INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION PACKET

Main Campus
3209 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, Florida 34981-5596 1-866-792-4772

www.irsc.edu

Chastain Campus
2400 S.E. Salerno Road
Stuart, FL 34997
(772) 283-6550

Dixon Hendry Campus
2229 N.W. 9th Ave
Okeechobee, FL 34972
(863) 824-6000

Mueller Campus
6155 College Lane
Vero Beach, FL 32966
(772) 569-0333

Pruitt Campus
500 N.W. California Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986
(772) 879-4199

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
Affidavit of Financial Support Form

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services requires Indian River State College to obtain and retain an Affidavit of Financial Support for all applicants for an F-1 visa. This Affidavit verifies that the student has sufficient funds to support themselves while studying in the United States. The student, sponsor or other sponsoring agency must prove that a minimum of $17,000 (U.S. dollars) per year for Associate degrees or $20,000 (U.S. dollars) per year for Bachelor's degrees is available for tuition and living expenses. Submit valid supporting financial documents verifying access to the funds. Enclosed with this form, you are required to provide a letter from your financial institution on official letterhead along with a bank statement verifying the amount of funds. In addition, if your spouse or children will be included in your visa request, you must provide proof of support of an additional $3,000.00 U.S. Dollars per person. Complete the information requested below and attach all supporting documents. Only original, signed documents will be accepted.

Applicant's Name:(first, middle, last)_____
Date of Birth: (mm/dd/yy) _____
Permanent Foreign Address (No P.O. Boxes) _____
Local U.S. Mailing Address _____
Will a spouse and/or children be included on your visa? Yes No

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
Affidavit of Financial Support Information

Indicate the source and amount of funds available.

$_____ **PERSONAL FUNDS –** Submit a bank statement and a letter on official letterhead from the bank attesting to these funds. *Liquid Assetsrequired

$_____ **SCHOLARSHIP** – If you have a scholarship or financial support from an organization, we will need a letter of financial guarantee. The letter must state the amount of support and period of coverage.

$_____ **FAMILY OR OTHER SUPPORT –** Submit a bank statement and a letter on official letterhead attesting to these funds. You must provide the following statement signed by the person who will be responsible for your expenses while you are at IRSC. *Liquid Assets required

This is to certify that I have read the information furnished by the student listed above and that I am willing and able to support him/her while studying at IRSC. I certify that I have $17,000 U.S. dollars (Associate Degree) or $20,000 U.S. dollars (Bachelor's Degree) available each year for support of this student. Enclosed is a letter from my bank and a bank statement verifying that adequate funds are available. **ALL FUNDS MUST BE IN U.S. DOLLARS.**

1. **Name of Sponsor/Guarantor:** _____
Please Print

Amount of support I will provide: _____U.S. Dollars

Signature of Sponsor/Guarantor:_____

Date:_____

Mailing Address:_____

Phone Number:_____

Relationship to Student:_____

2. **Name of Sponsor/Guarantor:** _____

Amount of support I will provide_____U.S. Dollars

Signature of Guarantor:_____

Date:_____

Mailing Address:_____

Phone Number:_____

Relationship to Student:_____

Note: Each sponsor/guarantor must provide a bank statement or other document on official letterhead verifying the amount of funds. ***Liquid Assets**- Legal tender, cash or any type of asset that can be easily and efficiently converted into cash; money deposited into savings or checking accounts and most money market accounts are considered to be liquid assets. Financial documents that will not be accepted include: annual salary statements, real estate, investments, stocks or other accounts from which money cannot be withdrawn.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
Health Insurance Compliance Form

Instructions

F-1 International Students will not be cleared to register or permitted to continue enrollment at Indian River State College without demonstrating that they have adequate medical insurance coverage. We do not require a minimum amount of insurance coverage; however, students must demonstrate adequate medical insurance coverage including, but not limited to major medical expenses, hospital room and board, physician visits, surgery, illness, accidental injury, medical evacuation and repatriation.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS IS THAT I HOLD MEDICAL INSURANCE. IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THIS REGULATION I HAVE PURCHASED THE FOLLOWING INSURANCE POLICY.

Health Insurance Company Name: _____

Health Insurance Company Address _____

Policy Number: _____

Coverage Period: _____

Include copy of medical ipSd(mm2)]TJ0 l2e1 euirpPer m-2 (e i) 0 75 -2 (edi.001 Tc 0.001 Tw 4.5C BTH

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
Transfer Release Form

Every F-1 student who wishes to transfer from another school in the United States to Indian River State College must submit this completed form. In compliance with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) regulations, Indian River State College will not consider your application for transfer before receiving this form.

You must complete Part I, then ask your current International Student Advisor to complete Part II and mail it to Indian River State College at the address listed below.

Part I (to be completed by applicant):

Applicant's name: (first, middle, last)

Important Documents

- **Passport –** Document issued by a national government which certifies, for the purpose of international travel, the identity and nationality of its holder. **Note**: You must possess a passport that is valid at all times. You should renew your passport six months prior to the expiration date at your country's Consulate in the United States or in your country.
- **F-1 Visa –** This visa reflects the status given to an International Student who wishes to enter the U.S. temporarily for the sole purpose of study. **Note:** If your F-1 Student Visa expires while you are in the United States, you may remain in the U.S. as long as you are in valid F-1 student status; you should update the visa the next time you travel to your home country.
- **I-94 – Arrival/Departure Record –** The Arrival/Departure Record, in either paper or electronic format, issued by a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer to foreign visitors entering the United States. This documents your legal status, your initial entry date and port of entry. It should note F-1 and D/S (Duration of Status).
- **I-20** - **(Certificate of Eligibility Form) –** Three page document issued by the school through the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) which allows you to obtain the F-1 student visa status to attend a school in the United States. It includes specific information such as program beginning and end dates and tracking number for the student and program. The I-20 is issued for two years, you may be given an extension on the I-20 dates if needed as long as you are is continuously enrolled. **Note:** The second page of the I-20 includes the Travel signature and should be signed by the Counselor/Advisor - Designated School official; the signature is valid for one year. It is your responsibility to check to make sure the signature is still valid. You will not be allowed to travel without your I-20 or be allowed re-entry if the signature has expired.
- **SEVIS Number –** The number at the top of the barcode on the first page of the SEVIS I-20 beginning with the letter "N". This number is generated by the SEVIS System and is unique to you for an initial I-20. **SEVIS Fee Requirement** – As of September 1, 2004, F-1, F-3, J-1, M-1 or M-3 visa applicants are required to pay a one-time fee to the Department of Homeland Security before you can be issued the student visa status to study in the United States. The fee is valid from the time you are issued the status until the time you change status, fall out of status or leave the United States for more than five (5) months. The fee can be paid online or by mail using Form I-901. To pay online, go to www.fmjfee.com and follow the on-screen instructions; complete the form and pay the $350 fee. Make sure you keep copies of all transactions and print a copy of the online receipt.
- **Admission Number –** When you enter the U.S., the Citizenship and Immigration Services issues each student a unique eleven (11) digit number. This number is used to track the student's arrivals, departures, program of study, permission to work, and other circumstances.

The above documents must be provided to the International Student Counselor/Advisor when you arrive at the College. You will not be cleared to register until these items are received.

Student Email

New students must activate their free RiverMail (email) account. The RiverMail system is the official means of electronic communication for student information. Students should check their account regularly for important registration and student services updates. *(RiverMail is a resource of Indian River State College for instructional and educational use and is not authorized for commercial purposes or any use that degrades system capacity).*

Housing

On-Campus – The IRSC Foundation maintains a student residence complex within walking distance from the Main Campus in Fort Pierce. With 24-hour security, "The River Hammock" provides an atmosphere conducive to educational pursuits. Apartments feature a central living area, dining room and kitchen. Four individual bedrooms with two full baths assure your privacy and an environment conducive to studying. A complete kitchen appliance package, central heat and air conditioning, telephone and cable TV outlets, are a few of the many amenities. Limited space is available and students need to apply in advance of their enrollment period. Additional information about the River Hammock can be obtained at www.irscfoundation.org. Click on **Scholarships** and then **Student Housing**. You may also contact the IRSC Housing Office at (772) 462-7246.

Off-Campus – Some students prefer the independence of living off campus. You should exercise care and caution in selecting the right apartment or house. When choosing an apartment you should consider its cost, proximity to campus and safety. Students should search online to locate apartment complexes or houses for rent located nearby the IRSC campus.

Transportation

Students must provide their own transportation to the College. Housing accommodations within walking distance of the College are limited and there is limited public bus transportation in the area.

Driver License: You must have a valid Florida driver license to drive. Go online to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to make an appointment and to get information on the documents required to obtain a driver license or identification card.

Parking and Driving on Campus

- **Decals –** All vehicles must have an IRSC parking decal to park on campus. Students using the IRSC Main Campus parking facilities are required to obtain and affix a student parking decal sticker on the left side of rear bumper or rear window of their vehicle. Decals can be obtained free of charge and can be picked up at the Student Affairs Office located in the River Commons Building.
- **Reserved Parking –**Reserved Parking (emphasized) is available on the College campus(es) for a fee. Reserved parking decals are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. Reserved parking is limited to the number of spaces designated for reserved parking. Reserved parking decals are valid for the entire academic year (August – May). Reserved parking decals are not refundable.

Emergency Contacts

The general emergency number in the United States is **911**. You can use this number anywhere in the United States to reach the police or fire department and to call for emergency medical services, like an ambulance.

- **IRSC Emergency Contacts –** On the Main Campus in Fort Pierce, call ext. 7777 from any campus phone or call 462-4755 to reach the on-duty Campus Security Officers.
- **Code Blue Phones –** Code Blue phones are located on each campus. The two options are **HELP** in the case of an emergency and **INFO** for directions.

Traveling and Re-entry

If you wish to travel outside the U.S., you must obtain the signature of the International Student Advisor/Counselor on the second page of your I-20 Form *prior* to your departure in order to return to the U.S. This signature is valid for **1 year**. If you fail to obtain the proper signature, you may have difficulty in returning to the U.S., and will have to follow additional procedures through the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service.

Before you leave the United States:

- I-20 Form **–** Signature on second page is valid for one year. If any information has changed, you will need to update. Check the expiration date. You will not be allowed to travel without your I-20 Form.
- Valid Passport **–** Check the expiration date; should be valid at a minimum 6 months beyond your expected date of re-entry into the U.S.

Re-entering the United States:

- **Economic Hardship –** Students may apply for permission to accept off-campus employment authorized only by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. This type of employment is for students who are in need of employment due to severe financial need caused by unforeseen circumstances beyond their control. Supporting documents should accompany the request. Only the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services can grant this type of employment.

In order to maintain valid F-1 status, a student must NOT work in the United States, unless the employment is specifically authorized under Immigration regulations. Working without proper authorization constitutes illegal employment, an offense that can lead to deportation.

Social Security

A Social Security Number (SSN) is a nine-digit number issued to U.S. Citizens, permanent residents, and temporary (working) residents, used for tax purposes only. Only those who have authorized employment are eligible for a Social Security Number. Only then should you visit the Social Security Office to request a Social Security Number. You will need to meet with the International Student Advisor/Counselor for the documents needed to bring with you to the Social Security Office. You do not need a Social Security Number to: open a bank account, rent an apartment, open a utility account, set up a cell phone account or receive a driver license.

Tax Issues for F-1 Visa Students

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) divides aliens into residents and nonresidents for tax purposes. These rules are different than USCIS rules governing immigration status. Generally speaking, aliens who are in the United States for more than 183 days in any three-year period are considered resident aliens for tax purposes and are taxed in the same way as U.S. residents. To find information about U.S. income taxes for nonimmigrant students, visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov to answer tax questions for foreign students.

Support Services

- **Student Success Services –** A one-stop center to assist you with registration, academic advising, and career exploration. Cross-trained staff are available to assist you with all your academic needs. Located in the W- Building, Main Campus.
- **Career and Transition Services –** Assists students and alumni in effectively developing, evaluating and implementing their career plans. Services include: workshops, job fairs, career forums, career counseling, resume assistance, job searches and career exploration/assessments.
- **Libraries –** The IRSC libraries have a range of publications and resources to help guide you with your research needs. Go to www.irsc.edu and click on Libraries for a list of libraries by campus location.
- **Testing –** The Assessment Services Center offers testing services to IRSC students. Tests include: Placement Tests, exams for online courses, Health Science entrances exams, etc. Located in the W Building, Room 109, Main Campus and available at all IRSC campuses.
- **Tutoring –** An Academic Support Center (ASC) is located at each IRSC campus. A number of resources are available to assist students in areas such as English, reading, math and science with diagnostic/prescriptive work based on appropriate assessments.

Academic Calendar

The IRSC Academic Calendar runs on a year-round basis with semesters scheduled as follows: **Refer to the current IRSC College Catalog for specific dates.**

Fall Semester:	Late August - Mid December
Spring Semester:	Early January - Late April
aSummer Session I:	Early May - Late June
Summer Session II:	Late-June - Early August

In order to obtain a student visa, students should submit all paperwork at least 3 to 4 months in advance of the term. The recommended deadlines for each semester are listed below:

Terms	Recommended Deadline Dates
Fall (August)	May 15th

Scholarships: International student scholarships to study in the United States are quite

International Education is supported by the IRSC Global Initiatives Committee <u>Global Initiatives Purpose Statement:</u>

Fosters international awareness through community and scholarly activities. Supports and encourages understanding and appreciation of various cultures

International Student Office
Indian River State College
3209 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, Florida 34981-5596