

# 8 Steps to Becoming a UW-Madison International Student

**Congratulations!** You applied and were accepted to UW-Madison. Now it's time to confirm your place at the university.

Please thoroughly review and complete all steps below at your earliest convenience so that you can start your program of study.

-For detailed ISS guidance, please check: <https://iss.wisc.edu/students/new-students/>

- If you are an F-1 student who is transferring to UW-Madison, please [follow this link](#) for instructions.

## Apply for your I-20/DS-2019 in the [Terra Dotta Portal](#)



TERRADOTTA

\* Please [click here](#) for instructions on how to complete your I-20/DS-2019 application in Terra Dotta.

## Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee



Homeland Security

\* Once you have your I-20 or DS-2019, you must pay the [SEVIS I-901 fee](#) at least 3 days before your visa interview.  
\* Watch this [SEVIS I-901 fee payment tutorial](#) from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

## Enter the U.S. before the start of your program of study



\* **Earliest entry date:** 30 days before your program start date.  
\* **Latest entry date:** We recommend that you arrive at least 2-3 days before your first orientation.

## Complete ISO & ISS Check-in in Terra Dotta



\* Complete your compulsory [International Student Orientation \(ISO\)](#) and [ISS Check-in](#) in your Terra Dotta portal before your I-20/DS-2019 program start date. There will be several orientation events to welcome you to campus, so we recommend arriving to campus early.

