Travel from Pittsburgh International Airport to Campus

If traveling to Pittsburgh by air, you will fly into the Pittsburgh International Airport. There are several ways to travel to campus from the airport:

1. **Taxis** (approximately $50-$60).
2. **28X Flyer**. This is a city bus that goes from the airport to the city and stops at several campuses ($3.75).
3. **SuperShuttle Airport Shuttle Service**: www.supershuttle.com (approximately $25).
4. **Airport Pick-ups** are subject to availability for the fall semester only. We will be in touch prior to the beginning of the semester to inform you about the best options for arriving to Duquesne. If pick-ups are not available, we suggest you arrange one of the above options.

Important Dates for Your Arrival

Please pay special attention to the enclosed list of dates and events that are a part of International Student Orientation Weekend. The events below are especially important as part of the arrival process.

**International Student Orientation**

Please be sure to arrive in time to attend the mandatory International Student Orientation. This orientation is essential for learning the necessary requirements expected of international students while attending an institution in the U.S. For the fall semester, we have also planned a weekend full of activities that will allow you to meet fellow students and staff to help you ease into your new home. More abbreviated orientations are planned for the spring and fall semesters.

**English as a Second Language (ESL) Testing**

All students are asked to meet the necessary English proficiency requirements upon arrival. ESL will evaluate your individual situation to assess whether you must be tested on campus or if your background and prior test results meet the requirements.

Cultural Ambassadors (CAs) Are Here to Help!

We understand what international students face when deciding on a university to attend in the U.S. To ensure you make the best decision and that all of your questions about Duquesne are answered, we have a dedicated group of Cultural Ambassadors to assist you.

The CA group is a group of active DU students, staff and alumni volunteers who:

- Help interested international students to understand DU better;
- Help international students to adapt to life in the US and at DU.

For more information, consult: www.duq.edu/international-admissions and go to ‘International Life at Duquesne’.

We look forward to meeting you soon!

Contact Information:

*Visa & Immigration Questions?*
Michele Janosko
janosko@duq.edu

*Admission or Arrival Questions?*
Anna Harrison
harriso530@duq.edu

*Want to be connected to a Cultural Ambassador?*
Anna Harrison
harriso530@duq.edu

Follow us:

@InternationalDU
(www.twitter.com/InternationalDU)  
DUQInternationalAdmissions
(www.facebook.com/DUQInternationalAdmissions)
Your Next Steps

Applying for a Student Visa

You are now beginning the process of applying for a visa with the I-20 or DS-2019 we have issued to you. Please follow the steps below to help you prepare for your arrival to Duquesne.

Pay the SEVIS Fee.

What is the SEVIS Fee?

This is a fee that all foreign nationals must pay in order to apply for a visa to pursue a full course of study at a university in the U.S. The fee is paid one time for each continuous period of F-1 or J-1 Visa status. Students and Scholars can pay the fee once they have received their I-20 or DS-2019 from the school that they are planning to attend.

Ways to Pay the SEVIS Fee

A. By Internet, log onto www.FMIFees.com
B. Western Union Quick Pay Service
C. By mail using form I-901 “Fee Remittance for Certain F, J, and M Non-immigrants” The form can be downloaded from www.FMIFees.com

Once you have a receipt that you have paid the SEVIS Fee, you can then proceed with your Embassy visit for a visa. For complete information regarding the SEVIS Fee, please log onto www.ice.gov/sevis

Complete the U.S. Visa Application process.

Most travelers to the United States must obtain a visa. The process includes application forms and interviews as well as collecting and checking names. Finger-printing and registration processes are necessary and important elements that protect citizens and visitors alike. Please allow for extra time in your planning, the process may take several weeks or, in a few instances, much longer.

Step I

Visit http://travel.state.gov This site contains information about obtaining visas. If you do not have access to the Internet, you can contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Step II

Make an appointment to visit the embassy or consulate. The visa process varies among embassies and consulates depending on local needs. In most areas, you will need to make an appointment. You can do this by telephone, by mail, by Internet or in person. Schedule your appointment as soon as you have received the necessary documentation from Duquesne and know when you will need to travel to the United States.

Some consulates require a fee to schedule an appointment. Check with your local consulate to verify. These fees are not the same as the SEVIS Fees mentioned above.

Step III

Prepare the following documentation:

- a valid passport
- application for visa applications
- acceptance letter from university
- supporting documentation detailing employment, reason for travel and FS status
- proof of SEVIS Fee payment

Step IV

Submit application, passport and supporting documents to the U.S. embassy or consulate. The application will be reviewed and, for the majority of applicants, the visa will be issued in a few weeks. For a few applicants it will take more than a week to be issued.

Step V

In a few cases additional reviews will be required for a variety of reasons. In some instances fingerprinting may be requested. In these cases processing times take longer than usual.

Step VI

Once your visa has been issued you may travel to a port-of-entry in the United States up to 30 days before the start of classes. The port-of-entry is usually the airport where you first arrive in the U.S. On the airplane you will be asked to complete a short arrival/departure form. When you disembark, please follow the directions for non-citizen entry where you will meet with a U.S. official who will verify your paperwork and ask you a few questions about why you are visiting the U.S. When you are admitted, you may receive an immigration stamp and proceed to baggage claim and U.S. Customs.

Variations in the process

Visa processing and operations can vary depending on individual embassies and consulates. Some consulates require a personal interview and appointments must be made in advance, others interview on a walk-in basis. The process takes time and keeping this in mind will help you secure your visa when you need it.

Policies and regulations worldwide will continue to change as new security measures come into effect. You can always check http://travel.state.gov for updates and changes.

Health Insurance and Health Services

Securing Mandatory Health Insurance

All full-time students at Duquesne University are required to carry major medical health insurance. International students can purchase a policy through the university when they arrive on campus. If students prefer to purchase their own coverage, they must have insurance that follows the following guidelines:

1. The insurance must be written in English with the premium paid in U.S. dollars;
2. All claims must be processed inside the United States;
3. The insurance must cover pre-existing conditions;
4. The period of coverage must be the length of a semester or academic year, not monthly.

Students who bring their own coverage can WAIVE OUT of the university’s coverage if their coverage meets the university standard. This can be completed once a new student has registered for their classes.

For more detailed information, please refer to the materials in this packet about health insurance and university requirements and the following website. www.duq.edu/international-admissions, click on “Accepted Students” and scroll down to Step 7.

Immunizations and Health Services

Duquesne University offers a Health Service Center where students can seek medical attention should illness occur. In addition, Health Services ensures the health and safety of all students on campus by making sure that students have the mandatory immunizations and presents a complete health history.

Information about your health requirements are outlined on www.duq.edu/international-admissions, click “Accepted Students” and scroll down to Step 7. There you will be able to see what documents you should collect before leaving home and what you must bring with you to Duquesne.

When you arrive at Duquesne, you will be given instructions about how to submit your health forms. You will also meet with a health professional who will review your health history information and ensure that you have received all of the required immunizations.

Financial Considerations

Please be sure to bring sufficient U.S. Dollars (in cash) and a credit card (if available) with you for your first days on campus, since you may not have immediate access to a U.S. bank account and may need funds during that time for miscellaneous expenses and food prior to the official opening of campus. We recommend that you bring $200-$300 in cash if possible.

WIRE TRANSFERS:

Funds can be transferred to Duquesne University through a wire transfer system called peerTransfer. Please consult our website at www.duq.edu/international-admissions and then click on “Costs & Scholarships” for details or go directly to peerTransfer.com

Housing

Undergraduate Students: If you are a first or second year undergraduate student, you are required to live on campus. To reserve your room:

1. Complete the housing forms and fax them back to the Office of Residence Life: 412.396.6656. Rooms are allocated on a first come, first served basis.
2. Read through the instructions on the “Accepted Students” section of the International Admissions website and complete the necessary information forms as well.

Graduate Students: In addition to the Commuter Affairs information provided in this packet, we recommend that you research the different student-friendly areas online and arrive early to secure your apartment. Visit our website www.duq.edu/international-admissions click on “International Life at Duquesne” and then click on “Accommodation Options” for information.

Temporary Housing

Temporary housing is available to all students who plan on arriving early for International Orientation for a limited time and for the fall term only. You must notify us through our website so that we may inform Residence Life of your intended arrival.

Undergraduates who are planning to live on campus should be able to enter the Residence Halls when they arrive prior to orientation. Graduate students who are not planning to live on campus can be accommodated up until the day before Undergraduate Move-In Day.

In addition to temporary housing, there are several hotel options located close to the University:

- Pittsburgh Marriott City Center (2 blocks from campus) 412.471.1234 112 Washington Place
- Doubletree Hotel Pittsburgh City Center (5 blocks from campus) 412.281.5800 One Bigelow Square
- Cambria Suites Downtown Pittsburgh (1 minute walk to campus) 412.281.6687
- Holiday Inn Express South Side (3 minute drive to campus, also offers a free shuttle bus to campus) 412.488.1130 20 South 10th Street
- Cambria Suites Downtown Pittsburgh (3 minute walk to campus) 412.281.6687
- Doubletree Hotel Pittsburgh City Center (5 blocks from campus) 412.281.5800 One Bigelow Square
- Holiday Inn Express South Side (3 minute drive to campus, also offers a free shuttle bus to campus) 412.488.1130 20 South 10th Street
- Doubletree Hotel Pittsburgh City Center (5 blocks from campus) 412.281.5800 One Bigelow Square
- Cambria Suites Downtown Pittsburgh (3 minute walk to campus) 412.281.6687

Confirming Your Attendance

When you decide that you will be attending Duquesne, please submit your attendance confirmation form at www.duq.edu/international-admissions and click on “Accepted Students” for important confirmation steps. If you do not confirm your attendance we cannot guarantee your place in class.

Undergraduate Applicants

We strongly encourage you to submit an Enrollment Deposit of USD$500 by using the enclosed pink deposit card or by paying online at www.duq.edu/pay-my-deposit.

Graduate Students

Please consult with your particular academic department to see if an enrollment deposit is required. If you plan on attending Duquesne, please be sure to submit your deposit online at www.duq.edu/graddeposit to reserve your place in our incoming class.

www.duq.edu/international-admissions