New International ALCI
International Students & Scholars Office (ISSO)
2017 Fall Arrival Information Session

Congratulations on your admission to Clark University! The staff of the International Students & Scholars Office is looking forward to meeting you! The following information should answer some of your questions concerning your immigration status, entry to the U.S., and stay at Clark University. We will provide you with more detailed information when you arrive at Clark University in the Fall.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & SCHOLARS OFFICE
The International Students & Scholars Office (ISSO) is located on the second floor of Corner House, at the corner of Woodland Street and Charlotte Street. The ISSO advises all international students and exchange visitors on matters pertaining to visa status in the U.S., immigration benefits and procedures, travel and employment possibilities. We also counsel international students on academic and personal issues and offer programs intended to help students adapt to the culture and higher education system in the U.S and on campus. Please contact Veda Genkos by phone (508) 793-7362 or email vgenkos@clarku.edu if you have questions.

OBTAINING YOUR VISA AND ENTERING THE U.S.
Enclosed is your Form I-20 (F-1) or Form DS-2019 (J-1) visa certificate. The enclosed instructions detail SEVIS fee payment methods, the process of obtaining your student entry visa, and information on entering the U.S. If you choose not to attend Clark University, you must return your Form I-20 or DS-2019 to the ISSO immediately.

ARRIVAL
As indicated on the enclosed Form I-20 or Form DS-2019, you should arrive at Clark University no later than August 21, 2017. In fact, it is advisable for you to arrive earlier so that you can secure housing and settle in before beginning your academic program. Please plan to arrive during regular business hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Visit Clark’s ALCI department as soon as you arrive on campus. If you determine that you are not able to enter the U.S. by August 21, 2017, please contact the ISSO immediately.

Please note very important information:
According to F-1 and J-1 immigration regulations, students seeking admission in the U.S. for the first time to begin a new academic program may not be admitted more than 30 days before your program start date. Your earliest possible admission date is listed on Page 1 of your Form I-20. Unless you are transferring to Clark University from another institution, you will not be allowed to enter the U.S. more than 30 days before that date. If you wish to arrive in the U.S. earlier than this earliest admission date, know that the border inspection officer can refuse you entry in the U.S. Please contact ISSO immediately if you have any questions about this requirement.

ISSO CHECK-IN/SEVIS MANDATORY REPORTING
Within the first week of your arrival in the U.S., please visit the ISSO and bring your passport, form I-20 or DS-2019. We are required by federal regulations to verify via the Student and Exchange Visitor System (SEVIS) that you have reported to our school and in order to comply we must review and photocopy the documents mentioned above. When you visit our office, we will also ask you to complete the International Student Information Form. We look forward to your arrival.