1. **U.S. GOVERNMENT PREPARATIONS FOR VISA**

   Use your I-20 form to register for the SEVIS program and then apply for the F-1 student visa.
   
   - You are required to pay a fee of $200 when you register for the SEVIS program and before you apply for a visa.
   - This fee is payable to the US government, NOT our university.
   - Instructions are available at [https://www.fmjfee.com/](https://www.fmjfee.com/).

   Apply for a visa at US Embassy or Consulate
   
   - The visa application process can be complicated and may vary from country to country.
   - General information on visas is available at [http://travel.state.gov/visa/](http://travel.state.gov/visa/). (Use the column on the left for great detailed information.)
   - We also recommend using the services of an EducationUSA office. To find an office near you, go to [http://educationusa.state.gov/](http://educationusa.state.gov/).

   Notify the Ivanhoe International Center when you receive your visa: international@sdsmt.edu

2. **ORIENTATIONS – ALL ORIENTATIONS ARE MANDATORY**

   **MAKE TRAVEL PLANS TO INCLUDE ALL ORIENTATION SESSIONS!!!**

   **International Student Orientation** – **Thursday, January 3 and Friday, January 4**
   
   - This is a two day orientation – You are required to attend BOTH days
   - Bump Lounge, Surbeck Center
   - Thursday, January 3 from 9 am to 3 pm AND Friday, January 4 from 9 am to 12 noon.

   **Regular Orientation** – This is mandatory
   
   - Go to the Accepted Students page to register: [http://www.sdsmt.edu/Admissions/Accepted-Students/](http://www.sdsmt.edu/Admissions/Accepted-Students/)
   - New Student Orientation – sign up on the interactive checklist
   - Transfer Student Orientation – sign up on the standard checklist

   Spring semester classes begin **Monday, January 7, 2018.** Spring semester ends on **Friday, May 4.**

   **Do not leave before this day!** Finals can be on the Friday, May 4.

3. **BEFORE YOU ARRIVE**

   Access your user name and password: [http://sdmines.sdsmt.edu/sdsmt/whoami](http://sdmines.sdsmt.edu/sdsmt/whoami)
   
   - Go to the website and follow the directions. Your student ID on your admission letter and handwritten on the top of your I-20

   If you have not already done so, make arrangements to have your final official high school and/or college or university transcripts sent directly from your college or university to:
   
   Ivanhoe International Center
   South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
   501 East St. Joseph Street
   Rapid City, South Dakota 57701-3995

   Submit proof of immunization as soon as possible (2 MMR’s are required);
   
   - Courses will be deleted if not in compliance once the semester begins
   - The form is in your packet of information with your I-20
   - Email the forms to [international@sdsmt.edu](mailto:international@sdsmt.edu) and please bring them with you
   - For more information: [http://www.sdsmt.edu/Campus-Life/Student-Health-and-Safety/Health/Pre-Registration-Immunization-Requirements/](http://www.sdsmt.edu/Campus-Life/Student-Health-and-Safety/Health/Pre-Registration-Immunization-Requirements/)

   Log into the WebAdvisor portal: [http://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Registrar/WebAdvisor--Students/](http://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Registrar/WebAdvisor--Students/)
   
   - Complete the 2019 Spring Attendance Confirmation available after December 1.
   - If you do not complete this verification form before the deadline, you may be dropped from your classes.

   **FERPA Privacy Act**
   
   - No account information can be given to non-students or parents unless the “Release of Information” authorization form, account information section has been signed.
   - For more information and to download the form: [http://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Registrar/FERPA-Privacy-Act/](http://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Registrar/FERPA-Privacy-Act/)
TRANSFER STUDENTS ONLY: Contact your advisor to help you select your courses.
   - You will receive information from the registrar’s office regarding your advisor’s contact information.

4. OTHER PREPARATIONS BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Make sure to have an estimated amount of money with you when you arrive as well as the amount for your tuition and first month of living expenses.
   - Your tuition and fees payment is due the second week of classes.
   - See the Estimated Costs sheet in your I-20 packet.

Contact the Ivanhoe International Center of travel plans.
   - Here is the link to sign up for FREE temporary housing and FREE airport pick up - https://goo.gl/forms/CX5akLxShdtCk4xD2
   - Fill this out so you can take advantage of these services

Apply for on-campus housing. All students who are within their first two years of high school graduation are required to live on campus, including international students.
   - International students will be able to move in early so they are able to attend the international student orientation. Contact international@sdsmt.edu for more information.

If you qualify to live off campus, start looking for an apartment. Here are some helpful websites.
   - Please note: it is recommended that you wait until you arrive on campus to find housing.
     - http://www.apartmentlist.com/
     - http://www.mycheapapartments.com/
     - http://rapidcity.craigslist.org/
     - http://www.sdhousingsearch.com
     - http://rapidcityjournal.com/homes/

Register for a parking permit: http://ektron-stage.sdsmt.edu/Campus-Services/Facilities/Campus-Parking/

5. OTHER INFORMATION

Payment
   - Online payments may be made via WebAdvisor using SDePay.
     - View/print your eBill; sign up for a payment plan; pay your bill without standing in line by using credit or debit card (you will be charged a 2.75% service fee when using a card), Echeck or your payment plan.
     - Flywire—international transfers. Log into WebAdvisor under SDePay for more information.
     - Payments may also be made at the Student Accounts and Cashiers Office in the Surbeck Center if you pay with cash or check (sorry no credit cards accepted in the Cashiers Office).

Pay your tuition and fees or make arrangements by 4 pm on January 16, 2019

Textbooks and Course Materials
   - Course materials will be available for purchase from the Mines Bookstore beginning December 1, 2018.
   - For further information about course materials, payment options, and other services, visit the store website at: www.thehardrockershop.com.

AccuPlacer Math Placement Test
   - Make arrangements for Accuplacer placement testing (or accept your placement) and begin the course registration process. (Accuplacer also available at Orientation as well as other locations and dates by appointment). Contact Tom Mahon in the Tutoring and Testing Coordinator Office: Thomas.Mahon@sdsmt.edu, (605) 394-2428.
     - PLEASE NOTE: The highest math course you can test into is Calculus I.

Have Questions???? Contact us!
Ivanhoe International Center - +1.605-394-6884
international@sdsmt.edu