Before We Begin

• This session will be recorded
• Please mute your audio and ask questions in the chat
• Remember that information provided today may change in the future – many situations are still evolving / changing: check back at
  • Tufts International Center  [https://icenter.tufts.edu](https://icenter.tufts.edu)
  • Tufts COVID-19 Hub  [https://coronavirus.tufts.edu](https://coronavirus.tufts.edu)
Quick Service Announcement

• The International Center will be closed on August 12, 2021 as staff will be meeting all day to prepare for the transition and start of the Fall semester.
• We will be accessing email and web and monitoring phone messages on this date.
International Center Fall Reopening

• International Center offices at Medford, Fletcher School and Boston Health Sciences are planning to return to campus by September 1
  • For Medford, limited walk-in hours will be available starting mid August 2021
• Walk-in hours will be on specific days and times and are for quick services (dropping off documents, getting signatures)
• All other advising services will be done through online appointments
  • [https://icenter.tufts.edu/contact/appointments](https://icenter.tufts.edu/contact/appointments)
• Our schedule will be posted on the International Center web site in early August
• Masks and social distancing still required for all visitors
20 Sawyer Avenue
Open Area
US Statement in Support of International Education

https://icenter.tufts.edu/blog/2021/07/28/joint-statement-international-education/
US Visa Processes

- Visa application processes are still underway
- Significant percentage of Tufts undergraduate students have successfully obtained their visas, slower rates of approval for graduate students
- Student visas are being prioritized over other types of visas
- Watch for temporary closures or delays due to COVID-19
PP10043 – Students from China

- For students from China we are still collecting survey information regarding PP10043
- Please complete this survey if your visa application was delayed or denied due to Presidential Proclamation 10043
- [https://icenter.tufts.edu/blog/2021/05/17/pp10043/](https://icenter.tufts.edu/blog/2021/05/17/pp10043/)
- We continue to work on this issue and talking to Tufts administration and other universities about PP10043
COVID-19 remains a major concern as ‘Delta Variant’ surges are happening in the US and other countries.

At this time, our health professionals team continues to monitor guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control and the state of Massachusetts.

Please continue to plan on exercising many of the precautions, including mask wearing.

Follow guidance from your public health authority for safe air and land travel.
COVID-19 Entry Suspensions and NIE Process

- The Biden Administration will continue for now COVID-19 entry suspensions for China, Iran, South Africa, Brazil, India, Schengen Area countries and the UK and Ireland
  - Under these restrictions, direct entry to US is not permitted if you were in these countries within the past 14 days prior to arrival
  - Special permission, called a ‘national interest exception’ (NIE), is required to travel directly to the US from these regions
- However, F-1 students and their F-2 dependents will have automatic NIE authorization
  - Already in place for Schengen Area / UK
  - Active as of August 1 for entry from the other countries and regions
  - Remember that new students can enter only 30 days prior to start of program listed on the I-20
International Flights & COVID-19 Test Results

• Reminder: if you are traveling to the US by international airlift, remember that US CDC guidance requires you to take a COVID-19 test within three days prior to departure and to show a negative test result prior to boarding

• Correction to previous International Center information: CDC allows the test to be taken within three days prior to departure, not 72 hours
  • Example: if you leave on Friday, your test can be from Tuesday – Thursday

• Go to https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html for more information about test requirements
Entry Requirements for New Students

- Valid passport
- Valid F-1 or J-1 student visa
- Form I-20 (F-1), DS-2019 (J-1)
- I-901 SEVIS Fee payment receipt (F-1 / J-1)
- Tufts admission letter or email
- Financial documents (e.g., scholarship letter, bank statements, etc.)

- *Carry these documents with you in your backpack / carry-on bag*
- *No requirement to show vaccination records during immigration arrival*
Vaccination Requirement

• As of today, the vaccination and quarantine requirement remains the same as in previous weeks
• Fully vaccinated arrivals from international locations do not need to quarantine
• Partially or unvaccinated arrivals will need to quarantine for 7 days and start the vaccination sequence
• Still to be determined exactly when and where Tufts will offer vaccination clinics, although keep in mind that you can get vaccinations at multiple locations throughout Massachusetts
• https://coronavirus.tufts.edu/healthy-at-tufts/covid-19-vaccinations-tufts
Arrival and Ongoing Testing

• Arrival testing schedule and locations are at https://coronavirus.tufts.edu/testing

• For Medford students, the Gantcher Center at 161 College Avenue in Medford will start doing arrival testing on August 15

• Questions about arrival testing should be sent to covid19@tufts.edu.
Tufts COVID-19 Student Vaccination Policy

- Updates at https://coronavirus.tufts.edu/healthy-at-tufts/covid-19-vaccinations-tufts
- Students may receive both university-wide and school-specific information about COVID-19 related topics
- Keep in mind that requirements may differ depending on your school or program, and also whether your program takes place in a health care setting (e.g., medical, dental, veterinary medicine, biomedical sciences)
WHO Emergency Use Listings

  - Pfizer/BioNTech
  - Astrazeneca (different versions)
  - Serum Institute of India
  - Janssen J&J
  - Moderna
  - Sinopharm
  - Sinovac
Documentation of Vaccination

• Submit documentation of vaccination to Tufts at
  https://coronavirus.tufts.edu/healthy-at-tufts/covid-19-vaccinations-tufts
On-campus Housing
Move-in Dates


- Different move in dates depending on:
  - Year (1st year student versus continuing student)
  - Participating in Pre-Orientation, student athlete, etc.
  - Need for quarantine

- Classes start for most programs on September 8, and regular arrival is on September 1 - September 5
• During the pandemic, international students on F-1 or J-1 visas were generally allowed to maintain their visa even if they were enrolled in completely remote (online) classes.

• For 2021-2022, students in the US on F-1 or J-1 student visas should continue to enroll full-time and include a minimum of one in-person class as a part of their class schedules.
  • Full-time is at least 12 credits (SHUs) for undergraduates and 9 credits for graduate students.
  • In most cases, because programs are returning to on-campus, in-person teaching and learning for Fall 2021, students should be able to meet this minimum requirement of one in-person class easily.
  • Students outside the US on a Tufts study abroad program, Tufts @ BNU, or doing graduate fieldwork and research should be able to maintain status.
  • Students not outside the US who do not plan to enroll full-time (or at all) should contact the International Center about their individual situation.
Q&A Period
Thank You For Coming