



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

AMERICAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE
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ALI ORIENTATION INFORMATION

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| New Student Orientation and Registration | 2 |
| Registration..... | 2 |
| Immigration Requirement | 2 |
| Tuition Information..... | 2 |
| Health Insurance Coverage Requirement..... | 3 |
| Medical Requirement | 4 |
| Arriving After Your Program Start Date | 4 |
| Arriving in San Diego – Airport Greeting Service | 4 |
| Transportation | 4 |
| How to use Cloud 9 Shuttle | 5 |
| ALI Housing Information | 5 |
| Weather in San Diego | 5 |

New Student Orientation and Registration

On the first day of your program, please come to the ALI Office. Refer to your welcome letter for the specific date and time of your New Student Orientation. During orientation week, you will:

- Take an English placement test to determine your skill level. This will help us to place you in the appropriate classes.
- Take a tour of San Diego and the SDSU campus.
- Receive information about student ID cards, parking permits, health services, transportation and banking in the area.
- Register and enroll in your program.

Registration

All students must register before they can begin their classes. Even if you prepay tuition and fees, you must register for your program. Registration will take place during the first days of the program.

WHAT TO BRING TO REGISTRATION

- Passport
- I-20
- I-94 (white card in your passport)
- Tuition payment
- Proof of health insurance coverage
- Address and telephone number in San Diego
- E-mail address

Immigration Requirement

All F-1 students must be enrolled full-time each session and attend classes on a regular basis. If you have any visa or immigration questions, please contact the ALI Immigration/Admissions Advisor at applyali@mail.sdsu.edu

Tuition Information

All students must pay tuition before they can begin their classes. We can accept credit card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover), cashier's check, money order, traveler's checks or cash. We do NOT accept personal checks. All checks should be made payable to "SDSU Research Foundation".
NOTE: The I-20 form is NOT an invoice.

You can also send your tuition payment in advance from your home country. Please send payments at least two weeks before the program start date. We can receive advance tuition payments by

1) Bank wire transfer

Union Bank of California
College Center Office
San Diego, California USA
Account Name: SDSU Research Foundation
Account Number: 0111-251906
Routing Number: ABA No. 122000496

Please include the student's NAME(s) on wire transfer confirmation

NOTE: Please bring your bank receipt showing proof of wire transfer to Registration.

2) Cashier's check

Make checks payable to "SDSU Research Foundation" and mail to:

American Language Institute
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-1914 USA

3) Credit Card

For ALI to charge your credit card, you must submit the Credit Card Authorization form. It is available at www.ali.sdsu.edu/admissions.html

Health Insurance Coverage Requirement

All F-1 students must have adequate health insurance coverage during their stay in the United States. Those who come with non-F-1 student status are strongly advised to have adequate health insurance coverage as well. You will be asked to provide proof of coverage during the first day of registration.

[Health Insurance Requirements.PDF](#)

Please bring proof of coverage and a copy of your policy with English translation if you have health insurance from your home country, the policy must cover the entire time you will study at ALI.

If you do not have health insurance coverage from your home country, International Student Health Insurance is available at Registration. Fees vary depending on the length of program. Students must purchase insurance to cover the entire time of study at ALI.

Payments can be made by cashier's check, money order, or credit card (Visa or Mastercard only). Please make checks payable to "*Wells Fargo of California Insurance Services, Inc.*".

Medical Requirement

If you are planning on transferring to an SDSU Degree Program upon completion of the ALI must provide proof that you are free from active tuberculosis. If you have not had a tuberculosis skin test or chest x-ray in the United States within the past year, then you must have a tuberculosis skin test before you transfer. The SDSU Health Services Center provides this test for free for ALI students.

Arriving After Your Program Start Date

In some cases, students may not be able to arrive by the program start date listed in Section #5 of the I-20. Please contact the ALI if you will be late for your program so we can assist you and update your records.

Arriving in San Diego – Airport Greeting Service

ALI provides an airport greeting service for \$60. This service includes being met at the airport as you arrive and assistance with a shuttle to take you to your destination. Shuttle costs are included.

This service is only available for flights scheduled to arrive in San Diego between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. daily. To use this service, students must arrive in San Diego. The ALI does not provide airport greeting service for Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

To request this service, please contact ALI at alihousing@mail.sdsu.edu at least 3 days prior to your arrival. If your flight information changes before the day of your arrival, please email the ALI – ali@mail.sdsu.edu. If there are changes or delays in your flight on the day of your arrival, then you must call 619-787-1967 or 619-823-7921.

NOTE: If you are staying in a homestay, your host family will pick you up from the airport. Please send your flight arrival information directly to your new host family at least one week before your arrival in San Diego.

Transportation

San Diego State University is approximately 13 miles (21 km) east of San Diego's Lindbergh Airport. You can come to the San Diego State University (SDSU) area by taxi or shuttle service.

Costs:

- Taxi from airport to SDSU : \$40 – \$50 (plus \$4 – \$5 for gratuity)
- Cloud 9 Shuttle Service from airport to SDSU : \$25 (plus \$2– \$3 for gratuity)

[Map and Directions to ALI](#) | [Parking Map](#) | [Smoking Map](#)

How to use Cloud 9 Shuttle

- 1) After arriving at the airport, go to the baggage claim area and pick up your baggage.
- 2) Go to the hotel courtesy phone board located in the baggage claim area. Dial the extension number for Cloud 9 listed there or call 1-877-256-8395. Say “ I want to go to the San Diego State University area” and give them your exact address.
- 3) Cloud 9 will tell you to meet them at the loading area located outside of the airport. Cloud 9 shuttle vans are white.

For more information or to make online reservations, please visit www.cloud9shuttle.com

ALI Housing Information

Before arriving in San Diego, you should make your housing arrangements. Housing at University Towers and Piedra del Sol fills up quickly so please send your housing application to ALI as early as possible. For all housing, please send your housing application to ALI at least 2 weeks before your arrival or you may be charged a \$50 late fee. Most students live in on-campus dormitories, on-campus apartments, or in a homestay.

Some students want to live in off-campus apartments. The ALI does not provide these services. You will be responsible for arranging your own housing if you choose to live in off-campus apartments.

For more information on housing, please contact the ALI Housing Coordinator- alihousing@mail.sdsu.edu / 619-594-5907.

- [American Family Homestay](#)
- [On-campus Dormitory](#)
- [On-campus Apartments](#)
- [Off-campus Apartments](#)
- [Short-term Housing](#)
- [Off-Campus Housing](#) PDF

Weather in San Diego

San Diego enjoys mild climate and moderate temperatures throughout the year. The average temperature ranges from a low of 57F (14C) in January to a high of 75F (24C) in June. The humidity is very low and the average rainfall is less than 9.8 inches (25 cm) each year.

For more information about the weather in San Diego, please visit the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau at www.sandiego.org and click on “Visitor Info”.