

Tips for Arriving in Binghamton Spring 2017

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 December 9, 2016**

- **Please plan to arrive in Binghamton no later than Monday, January 9.** On Tuesday, January 10 we will conduct the **Exchange Orientation** at the Park Diner, a local American-style diner overlooking the Susquehanna River. We will also have an informal lunch there.
- **Please note that Exchange Students *must* arrive earlier than most students because of the exchange orientation activities.** If you choose to live on campus, our office, the Office of International Education and Global Initiatives (IEGI), will get special permission for exchange students to move in your on-campus housing early. You may get information from other offices giving you a later date to move in. ***Please disregard this!*** We will send you more housing information at a later date after you are admitted.
- Following the Exchange orientation activities, the University-wide **International Student Orientation** (also mandatory) will be held on Wednesday, January 11.

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. There is now a direct flight from New York City (United), in addition to 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 \$30.00 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, near Baggage Claim, or use the free phones nearby.

Travel by bus:

Two bus lines service Binghamton: **Greyhound** and **Coach USA/Shortline**. Bus schedules change, 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/> or <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 ¾ hours. 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 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 approximately \$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 **3 ½ 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.

Binghamton Area Taxi Companies

A-1 Courtesy Cab	723-2000
Broome Co. Dispatching	724-7545
City Cab	722-2422
Owl Taxicab Service	722-3447
Yellow Cab	722-2322

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 \$2.00. Schedules can be found at: <http://www.ridebctransit.com/transit/routes>.

Note: price information for all of the above forms of travel are subject to change without notice. Please be sure to carry sufficient cash to adjust to changes in prices.

However you choose to arrive, please notify the Office of International Education and Global Initiatives if you encounter any changes in travel plans such as delays, cancellations, etc.

The office phone number is 1-607-777-2336. We will monitor the phone messages even after hours. Or you can email us at intlexch@binghamton.edu

Housing upon arrival:

*International **exchange** students will be able to move in to on-campus housing earlier than other students are allowed to move in. However, the Office of International Education and Global Initiatives (IEGI) must notify the Office of Residential Life of your arrival day and time in order for you to move in this early. Please be sure to complete the Arrival Details 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 the earliest date we can arrange for you to move in, 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://www.binghamton.edu/visiting-campus/lodging.html>

If you will be living off campus, you should make arrangements with your landlord and plan to arrive before the beginning of Orientation. **Please note that Graduate Students may now apply for on-campus housing on a space-available basis. However, the cost will be significantly higher than most off-campus housing.** Cost of room and board off campus varies considerably according to the type of accommodations and personal eating habits. Undergraduates may also choose to live off campus, if they prefer, although on-campus living is a big part of the undergraduate experience at Binghamton. For a list of currently available apartments and rooms in private homes, check the Off-Campus College page at <http://occ.binghamton.edu/>. Also included on the OCC web site are sample rental contracts and other informational forms and brochures. The Office of International Education and Global Initiatives can also provide significant guidance and assistance in helping you to locate safe, convenient housing.

Upon your arrival:

In case of **problems on campus** (if you are locked out of your residence hall, are lost, etc.) contact the University Police 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 Exchange Students

Office of International Education and Global Initiatives (IEGI)

Old Champlain Hall (OH) Rm 240; tel.: 1-607-777-2336 or fax: 1-607-777-2889

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

Ms. Susan B. Lewis, Associate Director for International Partnership Development (*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)

Old Champlain Hall, Rm. 140; tel.: 1-607-777-2510; fax: 1-607-777-4649;
iss@binghamton.edu

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

International Health Insurance Coordinator (*health insurance questions*)
intl.insure@binghamton.edu.