Tips for Arriving in Binghamton
Fall 2012

This information will assist you in creating your travel itinerary to Binghamton University. Once you have finalized your plans, please be sure to submit a complete “Arrival Details” to our office by August 3, 2012.

- **Please plan to arrive in Binghamton no later than Sunday, August 26.** This is the day before the mandatory Exchange Student Welcome Breakfast & Orientation Meeting, as well as the University-wide International Student Orientation Program.

- If possible, however, we recommend that you arrive on **Friday, August 24 or Saturday, August 25** to get settled into your room and adjust to the time change.

- We will have an informal, pay-your-own-way late lunch on Sunday afternoon at a local American-style diner.

Binghamton is served by the Greater Binghamton Airport and the Greyhound and Coach USA/Shortline bus companies. Train service to Binghamton is not available.

**Travel by air:**
Three airlines service the Greater Binghamton Airport: Delta, United Express, and US Airways. For arrival schedules, visit the website of the Greater Binghamton Airport: [www.flybgm.com](http://www.flybgm.com). There are no direct flights from New York City, but flights from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (US Airways); Detroit, Michigan (Delta); and Washington, D.C (United) are available.

Taxi service is available from the Binghamton Regional Airport to the University and will cost approximately $20.00 for a 10-15 minute trip from the airport to Binghamton University. Taxi drivers are usually waiting for passengers outside the terminal. If not, just go to the desk marked "Ground Transportation" inside the terminal or use the free phones nearby.

**Travel by bus:**
Two bus lines service Binghamton: Greyhound and Coach USA/Shortline. Shortline buses are often more frequent and convenient. Bus schedules change frequently, so please check the Coach USA/Shortline or Greyhound web sites for the most recent schedule before you return your “Arrival Details” form to us. Schedules can be found at [http://shortlinebus.com/](http://shortlinebus.com/) or [http://www.greyhound.com/](http://www.greyhound.com/).

Unfortunately, the bus to Binghamton does not leave directly from any New York City airports. You will need to travel from the airport to the Manhattan **Port Authority Bus Terminal** by shuttle bus or train and subway. At La Guardia airport, you would take the New York Airport Service shuttle bus. If you arrive at Newark, you will take the Newark Liberty Airport Express shuttle bus. These services depart from the airports approximately every thirty (30) minutes. Upon arrival at the airport, go to any Port Authority Ground Transportation Desk and request a ticket to the Port Authority Bus Terminal. You will be booked on the next departure; reservations are not required. If necessary, you may purchase a ticket from the driver. The cost is around $15. The bus trip from the airport to the Port Authority will take between one hour and 1 hour, 45 minutes. To be safe, then, you should allow yourself a full **two hours** to get from the airport to the Port Authority Bus Terminal.

**The easiest and fastest way to get from JFK to Port Authority Bus Terminal** now is to take the Air Train red line from the JFK terminal of your arrival (Terminal 7) to Jamaica Station (12 minutes), then transfer to the NYC subway E line, which goes to Port Authority Bus Terminal in about 20 minutes. The cost is $5 for the Air Train. Air Trains leave JFK every 15 minutes after 8 p.m.
The bus ride from NYC to Binghamton will take approximately 3½ hours. The entire trip from flight arrival to arrival in Binghamton can take as long as 6 hours (or even longer). The cost of the airport shuttle and bus to Binghamton combined should be around $70.

Taxis are usually waiting for passengers at the Greater Binghamton Transportation Center (also called B.C. Junction). Should there not be any taxis immediately available, there are pay phones outside the bus terminal. The cost for the 5 minute trip is about $10.

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<tr>
<th>Binghamton Area Taxi Companies</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-1 Courtesy Cab</td>
<td>723-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broome Co. Dispatching</td>
<td>724-7545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Cab</td>
<td>722-2422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owl Taxicab Svc</td>
<td>722-3447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Cab</td>
<td>722-2322</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The county buses (B.C. Transit) also originate at the Greater Binghamton Transportation Center (B.C. Junction). The #5 bus and the #15 bus terminate at Binghamton University. The fare is $1.50. Schedules can be found at: [http://www.ridebctransit.com/transit/routes](http://www.ridebctransit.com/transit/routes).

**However you choose to arrive, please notify the Office of International Programs if you encounter any changes in travel plans such as delays, cancellations, etc. The office phone number is 1-607-777-2336.**

**Housing upon arrival:**

*Residence halls are scheduled to open for undergraduate international students on Friday, August 24, which is earlier than the domestic students are allowed to move in. However, you must receive permission to move in this early. You will complete a form with your travel details so we can obtain this permission for you for early move-in.*

If you will be living on campus and must arrive in Binghamton before August 24, you may need to make arrangements for temporary housing in a local hotel until the residence halls open. If this is the case, you will need to make a hotel reservation as early as possible before your planned arrival as hotels tend to fill up quickly. A list of nearby hotels, including links to the individual hotel web sites, can be found at: [http://www2.binghamton.edu/about/visiting-campus/hotels-and-motels.html](http://www2.binghamton.edu/about/visiting-campus/hotels-and-motels.html)

If you will be living off campus, you should make arrangements with your landlord and plan to arrive several days before the beginning of Orientation in order to find housing. **Please note that graduate students are not eligible for on-campus housing, so they will need to find housing off campus.** For a list of currently available apartments and rooms in private homes, check the Off-Campus College page at [http://occ.binghamton.edu/](http://occ.binghamton.edu/). Also included on the OCC web site are sample rental contracts and other informational forms and brochures.

**Upon your arrival:**

In case of problems on campus (if you are locked out of your residence hall, are lost, etc.) contact the University Policy Department at 777-2393 (from off-campus); and extension 7-2393 (from an on-campus line).

In case of emergency off-campus call 911.
Blue Light Emergency Telephones
Scattered around the Binghamton University Campus are sixty highly visible outdoor phones for emergency use which are connected directly to the University Police Dispatcher.

Binghamton University
Office Contacts for International Students

Office of International Programs (OIP)
Nelson A. Rockefeller Center, RC G1, Hinman College; tel.: 1-607-777-2336 or 1-607-777-3318; fax: 1-607-777-2889

Exchange Program Assistant (Assistance in the coordination of the incoming exchange student program); intlexch@binghamton.edu

Ms. Susan B. Lewis, Senior Assistant Director (Exchange Program Coordinator, admissions and academic advising coordination; assistance with course registration and liaison with University Registrar, Student Accounts and Residential Life; arrival and orientation organization; exchange student advisor for purposes of internships, independent research, course overloads, etc.; communication with partner universities); sblewis@binghamton.edu

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)
Nelson A. Rockefeller Center, G-1, Hinman College; tel.: 1-607-777-2510; fax: 1-607-777-2889; issss@binghamton.edu

Ms. Ellen Badger, Director (DS-2019 questions; enrollment and financial issues related to visa regulations; authorization of visa documents for travel purposes; emergency loans; income tax questions; liaison with federal agencies); ebadger@binghamton.edu

Ms. Karen Keefe-Guzikowski, Associate Director (employment queries; visa documents processing; issues regarding international students’ families and dependents; International Student Orientation coordination); kkeefe@binghamton.edu

International Health Insurance Coordinator (health insurance questions) intlins@binghamton.edu.

Rev 4/02/12