WELCOME TO ILLINOIS TECH!

NEW STUDENT RESOURCE GUIDE

Useful Information and Important Deadlines for You and Your Family
Thank you for choosing Illinois Tech. You are embarking on an extraordinary time in your life, filled with limitless possibility. I hope in the years ahead you will relish every opportunity to challenge yourself to be creative, to innovate, and to become the person that you wish to become. Study something new, stand up for a cause, and explore the unfamiliar. At Illinois Tech our professors, staff, and your fellow students are all part of a culture of excellence that values and encourages discovery and innovation. We are here to help you grow as an individual, a scholar, and a professional—and we’re committed to helping you achieve all of your goals.

The experiences that you will gain during your time here will shape you in ways perhaps unimaginable. Be proud of the accomplishments that led you here—and prepare for an even more exciting and fulfilling road ahead.

On behalf of the Illinois Tech community, welcome to our university.

Alan W. Cramb
President

Greetings from President Cramb

I'm a future hawk!

Share your excitement!

Tear off the inside back page for a handy checklist of all your next steps, and snap a photo of yourself holding the graphic on the back cover. Be sure to include the hashtag #illinoistech2017 wherever you post, tweet, or blog!

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LET’S GET STARTED!

Accessing Your myIIT Portal and Illinois Tech Email

Be sure to log in and check your Illinois Tech portal and university Gmail account daily. This is the primary way that everyone from your professors to university departments to fellow students will communicate with you.

1. **Go to my.iit.edu**
   - Insert your username and password, which we sent to you in an email

2. **Click on the “Google Apps” icon in the upper right-hand corner of the portal**
   You can also access your email by using your full hawk.iit.edu email address and password directly at gmail.com

Uses for the Portal:

**Use the Academics tab to:**
- View your academic advisor’s information
- Look up course schedules and register for classes

**Use the Finances tab to:**
- View and make payments on your bill
VISA NEXT STEPS

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<td><strong>Step 2</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Step 3</strong></td>
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10 points to remember for your visa interview:

1. **Ties to your home country:** Under United States law, all applicants for non-immigrant visas, such as student visas, are viewed as intending immigrants until they can convince the consular officer that they are not.

2. **English:** Anticipate that the interview will be conducted in English and not in your native language.

3. **Speak for yourself:** Do not bring parents, family members, or friends with you to the interview.

4. **Know the program and how it fits your career plans:** Be prepared to articulate the reasons why you will study in a particular program and your selected institution in the United States. You should also be able to explain how studying at Illinois Tech relates to your future professional career when you return home.

5. **Be brief:** Because of the volume of applications received, all consular officers are under considerable time pressure to conduct a quick and efficient interview. Keep in mind that you will have two to three minutes of interview time. Bring additional documents (such as your admission letter, transcripts or marksheets, standardized test scores, financial documents, SEVIS payment receipt, etc.) but present them only if requested.

6. **Additional documentation:** It should be clear to the consular officer what documents you are presenting and what they signify.

7. **Not all countries are equal:** Applicants from countries suffering economic problems or from countries where many students have remained in the United States as immigrants will have more difficulty getting visas.

8. **Employment:** Your main purpose in coming to the United States is to study and complete your degree, not for the chance to work before or after graduation.

9. **Dependents remaining at home:** If you have a spouse or children and they are remaining in your home country, be prepared to address how they will support themselves in your absence.

10. **Maintain a positive attitude:** Do not engage the consular officer in an argument.
ACADEMIC ADVISING, COURSE REGISTRATION, AND TRANSFER CREDIT

ACTION ITEMS:

- Submit course descriptions to Office of Undergraduate Admission (transfer students from international institutions only)
- Send your final transcripts to Illinois Tech
- Submit any AP, IB, or A-Level examinations to Illinois Tech
- Complete the math placement exam online (if requested)
- Complete the essay for writing placement (if requested)
- Use the new student advising system in myIIT to plan possible draft schedules for your first term
- Contact your faculty academic advisor to discuss course schedules and obtain your registration PIN number
- Use your PIN number to register for courses

Academic Advisors

Once you submit your enrollment deposit and confirm your attendance at Illinois Tech, you will be assigned an academic advisor. Your academic advisor will be a faculty member in your major who is responsible for helping you register for courses each semester. Throughout your time at Illinois Tech your advisor will be your go-to person for all your questions about which classes to take and how to best align your course schedule in order to make sure you’re on track to graduate in time. Academic advisors can also assist with questions about choosing a specialization, adding a minor, or applying for one of Illinois Tech’s special degree programs (these, for example, allow you to complete a B.S. and master’s degree in as few as five years).

Registering for Classes

Once you receive your academic advisor’s information you are encouraged to reach out to him/her to begin your advising conversation. Some advisors will advise you and help you register for courses via email, while others prefer to wait until you arrive on campus to advise you in person. In order to register for any course you will need a unique 6-digit PIN number. Only your academic advisor can give you your PIN. If you do not get advised before you arrive at Illinois Tech there will be a designated time during Orientation when you will be able to meet with your academic advisor.

Contact Information:

Any questions about your course schedule or registering for courses should be directed to your academic advisor. As long as you’ve confirmed your attendance at Illinois Tech, you will be able to see your academic advisor’s information in your myIIT portal under the “Academics” tab.

The Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs can help if you have questions regarding advising and registration.

Questions about transfer credit or AP/IB/A-Level credit?

Visit web.iit.edu/ugaa/services to see which courses will transfer for credit at Illinois Tech!
Get ready for the countless exciting new opportunities and experiences that begin when you move into your new living community. The staff of Residence and Greek Life is eager to help you make a smooth transition.

Submit Your Housing Contract

Submit your housing contract as soon as possible to reserve a room on campus. Room assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis and will be based on the information you provide on the housing contract. We will ask you to describe your sleeping habits, cleaning preferences, and other details about yourself to aid us in matching you with a roommate. If you know someone you would like to room with, you can indicate this on the Housing Contract. BOTH you and that person must indicate each other’s name to be matched.

Housing Assignments

Housing assignments are made based on your application preferences, including gender and date of application. Residence and Greek Life makes every attempt to honor roommate requests. However, due to the high demand for campus housing, we cannot honor all roommate requests. Room assignment details and contact information for your room/apartment mate(s) will be listed in MyRoom, viewable at myroom.iit.edu.

Who Is Bringing What?

Speak with your roommate(s) and decide who will bring the TV, phone, etc. Will one of you be bringing a small refrigerator, or do you want to rent one? How about decorating your room? Do you want an area rug? Please see the included list of what to bring and what not to bring. For more tips about what to bring and what not to bring—including a list of prohibited items—visit the Residence and Greek Life website, housing.iit.edu.

Take a virtual tour of our campus housing options!

www.iit.edu/#virtualtour

Connect with Your Fellow Residents!

You’ll find endless opportunities to get involved with your floor or hall community. Additionally, you can create an organization to match your interests, passions, curiosities, needs, and leadership skills. Your resident advisor (RA) can help you learn more about all the possibilities! A great way to contribute to the vibrancy of your floor community is to become active with Floor Leadership Teams. Your RA will provide additional information about Floor Leadership Teams at your opening floor meeting. The Residence Hall Association (RHA) is a student organization that promotes resident interests and fosters a sense of community within McCormick Student Village (MSV), State Street Village (SSV), Gunsaulus Hall (GU), and Carman Hall (CA). All residents who live in MSV, SSV, GU, and CA are automatically members of RHA. Everyone is encouraged to participate as a floor representative or active member by attending general body meetings; planning social and educational events; and participating in local, regional, and national conferences.

First year students must apply for exemption and be approved by the Residence and Greek Life Office in order to live off campus. The housing contract and waiver form are available at housing.iit.edu. Transfer students and visiting/exchange students are encouraged, but not required, to live on campus.
McCormick Student Village (MSV) provides large lounges, multiple study areas, and many opportunities to interact with fellow students. A central common area and one main entrance/exit connect all residence halls.

State Street Village (SSV), designed by Helmut Jahn, a renowned architect, is a collection of three residence halls. SSV North and Middle contain double suites, which are one of two housing options available to first-year students. SSV South contains apartments available to students after their first year. Housing scholarships do not apply to SSV.

Gunsaulus Hall (GU) offers a variety of housing options. Each studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom apartment features appliances, window treatments, and flooring. Student rooms include a full furniture package, including bedroom and living room furniture. Available to juniors, seniors, transfer students, and graduate students.

Carman Hall (CA) offers a variety of apartment types, including studios and one-bedrooms with dens. The apartments are available with a 10-month contract. Based on availability, contracts may be extended through summer months. Available for graduate students; students living with dependents, spouses, or domestic partners; and students over 23 years old.

AMENITIES

Work Out
As a resident you will be able to use the fitness rooms located in MSV, SSV, and GU. All campus residents can access the fitness rooms during regular building hours. A variety of fitness machines and open spaces make up these convenient facilities.

Wash Up
Laundry washing machines are located in MSV, SSV, GU, and CA for use 24/7.

Room Furnishings
Room amenities include bunkable bed frames with XL-twin mattresses, drapes or mini-blinds, dressers, study desks and chairs, a telephone jack, and access to a wireless network. Apartment-style housing may include additional furnishings. Room layouts and dimensions for standard room types are available on the Residence and Greek Life website at housing.iit.edu.

Refrigerators
Micro-fridges are available for semester and academic-year rentals. Many residents find it convenient to have microwaves and refrigerators in their rooms to accommodate for snacks and late-night meals. Place your order online at www.bedloft.com.

Refrigerators allowed in resident rooms are subject to restrictions dictated by safety and health considerations. Approved refrigerators should not exceed 3.0 cubic feet (or 4.0 cubic feet if Energy Star rated) and should not draw more than 2.0 amps. All wiring should be UL-approved and properly grounded. There is a maximum of one refrigerator or micro-fridge per room or apartment. Microwaves are permitted only in units with kitchens (unless it is a rented Bedloft micro-fridge); microwaves are available in public spaces throughout the residence halls.

Lofts
Place your order for a lofted bed online at www.bedloft.com. Lofts are optional but are popular among students, as they allow for more floor space in the rooms.

Only residents living in MSV, GU, and SSV South may rent lofts. Lofts are not available for SSV Middle, SSV North, or CA.

Only lofted beds from Bedloft are allowed in the residence halls. Any non-approved lofts are prohibited and residents may incur fines. Residents cannot construct their own lofts. No furniture can be removed to accommodate lofts.
Welcome to Illinois Tech! We are busy preparing for your campus arrival and look forward to welcoming you soon. The 2017-18 academic year will be full of exciting new opportunities and experiences that begin when you move into your new living community.

First-year student move-in day will begin at 9 a.m. on August 11, 2017. Students who need to obtain their HawkCard IDs or international students who need to check in with the International Center should do so prior to checking in for housing. Detailed move-in information will be posted at housing.iit.edu in July.

We are preparing a number of fun activities for you on August 11. The Residence Hall Association will sponsor an ice cream social in the evening followed by your opening floor meetings. You will have lots of opportunities to make friends.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions!

Slandie Diejuste
Associate Vice Provost for Residence and Greek Life

Shipping Packages/Mailbox Key

If you are shipping personal belongings, please have them arrive after August 8. Illinois Tech is unable to accept resident packages prior to August 8. All packages are delivered to the MTCC post office.

MSV/SSV/CA/GU mailing address*
3201 South State Street Box # ____
Chicago, IL 60616

You can find your mailing address and mailbox number in your profile in MyRoom, viewable at myroom.iit.edu. You will be able to pick up your mailbox key beginning August 11 at the MTCC post office.

*The MTCC post office may convert to a key-free pick-up system, in which case all residents will pick up their mail in the MTCC. The mailing address will remain the same.

Checking In and Moving In

New residents move in on August 11. Returning residents move in on August 16.

August 11

Students who need to obtain their HawkCard IDs or international students who need to check in with the International Center should do so FIRST prior to checking in for housing.*

Housing check in will begin at 9 a.m. Please report directly to your assigned hall for check in. Moving volunteers will be available from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

August 12-15

Please report directly to your assigned hall for check in. Moving volunteers will be available on August 16 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and on August 19 from noon-4 p.m.
Dining Services

We hope you’re hungry! From sushi to tacos, from vegan to gluten free, and everything in between, Illinois Tech’s Dining Services has your cravings and dietary preferences covered.

The Commons Cafeteria is the primary dining resource for residents living on campus. When you live on campus you can choose from a number of meal plan options, many of which come with an allotment of bonus points each semester. Bonus points give you convenient access to meals or snacks at any Illinois Tech dining outlet, whereas meals must be used during designated meal periods in the Commons Cafeteria. If you wish to change your meal plan, you can do so online at www.iit.edu/housing. You may change your meal plan only once. For campus dining information please visit dining.iit.edu.

Need special room or meal accommodations?
web.iit.edu/cdr/services/disability-housing
web.iit.edu/housing/dining-dietary-preferences

Meal Plan Options

- **Hawk 14**: 14 meals within a 7-day period; 175 Bonus Points each semester; 20 meal exchanges each semester
  - Recommended for first-year students
- **Hawk 19**: 19 meals within a 7-day period; 75 Bonus Points each semester; 25 meal exchanges each semester
  - Recommended for athletes and ROTC students
- **Hawk 21**: 21 meals within a 7-day period; 75 Bonus Points each semester; 25 meal exchanges
- **Hawk 175**: 175 meals and 125 bonus points each semester; student may use up to 35 meals as exchanges each semester
  - Food options range from on-campus coffee shops and an all-you-can-eat buffet in The Commons to a full-service restaurant.
  - Meals allow you access to our all-you-can-eat dining facility, The Commons. In a hurry? No problem. Express meal options allow you to grab a to-go meal.
  - You can use Bonus Points for a la carte options on campus.
  - Meal exchanges allow you to use your meals outside of The Commons on a limited menu.

Care Packages 101

To: Parents and Families

Surprise Your Student!

Few things mean as much as a gift from home. Start the semester off right by sending a Surprise Someone care package. You can continue to send care packages to your student throughout the year. The Healthy Brains and Grains Package is a perfect way to show that you care all year long. Order a personalized celebration cake, a get-well-soon package, or any of our uniquely themed care packages. Our Surprise Someone packages will earn you an A+ for thoughtfulness. For more information about the Surprise Someone Program, visit dining.iit.edu and click on the Gifts link. Or call 312.567.5251.
STUDENT ORIENTATION, ADVISEMENT, AND REGISTRATION

The Office of Campus Life oversees student clubs and organizations, as well as Illinois Tech’s SOAR program: Student Orientation, Advisement, and Registration.

SOAR will be your first opportunity to connect with your future classmates and begin building your community at Illinois Tech. You will learn how to navigate the many resources and services in place to assist you with planning your academic career, meeting with an advisor, and registering for classes. During SOAR you will also be introduced to our First-Year Experience program, which will help acclimate you to life as a Scarlet Hawk!

SOAR (Student Orientation, Advisement, and Registration) will take place August 14–15, 2017

- Visit the SOAR website to register for SOAR: go.iit.edu/new-soar

What will you do at SOAR?

- Meet other new Scarlet Hawks
- Receive assistance with course registration
- Get your Hawk ID
- Learn about academic and social resources on campus

go.iit.edu/new-soar

Make sure to complete all items on your New Student Checklist: go.iit.edu/new-checklist

Move in: August 11

Welcome Week (fun activities and more!): August 11–20

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Move in: August 11

Welcome Week (fun activities and more!): August 11–20

The McCormick Tribune Campus Center
Southeast corner of the building
3201 South State Street
Chicago, IL 60616

Phone: 312.567.3720
Fax: 312.567.3719
Email: soar@iit.edu
First-Year Experience

The First-Year Experience program is designed to help students find the resources and support they need to succeed during their time on campus. New incoming commuter students are assigned peer mentors, who provide guidance during the first year at Illinois Tech. You can make the most of your Illinois Tech experience by attending events, interacting with your Peer Mentor Group, and learning about useful campus resources.

Spiritual Life and Diversity

The Office of Spiritual Life and Diversity oversees programs that foster inclusion for all members of the Illinois Tech community—including programs pertaining to gender/sexual identity, religion, and cultural issues.

We also assist with:

- Religious spaces available to Illinois Tech students: Carr Chapel, IIT Mosque, Krishna House
- Meal accommodations for religiously observant students
- Help finding a place of worship near campus
- Gender and sexuality services
- Multicultural services

HawkLink

With more than 120 active student organizations, we have something for you! Log into HawkLink (hawklink.iit.edu) using your Illinois Tech credentials and begin exploring what the university’s student groups have to offer you. Join the Office of Campus Life for a variety of campus events, including social events, dances, and large traditional events held throughout the year.

Leadership

Looking to explore what being a leader means? Take part in our monthly Leadership Luncheons, our annual Leadership Summit, and other programs designed to encourage each student to embrace the leader within. By exploring self-discovery and reflection, you can be the best that you can be.

Service

Interested in giving back to the Illinois Tech community and surrounding areas? Participate in Tech Gives Back during your first week on campus, and then continue to make a difference through our monthly off-campus service events.

web.iit.edu/campus-life

The McCormick Tribune Campus Center
Southeast corner of the building
3201 South State Street
Chicago, IL 60616

Phone: 312.567.3720
Fax: 312.567.3719
Email: campus.life@iit.edu

SAVE THE DATE

Welcome Week 2017 is August 11–20!
The Student Health and Wellness Center offers a variety of helpful resources for students such as health services, counseling services, crisis services, and wellness resources. The on-campus clinic can provide care for common illnesses and injuries as well as preventative medicine such as immunizations or nutritional screening. Counseling services are also available to students to help with any personal or emotional difficulties they are dealing with, including cultural adjustment issues or anxiety.

**Immunizations**

All students are required to submit proof of immunization to the Student Health and Wellness Center. Most of the time, students will get these immunizations done in their home countries before they arrive at Illinois Tech. However, we understand that sometimes these required immunizations are not offered in all countries. If that is the case for you, don’t worry! If you are not properly immunized or do not have proof of immunization, you may receive the required immunizations at the Student Health and Wellness Center when you arrive at Illinois Tech.

Return your forms to SHWC via fax or email, or drop them off in person.

- Fax: 312.567.5702
- Email: student.health@iit.edu

Forms are available online at [web.iit.edu/shwc](http://web.iit.edu/shwc)

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**Health Insurance**

Illinois Tech requires that all international students be enrolled in the university’s health coverage. You will not be able to waive the coverage requirement.

Therefore, you automatically will be enrolled in the Illinois Tech Student Health Insurance Plan at the time you register for classes. The charge for this coverage will be added to your tuition bill. You should not purchase any health insurance before coming to campus as it cannot be used while you are a student at Illinois Tech.

Information about Illinois Tech’s Student Health Insurance Plan, including coverage information and the enrollment period, can be found at:

[http://web.iit.edu/shwc/insurance](http://web.iit.edu/shwc/insurance)

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**Contact Information:**

Any questions about the Immunization Form or Student Health Insurance Plan, or any questions about other health and wellness resources offered at Illinois Tech, should be directed to the Student Health and Wellness Center.

IIT Tower
10 West 35th Street, Suite 3D9-1
Chicago, IL 60616

Phone: 312.567.7550
Fax: 312.567.5702
Email: student.health@iit.edu
The International Center provides a variety of services to assist Illinois Tech students including cultural adjustment to life in the U.S., immigration advising and assistance with the preparation of U.S. government-related documents, and cross-cultural activities that promote intercultural perspectives. Every year, the International Center sponsors programs such as the IIT International Festival, English conversation partner program, and the Thanksgiving holiday program, which allows international students to spend the U.S. Thanksgiving Day holiday with an American family. The International Center can also help with any questions you have about your immigration status or the preparation of documents you need to apply for internships or jobs in the U.S.

International Orientation Session

Besides the regular SOAR Orientation session, a specific international orientation session will be held during Welcome Week to help you learn about cultural adjustment in the U.S. and services for international students on campus. Make sure to register and plan on attending both sessions!

International Registration Hold

The international registration hold that is placed on your account will be removed as soon as you arrive on campus and check in with the International Center (see the Academic Advising section of this guide for more information about the hold). Make sure to bring your student ID, passport, and immigration documents when you go to check in. You should do this as soon as possible after you arrive at Illinois Tech so that your international hold can be removed from your account. Doing so will allow you to register for classes and get your student ID card.

Student Resource Fair

The International Center will help sponsor a student resource fair during Welcome Week to introduce you to important resources on and around campus. If you’d like to open a bank account in the U.S. or get a cell phone, representatives from different banks and phone companies will be at the student resource fair to help you get started.

Contact Information:

The McCormick Tribune Campus Center
3201 South State Street, Room 202
Chicago, IL 60616

Phone: 312.567.3680
Fax: 312.567.3687
Email: icenter@iit.edu

web.iit.edu/international-center
Access Our Online System

Once you register for your courses, you can print bills, make online payments, enroll in a payment plan, set up direct deposit for tuition refunds, and more online.

1. Log on to myIIT.
2. Find the Manage Account box on the Finances tab.
3. Click Manage My Student Account.
4. Click to open the secure site.

Viewing Your Account

We encourage you to periodically review your account on the Finances tab of the myIIT portal and make outstanding payments promptly.

E-Bills

You will not receive paper copies of bills. Instead, bills will be posted to your online account. You will receive an email notification when your bills are ready to view online. Registered Authorized Users will receive email notifications as well.

To receive notifications at an alternate email address, update your contact information by clicking My Profiles.
Tuition Payments

Out-of-pocket tuition payments (total account charges less anticipated Financial Aid) are due by the end of the add/drop period. If you register late, your payment will be due on the date of registration. We accept the following forms of payment for tuition:

- ACH (electronic check) or credit card online!
- Personal check
- Money order
- Cashier’s check
- Demand draft
  (Payable to Illinois Institute of Technology)
- Wire transfer
  (Instructions online at [www.flywire.com/pay/iit](http://www.flywire.com/pay/iit))

Illinois Tech has partnered with peerTransfer to streamline the tuition payment process for international students. With peerTransfer, you can pay from any country and any bank with an excellent foreign exchange rate. You will be able to track where your payment is in the transfer process via a student dashboard, and an email confirmation will be sent to you when IIT receives your payment.

- Mastercard, American Express, or Discover
  (2.75% transaction fee applies) online!

Mail payments payable to Illinois Institute of Technology:

IIT Student Accounting
7539 Solution Center
Chicago, IL 60677

Parents and Guardians—Become an Authorized User

Parents who wish to view their students’ account information and make online payments on their behalf must be added as Authorized Users.

Students can add authorized users online by clicking Authorized Users.

Financial Responsibility

By registering for courses at Illinois Tech, you are accepting financial responsibility for all charges assessed to your student account. If payment is not received by the published due date, you will be charged a 2% late payment fee. Please contact our office right away if you have questions about your bill.

Contact Information

You can update your mailing address and contact information on the myIIT portal. Select the Banner Self Service portal on the Academics tab and click Personal Information.

Payment Plans

You may enroll your balance for the semester in the payment plan through Manage My Account. Payment plan enrollment will be available on July 1, 2017. You have the flexibility to enroll as much or as little of your total out-of-pocket cost as you’d like. Any portion of your bill not enrolled in this plan will be due in full by the published due date for that semester.

Sponsorship/Third Party Billing

If you will be sponsored by a third party organization (such as a private company or government organization) that will pay your tuition on your behalf, please make sure to submit your sponsorship letter to the Office of Undergraduate Admission as part of your Financial Affidavit of Support requirement. The admission office will work with the Student Accounting office to make sure that your sponsor is billed accordingly.
Since the PESL program is relatively new at Illinois Tech, incoming students often have questions about it. Here are the answers to some of their frequently asked questions:

**What is the Proficiency of English as a Second Language (PESL) Program?**

The PESL program offers courses to increase English proficiency and aid international students in adjusting to life and achieving academic success in the U.S. Courses offered to undergraduate students each semester provide linguistic support and training in academic speaking, listening, and reading and vocabulary development as well as strategy building. Quality instructors deliver carefully designed lessons to help students learn, think, and express themselves in the English language.

**Why are the PESL courses important and how do they help students?**

Building greater proficiency in English enables students to gain more benefits from their time studying abroad at Illinois Tech. Dedication to increasing linguistic competency will allow students to participate more fully in class discussions, to work more effectively in groups, to take better notes during lectures, to read faster and with greater comprehension, and ultimately to receive the best education the talented professors at Illinois Tech can deliver. Gaining a better sociocultural understanding from these courses will also enable international students to make friends from around the world, to get involved in extra-curricular activities such as student organizations, to participate in networking events, and to explore the various attractions Chicago as a whole has to offer.

**Do I have to do the assessment, even if I met the English proficiency requirement for admission?**

Yes, all international undergraduate students are required to take an English assessment upon arrival at Illinois Tech. The assessment will determine proficiency in the areas of reading, speaking, and listening.

**How will I know if I should take any PESL courses?**

After the assessment, students will be sent an individual report outlining recommended PESL courses. If no courses are recommended, this will be indicated on the report. If courses are recommended, students will meet with an advisor to discuss how to fit any recommended course/courses into their academic studies.

**Will I have to pay extra for these courses?**

No, the PESL courses are covered by your Illinois Tech tuition.

**Contact Information:**

pesl@iit.edu
**Academic Resource Center (ARC)
https://web.iit.edu/arc**

The ARC offers free services to all Illinois Tech students including peer tutoring, exam reviews, and workshops and seminars. Any time you need extra help in a class or if you just want to develop skills to help you balance your study and homework load, the tutors at the ARC will be there to assist you.

**Access, Card, and Parking Services (ACAPS)
http://web.iit.edu/acaps**

Your student ID card at Illinois Tech will be a valuable tool, giving you access to all of the buildings on campus as well as storing funds for you to use at the campus bookstore and convenience store. The ACAPS office will help you get your student ID card when you arrive at Illinois Tech and can also help you get a parking pass if you plan to park a car on campus. All full-time students will also receive a Ventra U-Pass, which gives you unlimited access to public transportation citywide.

**Athletics
http://www.illinoistechathletics.com**

Our Department of Athletics will be a great resource for helping you stay active on campus. Besides offering 14 men’s and women’s sports that play at a competitive level, Illinois Tech Athletics also coordinates our recreational sports leagues, offers free fitness classes, and maintains the facilities at Illinois Tech’s on-campus fitness center.

**Campus Safety
http://web.iit.edu/public-safety/about-us**

Our Campus Safety office works hard to make sure that students feel safe and comfortable in and around Illinois Tech’s campus. Our Campus Safety officers are responsible for patrolling the Illinois Tech campus, just as city police officers would, to make sure the Illinois Tech campus is safe. They also offer services to students such as escorting them to class or driving them to specified locations off campus so that students can always feel safe getting to where they need to go.

**Career Services
https://web.iit.edu/career-services**

The Career Services office at Illinois Tech can help you start planning for your career as early as your first day on campus. The staff offer individual services to help students write their resumes as well as offer workshops to teach students how to negotiate their salaries and to create a professional social media presence. Career Services can help you with everything you need to get a job or internship while you are a student, or to land your full-time career when you graduate.

**Disability Resources
https://web.iit.edu/cdr**

The Center for Disability Resources facilitates equal access for students with disabilities by coordinating accommodations and support services. The center works with students with various types of disabilities including learning, physical, hearing, visual, psychological, and chronic medical conditions and provides reasonable accommodations that provide equal access to Illinois Tech’s programs and activities.

**Libraries
http://web.iit.edu/libraries**

Students at Illinois Tech have access to six university libraries and more than 1.8 million volumes of books, journals, newspapers, videos, DVDs, and more. Paul V. Galvin Library is open 24 hours per day, five days a week, for students to study in a flexible, comfortable space. And for students who don’t want to leave the comfort of their own rooms, the library also provides access to more than 100 databases of scholarly journals and 500,000 articles free of charge!

**Writing Center
http://www.iit.edu/cac/student-resources/general/iit_writing_center.shtml**

For international students who are not familiar with the general structure or technique of writing a formal paper in the U.S., their first few writing assignment can be very intimidating. This is especially true if their native language is not English! Our Writing Center is here to help assist students with the entire writing process, from understanding the requirements of the assignment and organizing information to checking the finished piece for grammar or punctuation errors.
ARRIVING AND LIVING IN CHICAGO

Does Illinois Tech require me to buy a specific computer?

There is no specific laptop requirement, although the Office of Technology Services does publish a list of recommended specifications for whatever laptop students bring. Illinois Tech students can also receive special pricing from Dell and Apple on new computers: http://ots.iit.edu/pc-mac/student-pcs-macs

If you do not bring a computer to Illinois Tech, you will find plenty of computer labs on campus equipped with a variety of software to assist you in completing your class assignments.

How do I know what books I need, and where do I buy them?

Once you register for classes you can visit Illinois Tech’s Bookstore website to look up the textbooks that are required for your courses. The campus bookstore offers a variety of options, which include buying new or used textbooks, renting a textbook for the semester, or purchasing an e-textbook that you can access on a computer or tablet.

What is provided in the on-campus rooms?

MSV and SSV residents are provided an XL-twin mattress and frame, desk and desk chair, a dresser, and a closet. Free, high-speed wireless Internet access and cable television are available throughout the halls, and laundry facilities are located in the basement. Bedding is not provided, so you should bring your own or purchase it after you arrive on campus. You will also have the opportunity to take a shuttle to a store during Welcome Week to purchase any items you need for your rooms.

What is the weather like in Chicago?

The weather in Chicago is quite distinct at each time of year, so you will experience the weather of all four seasons when you are living here. As you might have heard, it can be quite cold here in the winter! Average temperatures in the winter can range from 0 to -10 degrees Celsius, with record low temperatures as low as -30 degrees Celsius. Strong winds in the winter can make the temperature feel even colder, and we also receive quite a bit of snow. We recommend bringing (or buying) a very warm winter coat and snow boots to keep you warm during the frigid months of winter.

Despite the sometimes-harsh climate of winter, summers in Chicago are quite warm and humid. Average temperatures can be as high as 25–30 degrees Celsius with very humid air. Luckily, our location next to Lake Michigan provides nice breezes to cool you off and gives you a chance to take advantage of the more than 20 beaches in the city.

How will I get around Chicago?

All students at Illinois Tech receive a Ventra U-Pass. The U-Pass gives you free, unlimited access to all of Chicago’s public transportation lines on trains and buses. Any time you want to get around the city, you just swipe your U-Pass and you’ll be on your way!

What are some travel tips you’d recommend?

Besides your passport and visa, you will also need to bring your I-20 or DS-2019 with you to present to the border officer when you enter the U.S. Be sure to bring that documentation in your carry-on bag and keep it with you at all times. We also recommend that you carry a small amount of U.S. currency and phone numbers of important offices on campus with you (such as those for Residence and Greek Life or International Center). Finally, you may want to consider making a travel plan with your family and deciding on a time when you will contact them to let them know you’ve arrived safely on campus.
WHAT'S NEXT CHECKLIST

☐ Submit $300 enrollment deposit to confirm your attendance at Illinois Tech (see page 3)
☐ Check your Illinois Tech student email account through your myIIT portal (see page 3)
☐ Submit passport copy and Financial Affidavit of Support to Illinois Tech to receive I-20 or DS-2019 (see page 4)
☐ Arrange your visa appointment at your local U.S. embassy or consulate office (see page 4)
☐ Submit housing contract (see page 6)
☐ Register for Orientation (SOAR) (see page 10)
☐ Submit course descriptions to Office of Undergraduate Admission (see page 5)
☐ Send your final transcripts to Illinois Tech (see page 5)
☐ Submit any AP, IB, or A-Level examinations to Illinois Tech (see page 5)
☐ Complete the math and writing placement exams (see page 5)
☐ Contact your academic advisor to discuss your course schedule for the semester (see page 5)
☐ Register for courses (see page 5)
☐ Complete the Immunization Form (see page 12)
☐ Sign up for airport shuttle (see page 13)
☐ Purchase your books (see page 18)
☐ Complete the PESL language assessment when you arrive at Illinois Tech (see page 16)

IMPORTANT DATES—FALL 2017 SEMESTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence hall move in</td>
<td>August 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientation (SOAR)</td>
<td>August 14 and 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>First day of class</td>
<td>August 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition and fees due</td>
<td>September 5</td>
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Additional Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 important dates can be found at http://web.iit.edu/registrar/academic-calendar