

A Warm Welcome: How the University of Florida Supports International Students

The University of Florida goes above and beyond to ensure international students feel at home from the moment they arrive. With a well-structured orientation program, accessible support services, and a student-friendly city, UF has thoughtfully designed an experience that fosters smooth integration and academic success.

A Strong Start: Orientation & Support

From day one, UF sets the stage for a seamless transition with a comprehensive orientation. This includes a detailed presentation covering everything from academic resources to campus services, as well as an informative tour throughout the university's impressive facilities. In addition to the orientation, UF's dedicated staff continues to provide guidance, ensuring students always have access to the assistance they need.

To keep students connected and informed, the university offers various digital platforms and mobile apps. These tools make it easy to access academic resources, stay up to date on campus events, and navigate essential services—right at their fingertips.

Housing: On-Campus vs. Off-Campus Living

While UF offers on-campus housing, they have limited space for international exchange students, because many rooms are occupied by domestic students planning to stay for the duration of their programs. However, the good news is that Gainesville offers a variety of off-campus housing options tailored to students' needs.

Many international students find comfortable living spaces in student-friendly, gated apartment complexes that provide a peaceful environment along with community and recreational amenities. These residences are often conveniently located near shopping malls, plazas, or grocery stores, making daily errands easy and accessible.



Student Housing on Campus

Getting Around: Transportation & Infrastructure

One of the most student-friendly aspects of living in Gainesville is its well-designed transportation system. Whether students live near or far from campus, UF provides free transportation options to ensure a hassle-free commute.



Bus stop on campus.



Bus stop near off-campus student housing

Public buses run frequently and follow strategic routes, with stops near many student housing complexes. Some routes even pass directly through apartment communities, offering a direct and efficient connection to campus. For those who prefer biking, Gainesville's infrastructure supports cyclists with dedicated bike lanes along most major roads leading to the university, ensuring a safe and convenient ride.

With UF's proactive approach and the city's student-oriented infrastructure, international students can enjoy a welcoming and accessible environment that allows them to focus on what truly matters—learning, growing, and making the most of their university experience. Whether through housing options, campus support, or reliable transportation, UF ensures that students have the tools they need to thrive.