

International pre-departure

GUIDE



BEFORE

leaving home

THE UNIVERSITY OF SURREY IS PROUD TO WELCOME INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

We're home to international students from over 120 countries, who make up our rich, diverse and truly international student community.

This guide outlines the essential information you need to know for when you leave home, arrive on campus, and settle in to university life.

surrey.ac.uk/international-pre-departure-guide

This guide has been put together by International Student Support at the University of Surrey, to help you make final preparations before you leave home.

We suggest you print this guide, or save it as a PDF on your mobile phone, tablet or laptop so that you can access the information at any time.

You can also find out more information relating to your country on our international webpages, including details about upcoming in-country events, details of our student ambassadors, blogs, social media links and local representative information and more.

surrey.ac.uk/international



Important dates

MEET AND GREET (AIRPORT PICKUP)

▶ Meet and Greet for international students (non-EU)

Tuesday 18 September 2018
Wednesday 19 September 2018
Saturday 22 September 2018

▶ Meet and Greet for exchange/ Erasmus students

Wednesday 19 September

▶ Meet and Greet for international students who arrive after the International Orientation Programme and EU students

Saturday 22 September 2018

INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

▶ International Orientation Programme for international (non-EU) Students

Thursday 20 September 2018
Friday 21 September 2018

WELCOME WEEK

▶ Welcome Week for all new students

Monday 24 September -
Friday 28 September 2018

ACCOMMODATION

▶ Applying for accommodation

If you want to apply for University accommodation, the deadlines are below:
Wednesday 25 July 2018 - undergraduate
Wednesday 1 August 2018 - postgraduate

REGISTRATION

▶ Final registration dates

MSc Advanced Materials and Msc Environmental Strategy:
Friday 28 September 2018

Final registration for all other courses:
Friday 12 October 2018

Postgraduate Research:
Wednesday 24 October 2018

POLICE REGISTRATION

▶ Police registration dates organised on campus are:

Wednesday 10 October 2018
Wednesday 17 October 2018
Wednesday 24 October 2018
Wednesday 7 November 2018

As an international student, you should not worry that the registration will take place after seven required days from the arrival to the UK. Special arrangements with the Police allow us to arrange the registration at the later date.

BEFORE YOU *leave home*

IMMIGRATION AND VISAS

If you're an international student, you should apply for a Tier 4 (General) student visa. For more information about how to apply, please visit:

surrey.ac.uk/visa

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Any useful information that you may need about studying and living in Britain is available from the British Council (educationuk.org) and Prepare for Success (prepareforsuccess.org.uk)

If you are planning on registering on our Pre-sessional English Language course to improve your English language skills before you begin your degree programme, you can find more information here:

surrey.ac.uk/english

DURING THE SUMMER

- Check that your passport is valid for at least six months after the start of your course. If not, apply for a new one as soon as possible. Scan a copy of the new passport when you can and send this to the Confirmation of Acceptance of Study (CAS) team. You will need to do this again, even if you have already received your visa.

cas@surrey.ac.uk

- Apply for University accommodation before the deadlines on page three.

surrey.ac.uk/living

As an international student, you are guaranteed accommodation for your first year (subject to deadlines and conditions) in one of over 5,000 rooms available in Surrey's Courts of Residence. You will need to take out a travel insurance policy to cover yourself and your belongings.

Please note, other conditions apply. See the Residential Allocation Policy at:

surrey.ac.uk/living-policy

- Book your flight to the UK.
- Take out travel insurance to cover any loss of luggage or delays/cancellation of your flight.
- Book a place on our Meet and Greet (Airport Pickup) Scheme.
- Book a place on our International Orientation Programme.

surrey.ac.uk/find-your-way

- In August, as soon as you receive your accommodation confirmation email from Accommodation Services, complete the online acceptance process and pay £250 pre-payment.





Meet and greet

(AIRPORT PICKUP)

The University of Surrey's Meet and Greet (Airport Pickup) service is here to make your arrival in the UK as easy and welcoming as possible. Every year, we help new international, EU, exchange and Erasmus students from Heathrow and Gatwick airport arrive to the University.

Book your place for Meet and Greet (Airport Pickup):

surrey.ac.uk/meet-greet

INTERNATIONAL

Orientation Programme

We invite all international (non-EU) students to attend a special orientation programme before the start of the University welcome week in order to help you settle in more easily. You will be able to register with the University, become familiar with the campus, Guildford and the surrounding area. You'll also have the opportunity to socialise with other new international students and learn about life in the UK through a series of social events and activities.

Book your place for the International Orientation Programme:

surrey.ac.uk/find-your-way

JUST BEFORE YOU

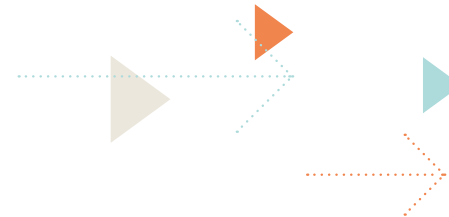
travel to the UK

- Visit your doctor if you have any ongoing medical conditions. This is to make sure you have a good supply of medicine and a letter from your doctor or medical notes translated into English to help when you require any medical advice or support.
- Set up your email/IT account and start the online registration process as soon as you are notified through the applicant portal. Keep your confirmation of registration as you will need to show this when you register in person at the University.
- Make arrangements for funds to cover living costs and accommodation to be transferred to your UK bank account once you open it. Do not bring large amounts of cash!
- Order enough UK currency to cover the first few weeks in the UK (no more than £400), including small amounts of cash for use at the airport and your first few days at Surrey.
- Check the Welcome website for up-to-date information about your schedule during Welcome Week. We'll send you a link to this important website from mid-August.
- Email yourself and your family copies of your passport and UK Visas and Immigration decision letter so that you can access them immediately in case of an emergency.
- Unlock your mobile phone so that it can be used with any pay- as- you- go SIM card in the UK.
- Do not bring too much luggage – your university room may be up several flights of stairs.



WHAT TO BRING IN YOUR *hand luggage*

- ❑ Valid passport (or national ID card if you are from the EU).
- ❑ UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) decision letter so that you can collect your Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) from Guildford Post Office. Remember that you will not be able to register as a student without your BRP!
- ❑ European Health Insurance Card (for EU students only).
- ❑ Your mobile phone, tablet or laptop with access to your accommodation allocation, Confirmation of Acceptance of Study (CAS) email, confirmation of Meet and Greet, Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) certificate (if required) and this guide.
- ❑ Evidence of funding for your tuition fees and living costs, including a letter from your sponsor (if appropriate).
- ❑ If you are under 18, you will need to bring the supporting letter from your parents that you used in your visa application.
- ❑ Any other important correspondence from the University, either in hard or electronic format.
- ❑ A small amount of UK currency, no more than £400.
- ❑ Your tuberculosis certificate if you needed this for your student visa, and any other health certificates including vaccinations and x-ray reports (if appropriate).
- ❑ Your travel insurance policy number and emergency contact details.
- ❑ A list of emergency numbers in the UK (found at the end of this guide).
- ❑ Warm clothes such as a jumper and a coat as it can be cold and wet at the end of September, especially early in the morning and in the evenings.



WHAT TO DO ONCE YOU

arrive at Surrey

- Call or email home to let your family and friends know you have arrived safely.
- The Welcome team will make sure everything runs smoothly during Meet and Greet – they will hand out keys and show you to your room.
- If you arrive outside of the Meet and Greet dates, locate your accommodation and collect the key as directed in your accommodation confirmation email.
- Collect your BRP card, using your UKVI decision letter and passport from Guildford Post Office.
- Attend all the events that you have booked for the International Orientation Programme.
- Attend University registration where you will be given your student ID card.
- Check the Welcome website regularly so you can find all the events taking place during Welcome Week. Make sure you attend as many events as possible, including Students' Union activities and especially Freshers' Fair.
- If you are not attending the International Orientation Programme, make sure you attend your faculty talk (which is included in your Department timetable).
- Register with the University Medical Centre.
- Open a bank account, using your student ID and passport as identification.
- Register with the Police (if applicable).
- Apply for your National Insurance Card so that you can work part-time.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO

welcoming you!

We hope you enjoy the first few weeks of this exciting, important new step in your life!

Moving to a new country can be daunting and slightly overwhelming at first. Don't forget there is plenty of help around if you need it, starting with the International Student Support team in the Student Services Centre. Come and see us straight away if you have any questions, concerns or worries.

The team looks forward to giving you a warm welcome when you join the University of Surrey, and we will do our very best to give you all the information, advice and support that you need at this thrilling time in your life.

We'll email you a link to the Welcome Week website from mid-August, where you'll find all the latest information for you to make the most of your time here at Surrey.

HOW SURREY SUPPORTS *international* *students*

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT IS A TEAM DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING AND GUIDING ALL CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Our International Student Support offers visa information and guidance to all international students at the University. The team is located on campus at the Student Services Centre, where you can get further advice on a range of student matters. You can also access support from:

Student Life Mentoring

A pro-active service for all first-year students run by current students.

surrey.ac.uk/student-services

Student Money and Housing

Providing information and guidance on money, fees and private housing.

surrey.ac.uk/money

Students' Union

The centre of student life on campus offering over 40 sports clubs and more than 60 societies.

ussu.co.uk/

Additional Learning Support

Providing support for students with disabilities and specific learning difficulties.

surrey.ac.uk/study-support

The Centre for Wellbeing

A confidential, free of charge service focused on promoting good emotional, psychological and physical health.

surrey.ac.uk/health

Chaplaincy

Surrey's network of chaplains from many different religious faiths.

surrey.ac.uk/faith

English language

Surrey offers both pre-sessional English language courses, and an English Language Support Programme, which is available free of charge to all Surrey students.

surrey.ac.uk/english

You can find more information on all the above here:

surrey.ac.uk/student-life/support

WHERE TO FIND THE

International Student Support

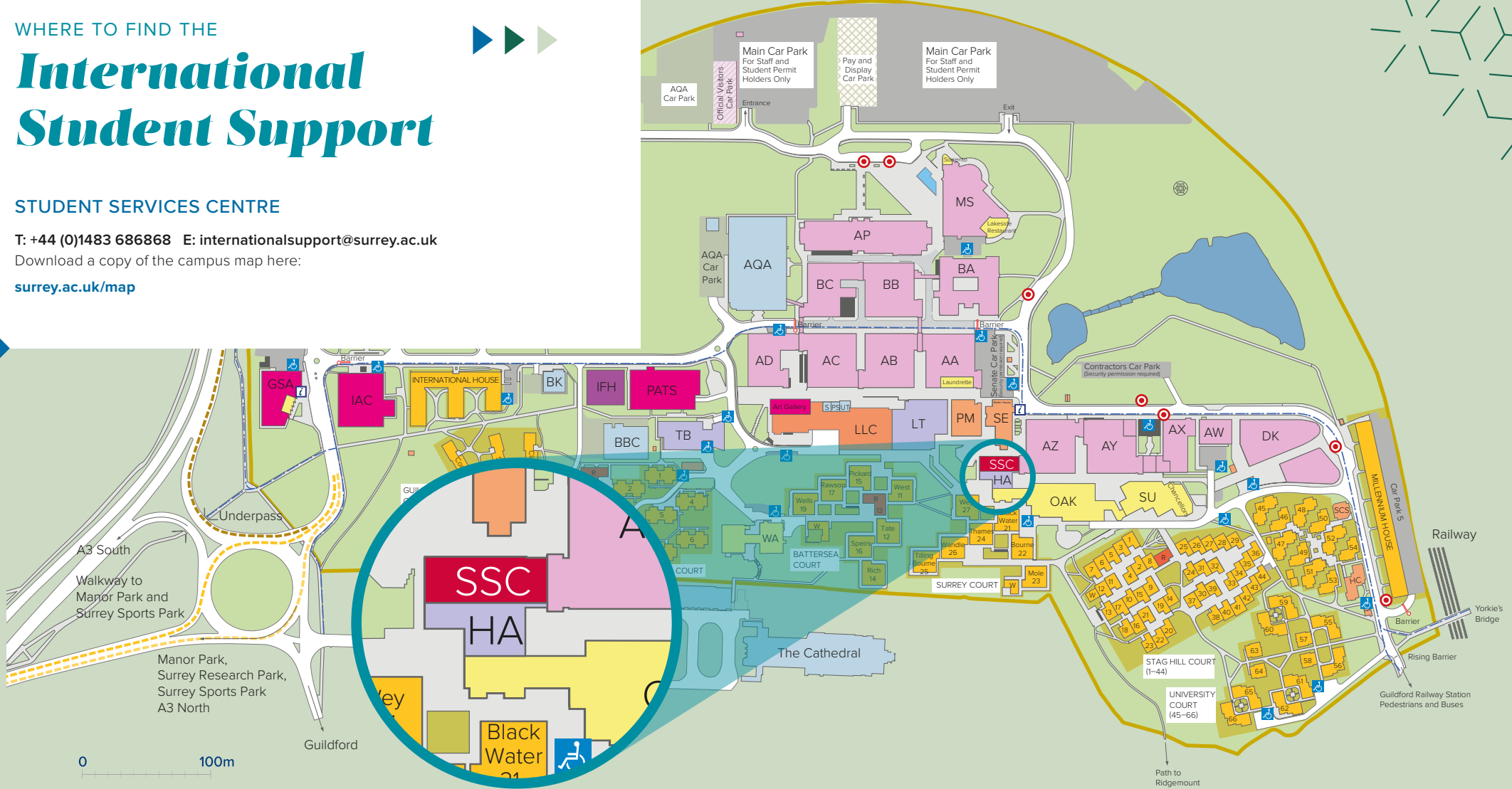


STUDENT SERVICES CENTRE

T: +44 (0)1483 686868 E: internationalsupport@surrey.ac.uk

Download a copy of the campus map here:

surrey.ac.uk/map



Legend

- Academic Buildings
- Arts Buildings
- Bus Stops
- Car Parks
- Central Facilities
- Central Social Facilities
- Cycle Parks
- Walk/Cycle Route
- Development Area
- Disabled Parking Spaces
- External Organisations on campus
- Information Point
- Lake and Ponds
- Research Buildings
- Residences
- Residences Reception Buildings
- Vehicle route to Manor Park
- Vehicle route to Stag Hill
- University Buildings



8464-0518

International Student Support

T: +44 (0)1483 686868

E: internationalsupport@surrey.ac.uk
surrey.ac.uk/international
twitter.com/surreystudent

University Security (open 24 hours)

T: +44 (0)1483 682002

Emergency services

T: 999

24-hour NHS medical advice (non-emergency)

T: 111

UKCISA student advice line

Open Monday – Friday, from 1 – 4pm (UK time)

Outside the UK: +44 20 7788 9214

Inside the UK: 020 7788 9214

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest news and important information, updated regularly throughout the summer. You can also get in touch with new and current Surrey students:

facebook.com/surreystudent

twitter.com/surreystudent

Disclaimer

We've made all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information in this publication was correct at the time of going to print in May 2018, but we can't accept any liability for any inaccuracies in the information published, and the information might change from time to time without notice.

For the latest and most up-to-date information, please visit our website at: surrey.ac.uk



**UNIVERSITY OF
SURREY**