: (269) 345-0146
618 Maple Hill Dr.
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

**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 Wednesday, May 2. 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

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 travel-

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AT WMU

The members of WMU's international student organizations are willing to assist you in your transition to WMU and share information. You are welcome to make a contact before arriving to Kalamazoo.

African Student Association	jacob.t.olatunde@wmich.edu	Latino Student Alliance	wmu.latinostudentalliance@gmail.com
Chinese Scholars & Students	xiagiao.cai@wmich.edu	Malaysian Student Association	wmu.malaysia@gmail.com
Dominican Student Organization	rso_dso@wmich.edu	Muslim Student Association	rso_msa@wmich.edu
Filipino Student Organization	dondhelmer.g.caagbay@wmich.edu	Rumi Club	yusuf.k.bilgic@wmich.edu
German Club	alyssa.l.lord-hill@wmich.edu	Russian Club	jesse.d.torma@wmich.edu
Indian Student Association	isawmu@gmail.com	Saudi Arabian Students Assoc.	ssa.wmu@gmail.com
International Programs Council	intl-rso@wmich.edu	Taiwanese Student Association	wmu.twsa@gmail.com
Japan Club	eri.ohno@wmich.edu	Thai Student Association	chaiphat.plybour@wmich.edu
Kenyan Association	deniskipngetic.mursoi@wmich.edu	West Michigan Iranian Community	wmic.rso@gmail.com

ers checks or a bank draft payable to WMU. Tuition and fees will be reviewed by the university in August every year.

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.

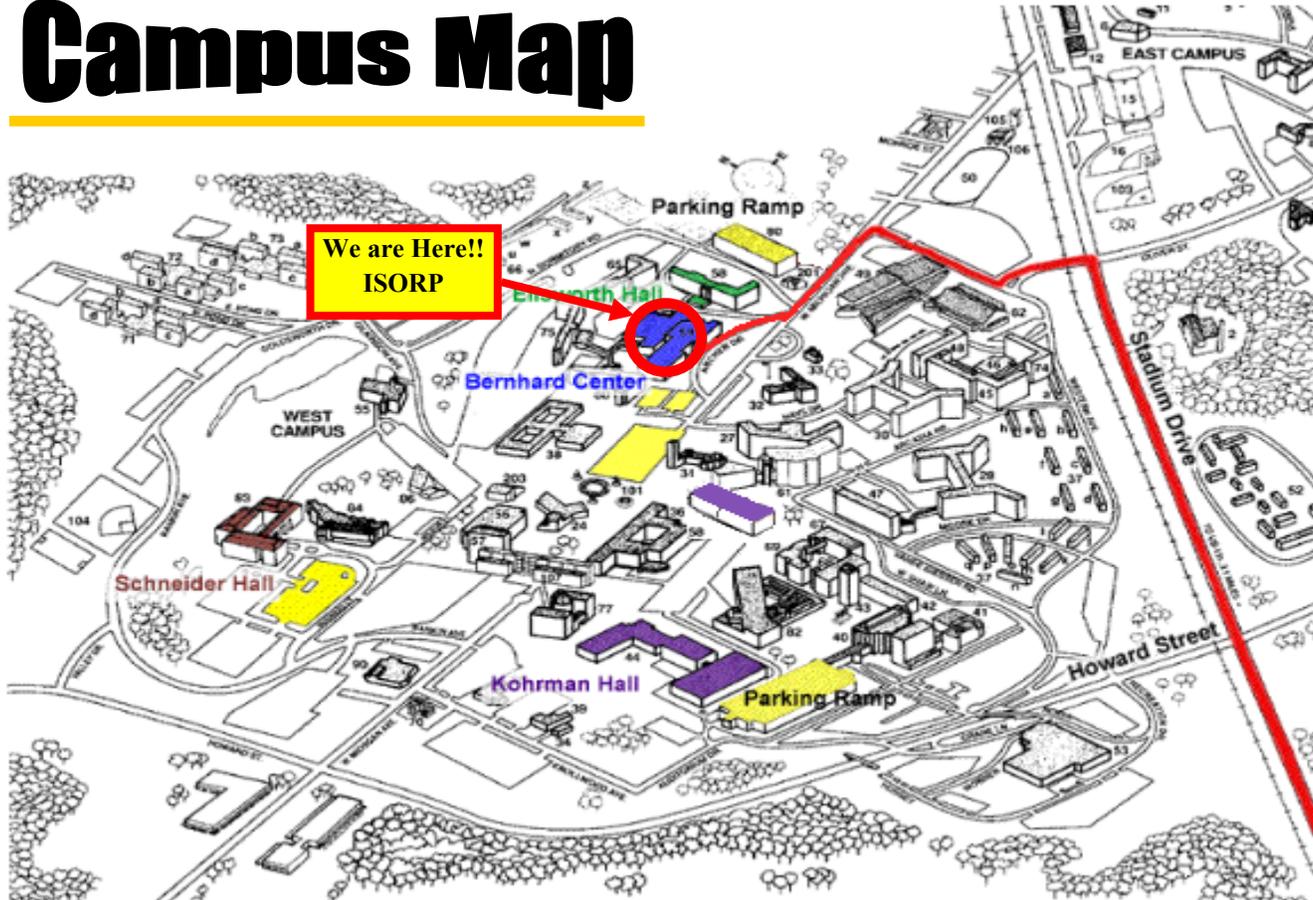
HEALTH CARE & MEDICAL INSURANCE

Western Michigan University requires all international students to have comprehensive medical insurance. You will be automatically charged for insurance at WMU unless you bring insurance from your home country that meets WMU's approval. Students not wishing to purchase insurance through WMU must have private insurance that meets all waiver requirements listed on the Student Insurance section of www.sindecuse.com. They must go to the WMU page of www.aetnastudenthealth.com and complete a waiver application. All insurance inquiries should be directed to the Sindecuse Health Center Insurance Manager, at: shc-usip@wmich.edu, (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

Campus Map



Bernhard Center Map

Second Floor

