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Your 5 Steps  
to U.S. Study



## Pre-Departure

Congratulations on accepting an offer! You should be proud of yourself for making it this far. The next step is preparing for what should be a life changing experience!

A good place to start is our [Prepare for your departure](#) page.

### Key steps

- Attend a pre-departure session at your local EducationUSA office if offered.
- Make your travel arrangements—be sure to arrive in the U.S. in time to attend your college's orientation events and activities.
- Gather pre-departure materials from your institution's website—this includes information about health insurance; local climate; transportation options; housing; and tips to prepare for your arrival.
- Keep a notebook for writing down any unanswered questions you have along the way so you can remember to ask them when you arrive.
- Check in with the International Student Office on your campus once you've arrived. Don't forget—these offices exist solely to support international students and can provide a helpful network that might become a surrogate family to you while you're in the U.S.
- Get involved and experience new things!
- Never stop asking questions both in and out of the classroom. People will always be willing to assist—you just need to ask.

### Helpful tip

Consider buying some Australian souvenirs to use as thankyou gifts for people that help you in the first couple of months as you adjust being a freshman student—perhaps to a faculty member, or a family you're invited to visit over a holiday. These don't need to be extravagant—things like clip on koalas or other small token gifts can convey appreciation.

### Give yourself time to adjust

Be prepared that things are going to be different and that's okay. Don't underestimate your resilience during the adjustment phase—give yourself time to settle in and recover from the common experience of culture shock. Granted yours is a little further away, but most freshmen on campus will have also just moved away from home and be trying to adjust, just like you. Remember to get involved, ask questions and enjoy your adventure!

Please continue to share highlights and stories from your U.S. college experiences with us on [Facebook](#). The EducationUSA Australia team wishes you well!