

Fall 2017
Pre-arrival Information and Calendar
Intensive English Program (IEP)
@
English Language Institute (ELI)
University at Buffalo (UB)

Carefully read the schedule and information. Send your questions to
elibuffalo@buffalo.edu. See you in August!

Very Important: UB's Health Background Form (HBF) needs to be submitted by August 18. IEP registration cannot be processed until the HBF has been approved by Student Health Services. <http://www.buffalo.edu/studentlife/who-we-are/departments/health.html> click on Immunization Requirement and Health Background Form.

Release of Information: Learn about authorization to release or obtain information in the Pre-arrival's **Keep in Mind** section found on page 8.

Friday, August 18

Deadline to submit Health Background Form (HBF) to Student Health Services for clearance to be registered.

Thursday, August 24

Arrival Day

8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

If you will live on campus and have been assigned to Clement Hall, UB South Campus, report to the South Campus from the airport by taxi. ELI does not offer airport pick up service. ELI staff will be at Clement Hall to assist with room registration.

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If you will live off campus, report to the ELI office, Baldy Hall, room 320, North Campus for an Information Folder.

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If you have not already done so, submit the Health Background Form to Student Health Services, Michael Hall, South Campus. IEP registration cannot be processed without an approved HBF on file.

7:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.

Walmart Shopping trip for residence hall students to buy items for their rooms: blanket, pillow, towels, bed linen, cooking supplies, etc.

Friday, August 25

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm.

2:30 p.m.

Information Day

Information session, UB ID Cards made, UBIT accounts activated, and North Campus tour

T-Mobile information and arrangement of service (optional)

Warning: Today is the last day to register for IEP without being charged a \$40. late registration fee.

Monday, August 28

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 29

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Time To Be Announced

Placement Testing Day

Grammar, vocabulary, reading and listening comprehension tests

Speaking Assessments and Bank Day

Speaking interview for level placements

Bank of America (BOA) for information and opening of an account (optional)

Wednesday, August 30

Classes Begin

Monday, September 4

Labor Day Holiday. UB will be closed

Wednesday, October 11

Payment Deadline for tuition, fees, TOEFL, medical insurance and on campus living expenses

Wednesday, November 22 to Sunday, November 26

Thanksgiving Holiday Recess. Residence halls will remain open during the holiday recess for a possible extra charge approximately \$35./night

Monday, November 27

UB reopens and classes resume

Friday, December 8

Classes End

Monday, December 11

Institutional (ITP) TOEFL (paper-based)

Tuesday, December 12

Closing Ceremony and Farewell Reception

Wednesday, December 13

CBA admitted students receive new I-20 forms

**December 19, 2017 to
January 28, 2018**

Winter Recess: UB residence halls will remain open during the recess for an additional charge of approximately \$35./night. The spring semester room contract will begin on Sunday, January 28. UB services will be very limited during the recess.

**December 23, 2017 to
January 2, 2018**

ELI will be closed for the holiday week and will reopen on January 2.

**January 4 to January 24
January 29 to May 18**

UB's Winter 2018 Session
UB's Spring 2018 Semester

SEVIS FEE (I-901) AND APPLYING FOR YOUR STUDENT VISA

Most students admitted to the IEP will enter the U.S. in F-1, student visa, status. Please follow the instructions given in the acceptance letter. Additional information about paying the SEVIS fee (I-901) and applying for an F-1 visa can be found on ELI's website. The State Department's website is <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en.html>

Write to Kathy Curtis at curtiskl@buffalo.edu, if you have questions.

F-2 and B-1/B-2 visa holders are not eligible to enroll in the IEP.

Welcome to Buffalo! We hope you have had a safe and enjoyable journey. Please follow these Arrival Day instructions on August 24:

STUDENTS LIVING OFF CAMPUS

If you plan to live off campus, report to the English Language Institute (ELI), Baldy Hall room 320, North Campus to pick up your Information Folder. If you have a car and do not have a campus parking permit, park in the visitor's lot. Cars parked on campus Monday – Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. must have a UB parking permit. **Continue reading from the "Fall 2017 Program Expenses" section found on page 6.**

STUDENTS LIVING ON CAMPUS

The majority of IEP students have been assigned to live in Clement Hall, South Campus. ELI staff will be at Clement Hall, South Campus to assist new IEP students with their room registration. ELI staff will be at Clement Hall only on Arrival Day, August 24.

ARRIVING FROM THE BUFFALO NIAGARA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Buffalo Niagara International Airport (BNIA) is about 6 miles or 9.65 km (15-20 minute ride) to the North and South UB campuses. ELI does not offer airport pick up service. Students with residence hall reservations are requested to take Airport Taxi Service from BNIA which will cost approximately \$21 plus tip to the South Campus or \$28 plus tip to the North Campus. www.buffaloairporttaxi.com. Some UB student clubs will arrange for airport pick up service. <http://www.buffalo.edu/international-student-and-scholar-services/life-in-buffalo/international-student-clubs.html> Both Uber and Lyft now are operating in the Buffalo area.

DELAYED BAGGAGE

If your baggage is delayed, make sure you complete a delayed baggage report before leaving the airport. Students living in Clement Hall will need to use the Area Office as a delivery address: **University at Buffalo, Area Office, Goodyear Hall room 119, UB South Campus**. The phone number is (716) 829-3144. Goodyear and Clement Halls are next to each other on the South Campus.

Early or Late Arrival

Early: If you plan to arrive in Buffalo before August 24, you **might** have to stay at a motel until you can check into your room. Contact Kathy Curtis at least one (1) week in advance for early arrival instructions. The **University Manor Inn** is located across Main Street from the South Campus. Email: info@universitymanorinn.com; <http://universitymanorinn.com>.

Places to stay near the North Campus:

http://www.buffalo.edu/content/dam/www/international-student-and-scholar-services/HotelAccomodations_2016.pdf

Make your reservation now as most hotels and inns will be full the month of August.

Late: If you plan to arrive after 7 p.m. on Arrival Day contact Kathy Curtis at least one (1) week in advance for late arrival instructions. Room reservations will be held only until Monday, August 28.

Campus Living

Over 7,000 students live on campus. Most rooms have been reserved by continuing UB students in April. The remaining rooms have been reserved by new students before June 1. On campus housing is very limited.

South Campus Residence Hall Rooms

HAVE

- *Double rooms with 2 beds, 2 dressers, 2 desks and 1 closet
- *Inside adjoining bathroom (1 toilet, 1 shower and 2 sinks) shared by 4 students
- *Co-educational floors (men and women housed on the same floor)
- *Central heat, water, electricity, elevators
- *Cable and internet
- *Study and TV lounge
- *Small kitchen with stove top and microwave
- *Public telephone on each floor
- *Public computer center
- *Free laundry machines on each floor
- *Fitness and game room
- *Secured entrances
- *Cleaning staff for first floor lounges, lobby and floor hallways
- *On-line room repair service
- *9 floors with a Resident Advisor (RA) assigned to each floor for assistance
- *Cafeteria
- *Cleaning supplies
- *Open during vacation breaks
- *Located near a shopping center, the Metro Rail station and the North Campus Bus Stop

DO NOT HAVE

- *Air conditioning
- *Room telephone service
- *Bed linen, towels, pillows, desk lamp, etc.
- *Cooking utensils
- *Refrigerator
- *Cleaning staff for individual rooms, baths and kitchens
- *Irons, hair dryers
- *Bathtub
- *Smoking Areas

WARNING: *Residence hall contracts cannot be canceled.* Room contracts begin for the academic year on August 24, 2017 and end on May 18, 2018. Unless you cancel your Fall IEP enrollment, the last day to cancel your room reservation was July 1. The Fall 2017 double room charge is \$4,016. - \$300. reservation deposit = \$3,716. Students leaving UB after the fall semester will need to apply by November 1 for early release of their room contract. www.student-affairs.buffalo.edu/housing

DINING SERVICE INFORMATION

Buying a meal plan is optional for most IEP students. Conditional Bridge Admission (CBA) freshman students will automatically be required to buy the “Any 14 Meal Plan” for \$2,875. for both the fall and spring semesters. Eating your meals in the cafeteria is a great way to make friends and practice your English! Visit www.myubcard.com for information about meal plans and costs. Meal plan contracts cannot be canceled once a signed contract has been submitted. The cafeterias will open Thursday, August 24.

FALL 2017 PROGRAM EXPENSES

Tuition, fees, TOEFL, medical insurance, UBCard, room and food charges are paid to the University at Buffalo. UB will accept cash, bank check, VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover. The deadline to pay all program and living costs is October 11. Failure to pay by the deadline will result in a late payment charge.

Tuition	\$ 3,975.00 (less \$150 deposit or \$3,825.00)
Comprehensive Fee	\$ 1,187.75
Institutional TOEFL	\$ 30.00
Medical Insurance	\$ 589.48
Textbooks	\$ 225.00 (estimated; purchased at bookstore)
UB ID Card	\$ 25.00
Residence Hall (2 person room)	\$ 4,016.00 (less \$300 deposit or \$3,716 per person)
Dining Service	\$ 2,875.00 (Any 14 Plan)

UB has partnered with Flywire for international wire transactions.

<http://studentaccounts.buffalo.edu/billing/international.php>

All costs are subject to change without advanced notice.

Payment deadline is on October 11.

UB COMPREHENSIVE FEE

All students studying at UB are charged a Comprehensive Fee each semester which covers the cost of college fee, technology, campus life, Student Health Services, transportation and The Academic Excellence and Success Fee. The Comprehensive Fee is mandatory. The estimated Fall 2017 fee is \$1,187.75.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

New York State law requires all F-1 and J-1 visa holders enrolled in any of the 64 State University of New York (SUNY) schools to buy GeoBlue Medical Insurance.

GeoBlue coverage is mandatory for all UB international students including IEP students in F-1 or J-1 visa status. Do not buy any other policy. Coverage will begin on August 15, 2017 and will end on January 14, 2018. The insurance coverage will begin on August 15 but only will cover you outside of your country. There is no need to buy traveler's insurance since you will most likely be leaving your country after August 15. The estimated medical insurance cost is \$589.48 for the semester.

RESIGNATION (LIABILITY) DATES AND PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS

September 5	Last day to resign without any financial penalty
September 6-12	30% tuition plus 100% fees
September 13-19	50% tuition plus 100% fees
September 20-26	70% tuition plus 100% fees
As of September 27	100% tuition plus 100% fees

PROGRAM OF STUDY

IEP classes begin at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday – Friday on the North Campus. Lunch break is from 12 to 12:50 p.m. Classes end at 2:50 p.m. Monday – Friday. Classes will be held in Clemens, Baldy and/or Fillmore Quad, North Campus.

	<u>Intermediate Levels</u>	<u>Advanced Levels</u>
1 hour	Reading	Speaking/Listening
2 hours	Grammar/Writing	Grammar/Writing
2 hours	Speaking/Listening	Reading/Discussion

After class, you will be able to practice your listening comprehension and conversation skills at ELI's Open Lab and Chat Room programs. Both programs are free and will begin the week of September 11.

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION

Textbooks are purchased from UB's Bookstore. UB's Bookstore will accept cash, VISA MasterCard, American Express and Discover credit card payments. The estimated cost for textbooks is \$225.

CARRYING MONEY

It is recommended to exchange your money into U.S. dollars before leaving your home country. It is very expensive to exchange currency in Buffalo. You should carry at least \$300 cash with you while traveling. After you arrive in Buffalo and open a bank account, you can have your money wired from your home country.

KEEP IN MIND

Health Background Form (HBF): Send your completed HBF by August 18. You will not be able to register for the fall semester without an accepted HBF on file at UB's Student Health Services. August 25 is the last day to register without being charged a \$40. late registration fee.

Release of Information: *In New York State anyone 17 years or younger is considered a minor. This means that many services such as medical care, cell phones, and bank accounts might not be possible to arrange. Students who are considered minors should bring several health release forms signed by their parents. Unless a release form is signed by a parent, medical care cannot be administered.*

Students 18 years and older: need to help their families to understand that ELI, UB, hospitals and doctors are prohibited by U.S. law from giving out information – even to parents. Students can sign a release of information form after they have arrived for UB or a hospital to give information to a family member.

Smoke Free: As of August 1, 2009 UB has been a smoke-free university. This means ***no smoking*** anywhere on campus – inside or outside any building or place on campus! UB enforces this policy 24/7.

Dental & Eye Care: Dental and eye care is very expensive in the U.S. GeoBlue Medical Insurance does not cover such expenses. It is recommended that you visit the dentist before coming to the U.S. and bring an extra set of contact lenses or glasses.

Driver's License: You will be able to apply for a New York State driver's license. However, the process is complicated and may take up to 2 months to complete. You will be able to drive in New York State and buy a car as long as you have from your own country a (1) valid driver's license and (2) valid international driver's license.

Buying A Car: If you buy a car, you must also register it with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and buy car insurance.

Social Security Number: The Social Security number is issued by the U.S. Federal government. The number is used for tax purposes in the U.S. Only those international students who have been offered an on-campus, part-time job, will be able to apply for a Social Security number.

Cell Phones: Without a Social Security number, you may be limited in the type of cell phone service and options. Many cell phone providers require a Social Security number in order to arrange for non-deposit service. Pre-paid cell phones do not require a Social Security number.

Keep in touch: Write to us, if you are coming or not. Also write with any problems you may be having with your visa application process or arriving on August 24, the arrival day.

CANADIAN TOURIST VISA INFORMATION

The Canadian border is less than 20 miles away from UB. You may want to plan a trip to Canada during the semester. Citizens of some countries are required to have a Tourist Visa before entering Canada. There is no Canadian Consulate in Buffalo. The closest Consulate is located in New York City. ***It is strongly recommended that you apply for a Canadian tourist visa before leaving your country.***

Visit the Canadian Consulate's website at www.cic.gc.ca for more information.

APPLYING TO U.S. COLLEGES or UNIVERSITIES

If you are planning on applying to a U.S. college or university for academic study upon successful completion of your IEP studies, bring with you the following documents:

1. Transcripts of your high school and or college/university study (certified and translated into English).
2. High school diploma, if applying to a community or junior college.
3. Signed financial statements from your sponsor and your sponsor's bank certificate for the first year of study.

You will need to submit an original transcript or grade report for each school you are going to apply to for either undergraduate or graduate studies. The deadline for most colleges and universities for spring admission (starting in mid/late January) is October 1 and April 1 for fall admission (starting in late August). UB's Office of International Admission website: www.buffalo.edu/intadmit

CLIMATE, CLOTHING & SPORTS

Buffalo has a varying climate with 4 seasons:

During Fall & Spring: raincoat or light weight coats or jackets are worn outdoors. Days can be warm while nights can be very cool. Fall is from September to November and the temperatures range from 30 to 80 F (-2 to 25.5 C). During fall and spring, periods of rainfall occur. Buffalo usually has very nice fall and spring seasons.

During Winter: sweaters, heavy jackets, overcoats, warm gloves, hats, scarves, snow boots are needed as well as warm undershirts and sweaters. The first snow of the season usually comes in mid December but it has snowed as early as October! The last snow of the season usually ends by March or early April. Buffalo is famous for its winters! Temperatures range from 0 to 45F (-18 to 7C).

During Summer: Shorts and light-weight clothing are necessary as Buffalo can be very hot and humid during the summer months. Summers are great in Buffalo! The days are very long with the sun setting around 9:30 p.m. The average temperature range is from 50 to 90F (10 to 32C).

Visit <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/outlooks/buf> for weather updates.

Clothing

Student dress is casual. Many of the teachers will also dress informally. Jeans and shirts are acceptable for class but consider bringing better clothes for parties and receptions.

Sports

If you are interested in tennis, swimming, skiing, snowboarding, etc. you will need to have your own clothing, shoes and equipment. www.ubathletics.buffalo.edu/recreation

Arrival Information

To help ELI staff to prepare for your arrival, send by email your arrival information to elibuffalo@buffalo.edu. Include in your message your name, the date and time of your arrival in Buffalo and if you will live on or off campus.

IN CONCLUSION

The staff of the ELI will be happy to assist you not only in your education but also with any problems you may be dealing with while you are enrolled. It is our job to see that your studies are successful and that you are happy during your stay with us. Please consider us not only your teachers but also your counselors and friends.

Have a pleasant trip to Buffalo. See you on August 24.

Kathleen (Kathy) L. Curtis, Associate Director
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Fax: (716) 645-6198

Open: Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (EST)

Buffalo Info: www.buffalonews.com
UB Info: www.buffalo.edu

curtiskl@buffalo.edu

<http://www.buffalo.edu/eli>, click on Intensive English Program

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