

Preparing to come to Memphis

The Weather in Memphis

Memphis has four seasons. The summer is long (May – September) and usually very hot and humid. Winter days can be quite cold. We usually get a little snow each year, but it melts very quickly. Both autumn and spring are brief and beautiful, though it can be rainy at times.

What to Pack

You'll need clothes for all four seasons. Dress on campus is usually casual (jeans, shorts, etc.). If you plan to bring electrical appliances such as hair dryers, electric razors, etc., you should also bring electrical converters and adaptors. It is nearly impossible to find converters that convert from other systems to the US system. If you plan to live in campus housing, you'll need to provide bed linens and towels. Many students purchase these items after they arrive here. You may want to pack a few items that are unique to your country so that you can share a little bit of your culture with others.

Money

When you arrive in the United States, you should have sufficient funds to cover your tuition and initial expenses. The amount depends on your housing situation and other factors, but we suggest around US\$4,000.00 in traveler's checks. Traveler's checks, obtained at banks or travel offices, can be cashed by banks and most businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and airports. Do not bring this amount in a draft from your country since it could take several weeks to access this money.

It is a good idea to obtain U.S. dollars before your departure, but you should not travel with large amounts of cash--there is too much danger of loss or theft. It may be possible for you to transfer funds in U.S. dollars to a U.S. bank before you leave home. Then, that money will be available to you when you arrive on campus. The university and all local businesses accept only U.S. dollars. You can change foreign currency traveler's checks or foreign currency notes at the bank, but it takes a while. You can also use credit cards. Visa and MasterCard are the most widely accepted.

It is also advisable to carry a small amount of U.S. cash--at least fifty dollars in paper currency and two or three dollars in coins or "change" for telephones, baggage lockers, bus fares, and tips.

Payment of tuition, fees, and other charges (including university housing) is due when you register and before you begin classes. Payment may be made by cash, check, money order, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or American Express).

THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS®

Intensive English
for Internationals

Arrival

If you need transportation from the Memphis International Airport to the University of Memphis, please contact us at least a week in advance (iei@memphis.edu). Tell us the date and time of arrival, the airline and flight number and contact information for you or your family in case there is a problem. Keep the IEI business card with you in case you need to contact us while you are traveling. You can call the IEI office during office hours (8 am – 4:30 pm). Call the emergency number on the card after the office is closed. Please arrange for your housing before lease your home country. If you plan to live in the dormitory, but you are coming to Memphis before the session start date, you will need to make reservations at a Memphis hotel before you travel. You will not be able to move into the dormitory until the first day of the session. Please let us know if this will be your situation.

Registration

Please contact our office as soon as you arrive in Memphis. Our number is (901)678-2107. **You should visit our office and register BEFORE the first day of the session.**

When you come in to register, we will ask you to complete some paperwork, and we will also make copies of your I-20, passport, visa, and I-94. We will give you an invoice for your tuition and other fees (insurance and student activity fee), and you can then make your payment at the Bursar's office. Payment must be made before you can take the placement test.

Your first week at school

Day 1 Monday	9:00 – 11:00	Placement test (location to be posted)
	11:30- 1:00	Orientation, lunch and campus tour
	1:00	TB skin test for F1 students (bring \$20)
Day 2 Tuesday	8:45	Pick up your schedule at the IEI office (PT125)
	9:00 – 12:00	Classes
	12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
	1:00 – 2: 50	Classes
Day 3 Wednesday		Return to Health Center to check TB skin test
		Buy textbooks during morning classes (bring \$)

Fees and Expenses

Tuition for full-time study (8 week session)	\$1430
International student health insurance (16 week semester)	\$276 (+)
Student activity fee (16 week Semester)	\$44
Textbooks (8 week session)	\$175 (+/-)