



Office of International Studies

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ATTENDING SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY

SHU is pleased that you have decided to join as an international student. All of us in the International Student Services Department are committed to helping you transition to your new life in the United States. We want you to have a problem-free adjustment; therefore, we require that you abide by the following.

1. **Bring enough money to cover your expenses or arrange for money to be transferred to you from overseas on a monthly basis.** Current international students estimate that monthly costs if you are cooking for yourself average \$200. This includes personal items, food, and household supplies. If you plan on eating out and not cooking for yourself, expenses could be more. **Books cost approximately \$500 per semester.**
2. **The International Student Health Insurance for 2009-2010 is \$816. All international students are required to obtain this policy unless they have a comparable policy through their spouse, parents, guardian or government.**
3. **Pay all your school fees and tuition prior to arriving at Siena Heights University.** Failure to do so will prevent you from entering classes.
4. **Turn in original transcripts or certified copies upon arriving to SHU.** It is required that all students, domestic and international, have on file original high school and university transcripts. **Alternatively, you can send these immediately to us via postal service to me at 1247 E Siena Heights Drive , Adrian, Michigan 49221**
5. **Do not depend on obtaining employment in the United States.** The rules for obtaining part-time are very strict and students who are on F1 visas are limited to working on-campus only. The University is small and not many jobs exist. American students also want to work while they are in school. However, after residing in the USA for one academic year, international students may obtain part-time (20 hours or less per week) employment. This employment must be related to a student's major field of study and be in the form of internship or practicum. This must also be approved by the University and the Designated School Official for SEVIS.
6. **Make sure that you understand the rules and regulations related to student housing.** All freshmen, sophomore and junior students are required to live in campus residence halls unless they are over 21 years of age.

Residence hall style living is available. Students living in the residence halls are required to purchase the meal plan unless they have a compelling reason for not eating in the school cafeteria. Reasons could include religious dietary restrictions, food allergies, or lifestyle. Prices including food for one semester range from \$3100 to over \$4000 depending on room size.

7. **Athletic scholarships are only awarded to those athletes who can contribute to the team and advance the sport.** Regulations for playing sports are clearly defined. Students should refer to the athletic team informational overview for additional information.