

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA **UNK** KEARNEY

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

# PRE - ARRIVAL GUIDE - F1

SPRING 2020












Inside this guide, you will find pre-arrival instructions that will assist you in planning for your travel and arrival at UNK.

Please read through all instructions and complete them in a timely manner.

Inside this guide, you will find contact information in case you have any questions concerning your planning for study at UNK.

We look forward to seeing you in January 2020!

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADMITTED STUDENTS

Now that you have been accepted as a student at UNK, you will need to complete all of the tasks on this list in a timely manner:

### 1. OBTAINING A VISA

- To obtain a visa, you must pay the SEVP I-901 fee, which you can pay online: <https://www.fmjfee.com/#>
  - The SEVIS fee can be paid using a credit card and completing the online form I-901 accessed by the above website. This payment must be made BEFORE you go to your visa appointment.
  - Complete the DS-160 online nonimmigrant visa application form here: <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>
  - Once you have completed these steps, you can sign up for your visa interview: <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>. Please do not delay this appointment. It may take several weeks to months to get an appointment. Delaying your visa appointment can delay your arrival to Kearney.
  - You will need to take the following documents to your visa appointment:
    - UNK letter of acceptance
    - Form I-20
    - The SEVIS I-901 fee receipt
    - Passport
    - 1 - 2" x 2" photograph
- This is just a **partial list** of what you need to take to your appointment. Please go to the website below for a **full listing of documents you need at your visa appointment.***
- Below is a website that gives good suggestions on successful visa applications: <http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/student-visa.html>
  - Also, you will find a list of tips for a successful visa interview here: <http://www.immihelp.com/visas/usa-visa-interview-guide.html>

### 2. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:

- A** As a condition of your enrollment, all F1 international students must enroll in the UNK sponsored health care plan. This plan is managed by United Health Care.

During orientation, you will be given information concerning the benefits and cost of this insurance plan. The cost of the insurance will be billed to you as part of your semester charges.

If you would like to review the health care plan, you can find information here:

<http://www.unk.edu/international/international-student-services/New%20Arrivals/medical-insurance.php>

- B** All students must complete a Pre-Enrollment Health form and upload your vaccination record in MyBLUE prior to your travel to UNK. You can complete these two tasks here: MyBlue home page < Profile < Immunizations

A TB blood test MAY be required after you arrive in Kearney. **Please do not have this test done at home.** If you are required to have this test, it will be completed during NISO during your visit to our Student Health Office.

### 3. APPLY FOR HOUSING:

- You will need to fill out a housing contract in order to live on campus at UNK.  
To do this:
  - Log on to MyBLUE (this is located at the bottom of the UNK homepage).
  - You will need to use your NUID number that is at the top of your acceptance letter and the password you created for your UNK application.
  - Click on the Tools link and then Campus Housing link to get to your Housing Portal.
  - Complete the contract.

- You can find instructions for completing the contract here: [www.unk.edu/offices/reslife/housing-timeline-new.php](http://www.unk.edu/offices/reslife/housing-timeline-new.php)
  - You must pay the \$50 fee at the end of the contract.
  - This can be done on the website with a credit card.

February 6, 2019	<b>Last day to sign Contract for Priority Room Selection</b> <i>Best chance to get the room you want!</i>
February 7, 2019	<b>Priority Room Selection email sent with time slot.</b> <i>Priority based on contract sign date.</i>
February 9, 2019	<b>Priority Room Selection begins</b> <i>Log into MyBlue at your assigned time to choose your room.</i>
February 11, 2019 at 9:00 AM CST	<b>Room Selection opens for all Admitted Students</b>
May 31, 2019 at 11:59 PM CDT	<b>Deadline to cancel without fees and partial room and board assessed</b> <i>Contract cancellations must be sent via email by the student to <a href="mailto:housing@unk.edu">housing@unk.edu</a>.</i>
June 30, 2019	<b>Room/Roommate Selection closes</b> <i>Changes needed after this date will be limited and based on availability.</i>
July 1, 2019	<b>Residence Life completes assignments for students that did not select a room/roommate</b>

[+ Housing Application How To Videos](#)

[Click Here](#)

- Do not delay in completing your housing contract. The sooner you complete your housing contract, the better chance you have in getting your choice of residence hall.
- The list of different residence hall options can be found here: [www.unk.edu/offices/reslife/housing-options.php](http://www.unk.edu/offices/reslife/housing-options.php)

## 4. HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD I HAVE WHEN I ARRIVE IN KEARNEY?

### YOU WILL NEED MONEY FOR THE FOLLOWING THINGS:

- Food/Drink in airports
- Shopping money to buy supplies for your residence hall
- Money to pay for student health requirement
  - \$70 for TB blood test and interpretation if needed  
\$65 for a chest x-ray if test shows positive
  - \$70 for MMR vaccination if needed
  - \$150 for an off campus meningitis vaccination if you choose to get one

*\*\*Prices are subject to change\*\**

- Money to pay for meals during **New International Student Orientation (NISO)**
  - You will be able to move into your residence hall once you arrive on campus for NISO. There will not be any extra charges for living in your residence hall during NISO. However, your meal plan will not have started yet. So, you will need to bring money with you to pay for meals during orientation. Please plan for the below costs:
  - Breakfast: \$6-8; Lunch: \$8-12; Dinner: \$10-15.
  - Please bring a total of \$100 to \$125 to pay for your meals during orientation.

## 5. ARRANGING TRAVEL TO KEARNEY:

### HERE IS THE BEST WAY TO TRAVEL TO KEARNEY:

- The best airports to use for arrival in Nebraska are:
  - Kearney (EAR)
  - Omaha (OMA)
  - Lincoln (LNK)
- If you choose to fly to Lincoln or Omaha, please note the following information:
  - You will need to make reservations on Navigator Express Bus Service for transportation from the airport to the campus of UNK. Below are instructions specific to each airport.

- **KEARNEY** - SkyWest Airlines offers daily United Express jet service between Kearney and Denver. So, to fly to Kearney, your travel itinerary will show that you fly from your home country to Denver International Airport (DEN) and then from Denver directly to Kearney Regional (EAR).

Once you land at the Kearney airport, we will have a UNK van there to pick you up and bring you to campus.

- **OMAHA** - The Navigator Bus will pick up at the Omaha airport at 2:00 PM daily except for Sundays. This means if your flight arrives later than 2:00 PM, you will need to make a hotel reservation for the night in Omaha and take the bus on the next day.

- If this is the case, then you must arrive at the Omaha airport one day in advance so that you will be on the campus of UNK to check in to your residence hall on January 8. **See #6 on page 9**
- See pages 7 and 8 for information on reserving a seat on the bus.
- The charge for the bus from Omaha to UNK is \$76.

- **LINCOLN** - The Navigator Bus will pick up at the Lincoln airport at 3:25 PM daily except for Sundays. This means if your flight arrives later than 3:25 PM, you will need to make a hotel reservation for the night in Lincoln and take the bus on the next day.

- If this is the case, then you must arrive at the Lincoln airport one day in advance so that you will be on the campus of UNK to check in to your residence hall on January 8. **See #6 on page 9**
- See pages 7 and 8 for information on reserving a seat on the bus.
- The charge for the bus from Lincoln to UNK is \$67.

□ Once your flight and bus transportation details have been arranged, you will need to notify the International Student Services Office of your arrival date and time by **completing the Orientation Registration Form.**

- <http://www.unk.edu/international/pre-arrival-info>
- Click on “New Student Orientation Registration” on right side of page.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING A BUS RESERVATION TO UNK:

Please read and follow all instructions below. If you have any questions, please email [express@navigatorbus.com](mailto:express@navigatorbus.com).

### WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH NAVIGATOR BUS:

- **ALWAYS USE YOUR GIVEN NAME... NO NICKNAMES PLEASE.**
- **If they send you an email, please respond to that same email. Do not send a new/different email to answer the questions. This makes it easier for the bus company.**

1. Begin by going to the following website:

<http://www.navigatorairportexpress.com/>

2. From the home screen, click on the “make a reservation” link:

The screenshot shows the Navigator Airport Express website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the company name 'NAVIGATOR AIRPORT EXPRESS.COM' and the phone number '1-800-888-9793'. Below this is a menu with 'Home', 'Services', 'Departures & Fares', 'Reservations', and 'Contact Us'. A large image of a Navigator bus is displayed. Below the image, there is a 'Contact Us' box with the following information: Navigator Airport Express, P.O. Box 1924, 2515 Grand Ave, Kearney NE 68847. It also includes a note: 'If you are looking for a ride to Eppley Airport in Omaha, give us a call or make a reservation today! Navigator Airport Express provides 6 shuttle trips per week between Kearney, Grand Island-Hastings, York, Lincoln, & Omaha.' Below this is the phone number (308) 234-6066, fax: n/a, toll free: 1-800-888-9793, and an 'Email Us' link. To the right of the contact box is a 'Welcome to Navigator Airport Express' section with the text: 'A Nebraska-based Airport Shuttle Service from Kearney to Omaha. Navigator Airport Express, formerly Eppley Express, is an affordable airport shuttle service providing 6 shuttle trips per week between Kearney, Grand Island-Hastings, York, Lincoln, & Omaha.' Below this is a 'Why choose our Airport Shuttle Service?' section with a list of benefits: 6 airport shuttle trips to and from Omaha per week, Comfortable, air-conditioned full-service shuttle to the airport, Experienced drivers know how to get you to the airport on-time, No Stress, easy-to-book travel service, All sizes of transportation from motorcoaches to buses to vans, and We do more - Trolley and wedding and party transportation rental services.

3. Enter your information on this screen:

Given Name:

Family Name:

Type in city

Type in country

Leave this field blank  
If you don't have a zip code in  
your address:

Phone number IS NOT REQUIRED

Email IS REQUIRED

A registration form with the following fields: First Name, Last Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone (required), and E-mail (required and must be a valid e-mail address). Orange arrows point from the text labels on the left to the corresponding input fields.

A form for flight information with the following fields: Departing From (Lincoln or Omaha), Destination City (Kearney), Departure Date (MM/DD/YY), Departure Time, Return Date (MM/DD/YY), Return Time, and Special Instructions. Orange arrows point from the text labels on the right to the corresponding input fields.

This must say:  
Lincoln or  
Omaha

This must say:  
Kearney

This must be the date you are  
landing at the Lincoln or Omaha  
airport

This must say TRAVEL TO UNK

Leave these two fields blank

4. Fill in the **CAPTCHA VERIFICATION WINDOW**

5. Click on **SEND EMAIL**

A CAPTCHA verification window showing a distorted image of the number 3235888. Below the image is a text input field with the placeholder 'Type the text'. At the bottom of the window is a yellow button labeled 'Send Email Clear Form'.

## 6. WHEN TO ARRIVE?

- New student check-in at Residence Halls begins on Wednesday, January 8. This will allow you time to arrive at UNK and get settled.
- NISO will begin on **Thursday, January 9**, and finish on **Sunday, January 12**. During this time, there are **orientation activities that are required by USCIS and UNK. Therefore, your attendance at all NISO events is critically important.**
  - In addition to required immigration and UNK sessions, NISO activities will also give you an opportunity to complete things like: registering for classes, buying textbooks, setting up a bank account, shopping for supplies, and learning about life at UNK and in Nebraska.
- Classes begin on **January 13**.
  - In order to be prepared for your classes, it is **CRITICAL THAT YOU ARE ON THE UNK CAMPUS NO LATER THAN JANUARY 8.**

## 7. REGISTER FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION (NISO):

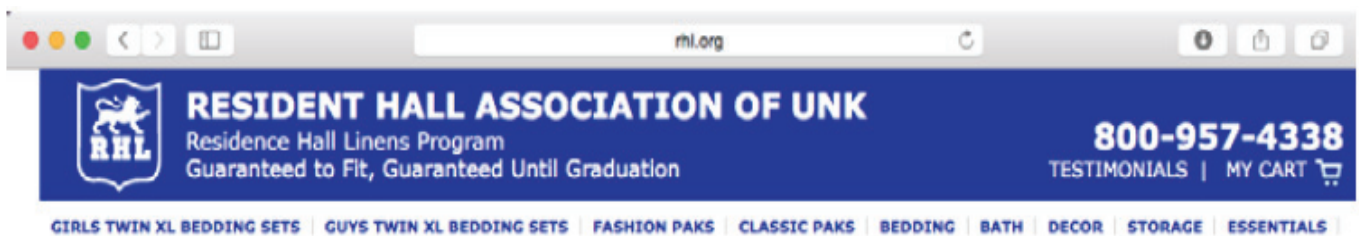
- In order to ensure that all UNK and immigration requirements are completed prior to the start of the semester, you must attend all dates of New International Student Orientation (NISO). And, you must notify International Student Services of your intent to attend orientation by completing the registration form on the UNK website. Please follow these steps to access the form:

<http://www.unk.edu/international/pre-arrival-info>

- **Click on “New Student Orientation Registration” on right side of page**

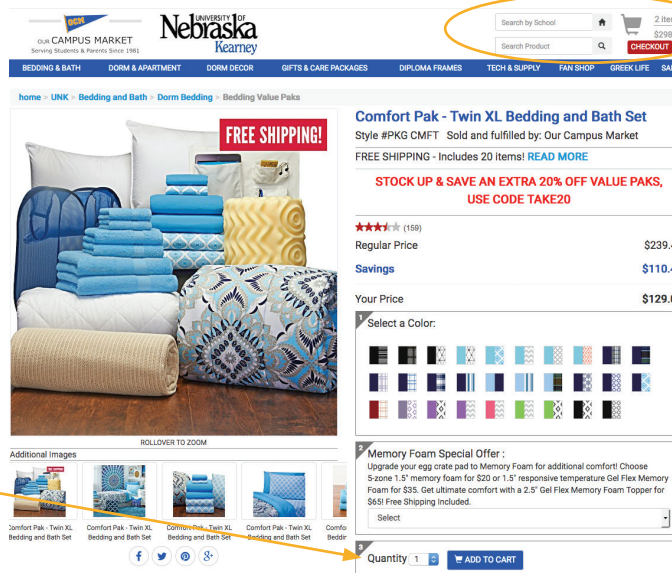
## 8. MAKING SURE THAT YOUR ROOM IN THE RESIDENCE HALL IS READY:

- Sheets, towels, and room accessories are not provided by UNK. Each student must bring/have his/her own bed sheets, blankets, pillows, towels, and washcloths. UNK has made it very easy for you to order these items from your home and have them shipped directly to UNK. Then, they will be waiting for you as you arrive on campus. **There is no need to pack these items or shop for them before you leave!**
- Please use the link below to look at the available options and place your order. **IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU USE THIS SITE TO ORDER YOUR SHEETS AND TOWELS. THERE WILL NOT BE A SHOPPING TRIP AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVAL.** This site is safe, secure, and approved by UNK.
- Link to order linens: <http://www.rhl.org/unk>



Go to <http://www.rhl.org/unk> and follow these steps:

### 1. SELECT YOUR ITEMS



CHECKOUT HERE once you have selected all your items

Add your selection to the cart HERE!

## 2. SHIPPING INFO

CHECKOUT

Address Type: College Campus

First Name\*:

Last Name\*:

School Name\*:

Street Address\*:

Residence Hall: OPTIONAL

Room Number: OPTIONAL

Campus Box: OPTIONAL

City\*:

State\*:

Zip\*:

Use Shipping As Billing

Email\*:

one\*:

**CONTINUE TO BILLING**

Given Name:  
Family Name:  
Type in: University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Type in: Otto Olsen 205, 2508 12th Ave  
Type in: Kearney  
Select: NE  
Type in: 68849

## 3. BILLING INFO

First Name\*

Last Name\*

Street Address\*

Apt/Suite #

City\*

State\*

Zip\*

Country\* USA AND TERRITORIES

Email\*

Phone

Send me email offers and updates.  
[View our Privacy Policy](#)

Given Name:  
Family Name:  
Type in City  
Leave blank if no postal code in your address  
Select your Country  
Type in email  
Phone Number with Country Code

Enter Credit Card Information

updates.  
[View our Privacy Policy](#)

VISA  MasterCard  DISCOVER  AMERICAN EXPRESS

PayPal [What is PayPal?](#)

Name On Card\*

Card Number\*

Expiration\* January 2017

Security Code\*

[What's this?](#)

**CONTINUE TO FINAL REVIEW**

## 4. REVIEW AND PLACE ORDER

Review and Click "Place Order" to Finish

**Place Order**

## 9. WHAT TO BRING WITH ME?

### Clothing:

- Based on what previous international students have said, we recommend that you bring with you most of the personal clothing that you will need, including at least one outfit of your traditional clothing for special programs.
- Most students wear casual clothing (jeans, t-shirts, sweatshirts) to class.
- Winter jackets and boots should be purchased in Kearney - you will need them for the months of October through February.

### Traditional items:

- You may also find it helpful to bring traditional spices (well-sealed for Customs), decorative items to decorate your room, and special cooking or eating utensils that you might want to have with you for meals.

### Gifts:

- You may also find it helpful to bring a set of small and inexpensive gifts from your home country.

Here are some additional websites that provide useful information on being a non immigrant student:

- Visit SEVP on the web at: <http://www.ice.gov/sevis>
- Visit Study in the States at: <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov>
- For Embassy/Consulate Contact Information visit: <http://www.usembassy.gov>

If you have any questions concerning the information contained in this brochure or any other questions concerning planning for your departure from home, please email [falconerts@unk.edu](mailto:falconerts@unk.edu).

### AND, JUST AS A REMINDER, HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING TASKS?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBTAINED YOUR VISA?                        | <input type="checkbox"/> GATHERED CASH FOR TRAVEL?                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APPLIED FOR HOUSING?                       | <input type="checkbox"/> NOTIFIED UNK OF YOUR INTENT TO ATTEND NISO? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETED YOUR PRE-ENROLLMENT HEALTH FORM? | <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETED TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS?              |

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT ANY OF THE ABOVE TASKS, PLEASE EMAIL US

HEALTH INSURANCE: [plummerlj@unk.edu](mailto:plummerlj@unk.edu)

VACCINATIONS AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: [unkhealth@unk.edu](mailto:unkhealth@unk.edu)

IMMIGRATION QUESTIONS: [falconerts@unk.edu](mailto:falconerts@unk.edu)

HOUSING QUESTIONS: [housing@unk.edu](mailto:housing@unk.edu)



UNK International