



# FRANKLIN COLLEGE International Student Guide



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## Welcome

Congratulations on your acceptance to Franklin College! We look forward to welcoming you to campus and are proud to offer an inclusive environment where students from Indiana can share ideas with students from around the world. Follow this guide to learn more about your next steps with Franklin College and plan your journey with us.

## Secure Your Spot

Pay your \$500 deposit to confirm your acceptance and officially enroll at Franklin College. Students enrolling through an exchange program do not need to pay a deposit.

The fastest way to pay your deposit directly to the college is through a bank transfer. The details needed to complete a bank transfer can be found below:

Bank: First Financial Bank

Address: 433 North Capitol Ave Ste 100, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Routing Number: 074902341

Account Number: 0039870340

Account Name: Franklin College of Indiana

Account Address: 101 Branigin Blvd, Franklin, Indiana 46131

## Apply for Immigration Documents

Once students have paid their deposit, the Office of Admissions will begin preparing immigration documents including the I-20 needed for visa application. I-20s will be distributed by the Office of Admissions.

## Complete the New Student Checklist

After paying their deposit, students will receive a link via email to complete the New Student Checklist, which opens access to housing forms and allows students to choose their New Student Registration date. International students should sign up for the final registration date in August.

## Attend Orientation, THRIVE and Welcome Week

Shortly before the beginning of classes, we will host a series of mandatory events designed to help international students succeed during their time on campus.

Orientation, THRIVE and Welcome Week events will walk students through the process of completing registration, finalizing class schedules, learning to navigate campus and connecting with fellow Grizzlies. Students will have the opportunity to purchase cell phones, set up bank accounts and shop for needed items.

International Students must enroll in at least 12 credit hours to maintain full-time status. Access the [Franklin College course catalog](#) to view available courses and descriptions.

## Getting to Know the Franklin Area

### Franklin, Indiana

Franklin College is located just 25 minutes south of downtown Indianapolis, in the city of Franklin. We are centrally located to a number of Midwest cities, including Louisville, Kentucky (1.5 hour south), Cincinnati, Ohio (1 hour 45 minutes east), and Chicago, Illinois (3.5 hours north).



The Franklin Parks and Recreation Department maintains several miles of walking trails through the city, which connect various parks, community centers, the public library, and the public pool.

### Arriving on campus

Students should fly into the Indianapolis International Airport (IND). The airport is approximately a 40-minute drive to campus. Franklin College staff can arrange airport pickup for international students if notified 30 days prior to arrival.

### Transportation within Franklin

Access Johnson County offers transportation services for students who wish to travel from the county library south of campus to Walmart and other locations near Highway 31.

### Shopping

Kohl's, Kroger, Meijer and a Walmart Supercenter are all located in the city of Franklin along Highway 31, for easy access to groceries, toiletries, clothing, school supplies, and more.

### Dress for the Weather

Franklin experiences a wide range of temperatures throughout the year with distinct seasonal changes. Summers are hot and humid with temperatures that can reach 100 degrees Fahrenheit/38 degrees Celsius. Winters are generally moderate, but students should prepare for temperatures below freezing with rain, snow and ice.

# Franklin College

## About FC

Founded in 1834, Franklin College is a residential, liberal arts institution with a scenic, wooded campus, spanning 207 acres, including athletic fields and a 31-acre biology woodland.

In 1842, the college began admitting women, becoming the first coeducational institution in Indiana and the seventh in the nation. Franklin College maintains a voluntary association with the American Baptist Churches U.S.A.

The college offers its approximately 1,000 students Bachelor of Arts degrees in over 50 majors in 24 academic disciplines, and 40 minors, 12 pre-professional programs and two cooperative programs.

## Campus Map

A campus map can be viewed online at the below link:

<https://franklincollege.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/FC-CampusMap-2022.pdf>

## Our Mission

Franklin College empowers students through an experiential education, grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, promoting impactful careers and meaningful lives.

## School Spirit

Franklin College colors are navy blue and gold. Our mascot is Griz, the grizzly bear.

## Building on a Broad Foundation

A Franklin College education begins with general education requirements that help students discover and develop a passion for lifelong learning. Courses provide broad exposure to math, science, history, fine arts and literature. Discussions encourage critical thinking, global awareness, collaboration and creativity. Educational experiences inside and outside of the classroom involve service learning, intercultural exchange, leadership training and professional development.

As students progress through their academics, they take courses specific to their major and professional interests. Graduates of Franklin College have a wealth of valuable skills and experience they can draw upon in any career they choose. We are proud to offer our students a world of possibilities.

## Immersive Term

Students at Franklin College may find they spend the month of January differently than their friends at other colleges and universities. Rather than beginning a full second-semester course load directly after the winter holiday break, students at Franklin College enroll in an Immersive Term course, lasting the month of January. There are many exciting options available for students to choose from, including non-traditional classes, internships and study-away opportunities.

Students who do not enroll in an Immersive Term course will not have access to campus residence halls during the month of January.

## Student Life

The Center for Student Engagement provides resources and guidance for international students. Centrally located on the second floor of the Napolitan Student Center, our office is available for any student needing assistance. If you have questions, please contact us via phone at 888.852.6471 or via email at [cse@FranklinCollege.edu](mailto:cse@FranklinCollege.edu).

### Student Clubs and Organizations

Franklin College has over 40 clubs and organizations. International students are encouraged to join campus groups to socialize and meet other students. More information on clubs can be found on our website. <https://franklincollege.edu/campus-life/student-organizations/>

### Get in on the Fun!

There are a variety of fun activities Franklin College students enjoy throughout the year, both on- and off-campus. We encourage all students to get together with a few friends and try to complete the list of “[50 Fun Things to Do as a Franklin Student](#)”.

### Athletics

Franklin is a member of the Heartland Athletic Collegiate Conference, and a Division III powerhouse in the NCAA. 50% of our students participate in our 22 varsity sports. International students on exchange programs or enrolled for a full degree can participate in sports at the discretion of the sport coach and if they meet eligibility requirements.

### Residence Life

The majority of Franklin College first-year students live on campus in one of four residence halls. Life in our residence halls is fun, safe, engaging and an important foundation for academic success. While we cannot guarantee availability and roommate matching for every housing arrangement, we try our best to accommodate requests.

## Campus Meal Plans

Franklin College has a full-service cafeteria and a coffee shop. The purchase of a meal plan is required for on-campus residents. We have developed the following meal plans to meet your dining needs:

**Plan A:** Comprehensive Meals (19 Meals) + \$75 Dining Dollars - \$2,390.00 per semester

**Plan B:** 14 Meals per week + \$125 Dining Dollars - \$2,335.00 per semester

**Plan D:** 10 Meals per week + \$150 Dining Dollars - \$2,120.00 per semester

**Immersive Term:** \$490.00 for the Term

Once a student chooses a meal plan, their ID card will be authorized for use. Students can swipe their card at The Marketplace as a debit card for meals. Dining Dollars may be used to pay for meals, snacks or beverages in the Grizzly Café. Meals for each week expire Saturday at midnight and do not carry over from week to week. Unused Dining Dollars expire at the end of each semester.

## Residence Life During Campus Breaks

Franklin College residence halls are closed for Thanksgiving Break, Holiday Break, Winter Break (January) and Spring Break.

International students can submit a break housing request form to Residence Life through their housing self-service to stay on campus during breaks. For Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring breaks, there is no charge to international students for break housing if a request is submitted on time. During the summer, residence halls are only available for students who are taking summer classes, working on campus or who have an approved exemption. There is not a summer meal plan.

## Dining Options During Campus Breaks

International students remaining on campus over breaks are responsible for providing their own meals. Residence halls are equipped with small kitchens students can utilize during campus breaks.

Restaurants Within Walking Distance of Campus:

- Mi Abuelito: <https://miabuelitomexicanrestaurant.com/>
- 1823 Bakehouse: <https://1823-bakehouse.square.site/>
- Court Street Cafe: <http://www.courtstcafe.com/>
- Ann's Restaurant: <https://www.annsrestaurant.com/>
- The Willard: <https://thewillard.com/>
- Main & Madison: <https://mainandmadison.cafe/>
- Coffeehouse Five: <https://www.coffeehousefive.com/>

Restaurants Offering Campus Delivery:

McAlister's Deli, Jimmy John's, Panera Bread, Noodles and Company, Pizza Hut, Domino's, Papa Johns, Noble Romans

## What to Bring to Campus

### Clothing

Sweatshirts, t-shirts, and jeans are common attire for students attending classes and lectures. Spirit wear including hats, sweatshirts, t-shirts and jackets can be purchased at the Franklin College Bookstore or through their website, <https://www.bkstr.com/franklinstore/home>.

### Electric Devices

The United States operates on a 120V electric system. Check your electric devices before arriving on campus to ensure compatibility. We use the two- and three-prong plug ends pictured here.



If your devices are not compatible with a 120V system, you will need to bring a power adapter.

### Technology

Most students will bring their own computers to campus. If you plan to bring a computer, it should have Windows 10 or Mac with OS X 10.11 or higher installed. Students can work with the IT Department to have required software installed. Bringing a personal computer to campus is not a requirement, as there are many computer labs on campus, the largest of which is open 24 hours.

Students can access Franklin College Wi-Fi with their issued username and password.

### Cell Phones

The residence halls on campus do not have landline phones installed. Students should bring a cell phone for personal communication. We recommend that students connect with their cell phone carrier to review available options for phone plans during their stay in the United States. Franklin College staff will provide transportation during Welcome Week for any student who wishes to purchase a cell phone and set up service.

### Document Copies

Students are responsible for keeping copies of their passports and immigration documents with them while at Franklin College. We strongly encourage students to make copies of these documents and leave them at home, in case the originals are misplaced or lost while in the U.S.

### Something From Home

We recommend students to bring tokens of their home culture to campus. Many of our international students like to bring flags, pictures or other memorabilia to remind them of home and share their pride for their home country.

## Preparing for Residence Life

The following list contains the items most students want to have available in the residence halls. Please review the following items before your travel and choose what to bring and/or purchase. During New Student Registration, Franklin College Staff will provide transportation to allow students an opportunity to buy needed items.

### Bring with You

- Passport with boarding pass, IDs and immigration paperwork
- Prescription medications and any vitamins you may need
- Headphones, chargers and adaptors
- Translating device
- Travel toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, face wash
- An extra set of clothes, in case you and your luggage get separated
- Entertainment: books, journal, a pen, iPad
- Comfort items: snacks, sweater/sweatshirt, neck pillow, eye mask, earplugs

### Purchase in Franklin

- Band-aids, over-the-counter medications and basic first aid supplies
- Health and beauty items: soap, shampoo, tissues, hair products, toiletries
- Bath Linens: towels, hand towels, washcloths
- Extra-long twin bed linens (36 x 80): mattress pad/cover, sheets, blankets, comforter, pillows
- Laundry supplies: detergent, fabric softener, laundry basket/bag, clothes hangers, sewing kit
- Shower supplies: bathrobe, shower caddy, shower shoes or flip-flops
- School supplies: paper, pens, scissors, 3-ring notebook, stapler
- Cooking supplies: silverware, can opener, microwave-safe dishes, cups, dish towel, dish soap
- Floor lamp
- Memo board for room door
- Decorative items: plants, rugs, posters, pictures
- Fan
- Flashlight
- Raincoat/umbrella
- Surge protector/power strip (should be UL rated and grounded)
- Sports equipment and games: Frisbee, bike, playing cards, etc.

These are a few other useful items you may want. Talk to your roommate to determine who will bring or purchase the following:

- Television
- Roku/Amazon Firestick
- Microwave (One per room, 700 watt or smaller)
- Refrigerator (One per room – 4.3 cubic feet in size or smaller)



## Banking

We recommend that students bring \$500 in U.S. cash to sustain them until they get settled on campus. Most students will use their ATM card while in the U.S. and make withdrawals from their home country bank account. Check with your bank for any fees that may apply. Students may choose to set-up an account at any bank but should be advised that many U.S. banks require a social security card to verify identification.

During orientation, Franklin College staff will provide transportation to the local PNC branch for students who wish to set up a bank account. Students should bring their passport to verify their identification and a must have a U.S. Phone number for account setup. Student accounts are free to open at PNC. Once the account is activated, students must add funds within 90 days.

### PNC Bank Main Office – Franklin

1500 North Morton Street  
Franklin, IN 46131  
Phone: 317.738.3000

#### *PNC Hours:*

Monday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Thursday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: Closed

## Credit Cards

Credit cards are used widely in the United States. Common credit cards include MasterCard and Visa. Students who plan to use credit cards during their travels are advised to contact their credit card companies before leaving home to add a travel notice to their accounts.

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

### Books

Students are required to rent or buy textbooks for each course they take. Textbooks are available for purchase at the Franklin College Bookstore. Popular websites used by students to buy or rent books include: [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), [Bookfinder.com](#), [CampusBooks](#), and [Chegg](#).

### Vaccination requirements

The vaccines below are required to study at Franklin College. Students should try to receive them prior to arriving in the U.S. and will need to submit vaccination records. If it is not possible to obtain required vaccines prior to U.S. arrival, they must be received within the first two weeks of residing on campus. There is a nurse on campus who can help students navigate vaccination options.

The Johnson County Health Department offers the required vaccines, and can be reached at 317.346.4368, option 2. They can bill through a student's insurance provider, and also offer vaccines at a reduced rate for self-pay students. The TravelWell clinic in nearby Greenwood, Indiana also offers vaccinations. Cost estimates for the TravelWell Clinic are listed below.

Vaccination	Cost Estimate
DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis)	\$80
Td (Tetanus, Diphtheria)	\$60
MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)	\$110
IPV (Inactivated Polio Vaccine)	\$40
Menquadri (Meningitis)	\$120
Varicella	\$175
Hepatitis B	\$80 for students over the age of 19, \$48 for 19 and under

A Negative TB test is required of international students from countries recognized by the World Health Organization Global Health Observatory to have incidence rates of greater than or equal to 20 cases per 100,000 population. Students can check with the Franklin College Health Center to determine if this applies to them. The TB test should take place no sooner than six months prior to the start of the first term and should be completed before second term registration.

TST (Tuberculin Skin Test)	\$27
Quantiferon	\$93
T-SPOT	\$71

### Travel Medical Insurance

International students must have travel medical insurance coverage for their time in the United States. Students should purchase coverage before arriving on campus. Many students opt to use the insurance company [Seven Corners](#) for competitively priced travel medical insurance. Annual coverage may be purchased through their website or by calling 800.335.0611

### Employment

International students must have a social security card in order to begin working in the United States. Once a student is offered a preliminary place of employment, they can apply for a social security card. It may take up to 8 weeks to receive a social security card. During their first year in the U.S., students may only choose to work on campus. After their first year, students may seek permission to work off-campus. Work is limited to 20 hours per week during academic semesters. Students may work up to 40 hours per week over the summer. International students may participate in internships with Franklin College approval.

## IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS

### Designated Student Official (DSO)

Our DSO for immigration issues Lisa Mahan, Franklin College Registrar. Any questions for the DSO should be directed to your admissions counselor.

### Passport

International students must hold a valid passport for their entire stay in the United States. The passport expiration date should be 6 months or more after your date of return to your home country.

### Immigration Documents

Before arriving in the United States, international students must have both an I-20 and an F-1 student visa. I-20s are distributed by the Office of Admissions. Your I-20 document verifies your F-1 student visa status and must be accurate and up-to-date throughout your stay in the United States. To apply for an F-1 student visa, students should schedule an appointment at the closest U.S. Embassy in their home country.

### Changes to Immigration Status

Students must notify the DSO with any immigration status changes, including:

Drop below full-time student status (12 credit hours)

Change of address

Selecting a new field of study

Employment authorizations

Transferring to another college or university

Disciplinary action

Planned travel outside the United States

Passport or visa expiration

### Maintaining Immigration Status

It is extremely important for F-1 students to comply with all conditions of their visa during their entire stay in the United States, by maintaining full-time student status and being in good academic standing. Failure to maintain F-1 student visa status will result in I-20 termination and deportation.

### Filing Taxes

International students who receive payment for a job or internship are required to file annual taxes in the United States. We encourage students to connect with a tax professional regarding their requirement to file taxes. Tax returns are filed by April 15 for the previous calendar year.

### Requesting a Transcript

Following your time at Franklin College, you can request an official transcript from [National Student Clearinghouse](#).

# PREPARE TO ATTEND FRANKLIN COLLEGE

## 3-6 Months Before Departure

1. Share the great news with family and friends!
2. Research visa requirements and apply for your F-1 student visa.
3. Check your passport status.
4. Apply for a passport if you don't have one.
5. Verify your passport will be valid for the dates of your stay in the U.S. plus an additional six months.
6. Make any necessary appointments – doctor, dentist, dermatologist, etc.
7. Request copies of vaccination records from your doctor.
8. Submit financial proof documents to Franklin College.
9. Pay your \$500 enrollment deposit (not applicable for exchange students).

## 1-2 Months Before Departure

1. Book your flight to arrive on the date provided by the Franklin College Office of Admissions.
2. Send flight details to your admissions counselor at least 20 days prior to arrival in Indiana.
3. Purchase travel medical insurance.
4. Check the power supply on your electronics (120V in the U.S.) Buy a universal power adapter if needed.
5. Contact your bank/credit card companies to ask about fees associated with using your card overseas.
6. Contact your cell phone provider to arrange service during your travel.
7. Complete the New Student Checklist.

## 1 Week before Departure

1. Make copies to leave at home of all travel documents, IDs and banking/credit cards.
2. Withdraw \$500 in cash for travel expenses and initial purchases.
3. Review the packing suggestions on page 8.
4. Contact your banks/credit cards to let them know the dates you will be in the U.S.
5. Prepare a folder to keep in your carry-on with the following documents:
  - Your acceptance letter from the Office of Admissions
  - Immigration documents
  - Emergency contact phone numbers

## The Day before Departure

1. Double-check your flight details and share travel information with your family.
2. Confirm transportation plans.
3. Set an alarm, allowing time to arrive at the airport at least two hours before your flight.

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