

CLASS OF 2030



DEAR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS,

Congratulations on your exceptional achievement, securing your spot at the esteemed University of Pennsylvania! We are elated to welcome you to the Class of 2030 and are thrilled to have such an extraordinary group of international students joining our vibrant campus community. Wherever you hail from in the world, you bring with you a wealth of cultural diversity and intellectual brilliance, enriching the tapestry of experiences at Penn.

Your journey at Penn promises to be an unforgettable one, steeped in history and tradition, offering unparalleled academic opportunities, and an array of diverse extracurricular activities. Beyond these remarkable facets, it's the moments beyond the classroom that will truly shape your college experience and form cherished memories. Picture yourself taking your SEPTA ride to the heart of Center City, relishing the enchanting sights of Locust Walk bedecked in winter lights, or bonding with your roommates and professors over Thanksgiving dinners and delightful food comas.

Throughout your time here, you'll forge bonds with kindred spirits who will become some of your closest friends—whether it's your first-year hall neighbor or a compassionate senior guiding you through your first year of college. Penn is more than just an academic institution; it is your home away from home. With over 30 international and cultural performing arts groups, you'll find your passions nurtured and talents celebrated within this tight-knit community.

To ensure your safety and comfort, the dedicated team at International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) and other campus administrators stand ready to provide unwavering support. From offering guidance on tax filings to assisting during visa and travel restrictions, their commitment to your well-being is paramount. Moreover, the Assembly of International Students (AIS), a vibrant student-led organization, is devoted to creating a nurturing community for international students like yourself. They orchestrate a wide array of programming, including delightful Philly Walking Tours and the annual Winter Formals, where you can feel a sense of belonging far from your native land.

As you embark on this new chapter, rest assured that we have meticulously designed orientation programs tailored to help you acclimate to campus life, discover invaluable resources, and forge meaningful connections with your fellow international peers.

Your time at Penn will undoubtedly be transformative and rewarding, laying the foundation for a bright and fulfilling future. The entire Penn community eagerly awaits the chance to join you on this thrilling journey. Once again, congratulations, and we eagerly look forward to meeting you during the International Student Orientation!

With warm regards,

Dr. Rodolfo "Rudie" Altamirano

Executive Director
International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)
Executive Director
Immigration Services and Integration Programs
rudiea@upenn.edu

Stefanie Lee

President
Assembly of International Students (AIS)
steflwh@sas.upenn.edu

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

11am-3pm

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HELP TABLE

Just arrived on campus? ISSS Advisors and our PHINS will address any concerns regarding where to go and what to do.

Location: Houston Hall, Main Lobby

3pm-4pm

IMMUNIZATION, HEALTH INSURANCE, AND WELLBEING RESOURCES

Learn about immunization requirements, how to use health insurance in the U.S., and available support services and treatment options for your physical and mental health through Wellness at Penn. Wellness staff will also answer questions and help troubleshoot issues, including portal access.

Location: 3935 Walnut St., 2nd Floor

Register by scanning the QR code.



5:30pm-7:30pm

INTERNATIONAL PARENTS AND FAMILIES WELCOME RECEPTION

The Welcome Reception provides the opportunity for New Undergraduate Students' Parents and Families to meet fellow families and hear from University leadership. Penn students will attend the Welcome Picnic, which will take place concurrently.

Location: Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

5:30pm-7pm

INTERNATIONAL & EAP/IGSP WELCOME PICNIC FOR STUDENTS

Join Penn Global, ISSS, Penn Abroad, and the international Class of 2030 for an outdoor picnic! Free dinner and picnic blankets will be provided, and there will be outdoor activities to enjoy. Parents and students' family members will attend the Family Welcome Reception, which will take place concurrently.

Location: Shoemaker Green

Rain Location: Fencing Gym

Register by scanning the QR code.



8pm-10pm

LATE NIGHT EATS

A relaxed evening of food and conversation! Students are invited to enjoy late-night snacks, meet new people, and connect with the Penn community in a casual and welcoming setting.

Location: Meyerson Hall B-1

**MANDATORY EVENTS**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

9:30am-3pm

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HELP TABLE

Just arrived on campus? ISSS Advisors and our PHINS will address any concerns regarding where to go and what to do. The New Student Resources Fair will also be in Houston Hall.

Location: Houston Hall, Main Lobby

9:30am-10:30am

IMMIGRATION ESSENTIALS & INTEGRATION SUPPORT FROM ISSS

A session designed to help you navigate life at Penn with confidence as an international student by learning about immigration policies and integration programs. Whether you're new to Penn or looking to make the most of your experience, this session will provide practical tips and insights to help you thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

Location: Meyerson Hall B-1

Register by scanning the QR code.



11am-12pm

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN THE U.S.

Gain valuable insights into finding on-campus and off-campus jobs, internships, and full time employment while understanding key work and immigration regulations.

Location: Meyerson Hall B-1

Register by scanning the QR code.



11am-1pm

WEINGARTEN CENTER OPEN HOUSE

Looking for academic support, accessibility accommodations, or ways to make the most of your Penn experience? Join us to learn about the resources and services available through the Weingarten Center.

Come curious, leave empowered!

Location: Stouffer Commons, 3702 Spruce Street

11am-1pm

CONNECT @ PENN: CHAT WITH CURRENT STUDENTS

For new international students, come meet some international PHINS and get introduced to your fellow international classmates! Hear international students talk about things they wish they knew before starting their first year at Penn and network with upperclassmen!

Location: ARCH 208



M 1:30pm-4pm

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFO SESSION

This mandatory information session will introduce students to staff from International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) and its key immigration services and integration programs. It will also feature members from the Assembly of International Students (AIS) who will talk about life at Penn as an international student.

Location: Meyerson Hall B-1

Register by scanning the QR code.



7:45pm

NSO MOVIE NIGHT

Relax with your fellow new students and enjoy a free screening of either Spider-Man: Brand New Day or The Odyssey. Both films begin at 8pm, so grab some friends, find a seat, and enjoy a fun evening at the movies.

Location: Cinemark University City, 4012 Walnut St

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

9:30am-3pm

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HELP TABLE

Just arrived on campus? ISSS Advisors and our PHINS will address any concerns regarding where to go and what to do. The New Student Resources Fair will also be in Houston Hall.

Location: Houston Hall, Main Lobby

10am-11am

AVOIDING CULTURAL AND SOCIAL MISSTEPS IN THE U.S.

New to U.S. culture? This session helps you recognize and avoid common cultural misunderstandings, so you can communicate more effectively and respectfully in social and academic settings.

Location: 3935 Walnut St, 6th Floor

Register by scanning the QR code.



1pm-3pm

CAMPUS TOUR THROUGH SCAVENGER HUNT

Get better acquainted with the campus by going on this scavenger hunt! The first team to complete all the missions will be rewarded with Penn merch!

Location: The Button in front of Van Pelt Library

Rain Location: Lauder Movie Room

TO FIND A CAMPUS MAP, MEAL TIMES/LOCATIONS, FAMILY PROGRAMS, AND OTHER EVENTS, PLEASE REFER TO THE NSO CALENDAR.