



Responsibilities of I-20 Students

by Michelle Fernandes

Many students are unsure of what their responsibilities are as an I-20 student. If you follow these guidelines, you should not have any problems remaining in good standing:

Arrival and Departure Dates - You may enter the U.S. no earlier than 30 days before the report date on your I-20 form. An F-1 student who has completed his/her academic program has 60 days to prepare to leave the U.S. An F-1 student who has been given permission to withdraw from classes before completing his/her academic program is given 15 days to prepare for departure. Students who withdraw without the prior approval of the International Student Advisor must depart the U.S. immediately.

Provide Address changes in a Timely Manner - You must report any change of address within 10 days of your move directly to our International Advisor. Obtain Prior Authorization from the School to Drop Below a Full Course of Study - You must be enrolled as a full-time student. As an

ESL student, you must study at least 20 hours per week. You are allowed to deviate from this full course of study only with PRIOR authorization of the International Student Advisor, and be aware that this authorization is only given under very specific and limited circumstances.

Report Departure Date and Reason for Departure - You must inform our International Student Advisor if you plan to leave the school earlier than the program end date listed on your I-20 Form, and your reason for doing so.

Request Extension Before Program Completion Date - Know your program completion date. It is indicated on your I-20. Your F-1 status will end on the program completion date unless you want to obtain a program extension. If you want to do so, you have to make your request in advance. Make sure you give the advisor enough time to process the request. Do it as soon as you are sure of your academic plans.

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April 2007 Writing Contest Winners

This month's writing contest topic was: "What are the greatest inventions ever?"

Kim, Ji-Yeon won 1st prize with an essay using the eyes of a 17th century traveler transplanted into the 21st century. This viewpoint was unique among all the compositions.

Newcomer Taghogo Agarin won 2nd prize with a well-organized essay on the advantages and disadvantages of the internet.

3rd prize was won by Oahn Nguyen who wrote about the history and uses of the computer.

Three people were given honorable mention. One time winner Viviane Santos won 1st honorable mention with an essay on the inventions most important for women. First time entrant Hsiu-Chia Hsu wrote about the airplane and Aneta Dokuzova wrote about airplanes but also pointed out the difficulties of judging what is the greatest invention.

1st Place:
Ji-Yeon Kim
(WR400)



2nd Place:
Taghogo Agarin
(WR400)



3rd Place:
Oahn Nguyen
(WR300)



Honorable Mentions:

Viviane Santos
Hsiu-Chia Hsu
Aneta Dokuzova

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Observe Transfer Procedures - If you wish to transfer from Approach to a different college, university, or ESL school, you must be in contact with two schools: Approach and the new "transfer" school. The school you wish to transfer to must be authorized to enroll international students by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. The transfer procedure is: 1) Obtain notification that you have been accepted to the new school; 2) Inform Approach as soon as you find out you have been accepted to the new school; make sure it is no later than the last day of your academic program; 3) Notify your new transfer school of your expected transfer date, which is typically the last day of your academic program; 4) Make sure your transfer process at the new school is successfully completed no later than 15 days after your arrival at the new school. You

can always check the transfer status with the International Advisor at your new school. Please be aware that once you have notified Approach that you are transferring, Approach sends your SEVIS record to the new school and cannot make any changes to it. If you want to make any changes after you've requested the transfer, you must contact your new transfer school. Make sure you make note of when your last day of school at Approach was and when your new programs begins. If you do not complete your transfer process properly, you may end up falling out of status.

Do not hesitate to ask us if you have any questions or are not sure how to handle a certain situation. We'll be glad to assist you with any questions you may have pertaining to your status as an F-1 student.



by Jennifer Lima

Be the First to Find My Typos

Have you ever played the typo game? I'll explain how it works: you will read the passage below and find ten misspelled words (typos). Ready? Good luck!

Dear Andrew,

Hí, how are you doing? I'm writing this letter on the bus. They are doing some repairs on the road, so it is bumpy, and the bus shaíkes a little. I hope you can understand my writing. Guess what? I got a job as a clerk in the main office of a small company. They don't pay that much, but I like the people here. They are all friendly, amd we are speaking Spanish all the time. I am also taking spanish clases at knight at a language institute. The class mettings happen three times a week. It just started, so I don't know many people yet. They seem to be nice, though.

I think that I am getting accostumed to live here. At first, I experienced some culture shocks. I understand that this is quite normal. But this days I meet more and more people because of my job and my class, so I am feeling more connected to things.

What do you do these days? Do you still look for a new job? Pelase write me when you can. I always like to know about you.



Yours,

Brian



by Brian Smith

A Little Bit of History

America Trivia

The following is a hodge podge of little known facts about the United States. I hope you find them to be both fun and interesting.

The original name for Disneyland was "Mickey Mouse Park."

The original name spelled out in huge letters in the Hollywood Hills was "HOLLYWOODLAND."

American dollar bills are printed on a cotton linen blend of fabric - not paper. And it takes exactly 490 crisp new dollar bills to make one pound (16 ounces).

It is illegal for the portrait of a living person to appear on a U.S. postage stamp.

All automobile license plates issued in the United States (Mexico and Canada, too) measure 12 inches wide by 6 inches high.

Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Glenn Burke is credited with originating the "high five" in 1977.

The only four states to share a common boundary are Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.

The state of Hawaii is made up of 132 islands - eight major islands (which can be seen easily on most maps), and 124 islets.

The town of Snowflake, Arizona got its name from two of its earliest settlers, Erastus Snow and William J. Flake.

It costs the U.S. government two and a half cents to produce a quarter.

The oldest church bells in the United States are right here in Boston at the Old North Church in the North End. The bells were made in England and shipped to Boston in 1744.

There are three interstate highways that run from coast to coast: I-90 (which begins in Boston), I-80, and I-10.

There are 73 elevators in the Empire State Building. In case you can't find one, you can take all 1,575 steps to the top.

On May 5, 1838, Boston became the first American city to establish a police department.

After Albert Einstein became an American citizen, he said, "The hardest thing in the world to understand is income taxes."

Including the territories of Puerto Rico and American Samoa, the United States has eight official time zones.

There are four state capitals named after cities in England: Boston, Dover, Hartford, and Richmond.

The state most dependent on tourism, with almost 30% of its jobs tourist related, is Nevada.

Manhattan, with a total area of only 22.6 square miles, is the smallest of New York City's five boroughs.

The city of Juneau, Alaska is two and a half times the size of the entire state of Rhode Island.

Poor little Rhode Island! Out of all 50 states, it takes in the least amount of tourist dollars. It's a pretty small state.

Unlike the other 49 states, Louisiana uses the Napoleonic code rather than English common law as the basis of its civil law.

Embarrassingly, the best selling magazine in the United States is "TV Guide."

The longest street in America is Figueroa Street in Los Angeles. It runs for 30 miles.

The city of Detroit (Motor City) was founded by a man named Antoine Laumet de la Mothe Cadillac. He also served as governor of Louisiana from 1713 to 1716.

The names of the two stone lions sitting in front of the New York City Public Library on the corner of 5th Avenue and 42nd Street are *Patience* and *Fortitude*.

Following an earthquake in May of 1812, Venezuela was the first country to receive disaster relief money from the United States. This occurred as the U.S. was preparing for war with England. War broke out that June.

In 1641, Massachusetts was the first colony to enact anti-slavery legislation. It was called "Body of Liberties."

In 1949, Congress raised the minimum wage from 40 to 75 cents an hour.

Benjamin Franklin, one of the most brilliant and accomplished men of all time, had only two years of schooling.

Renowned chief justices of the U.S. Supreme Court John Jay, John Marshall, Roger Taney, and Samuel Chase, whose decisions strongly influenced the American legal system, never went to law school.

The first recorded UFO sighting in the United States was in June, 1947 near Mount Rainier, Washington.

When Paul Revere made his famous ride from Boston to Lexington, he didn't shout, "The British are coming! The British are coming!" because Americans were still part of the British Empire and considered themselves British. Revere's cry to the people was, "The Regulars are coming! The Regulars are coming!" Regulars was what they called the British troops at that time.

Sideburns were introduced and named after Civil War General Ambrose Burnside.

The United States paid four cents per acre to France for the Louisiana Territory in 1803 (which doubled the size of the nation), and two cents per acre to Russia for Alaska in 1867.

Napoleon Bonaparte's grand nephew, Charles Bonaparte, founded the F.B.I. in 1908. He was the U.S. Attorney General at the time. Agents weren't allowed to carry guns until 1934. Women weren't hired as agents until 1972.

Gangster Al Capone's brother, Jim, was a police officer in Nevada. He also served as a town marshal and as a state sheriff.

Twelve men have walked on the moon (between July '69 and December '72).



Jokes

by Nadia

From www.hicards.com

Not ready yet.

A customer wanted to ask his attractive waitress for a date but couldn't get her attention. When he was able to catch her eye, she quickly looked away. Finally, he followed her into the kitchen and blurted out his invitation. To his amazement she readily consented. He said, "Why have you been avoiding me all this time? You wouldn't even make eye contact."
"Oh," replied the waitress, "I thought you wanted more coffee, but the pot wasn't ready yet."



In three months

A boss tells his new employee, "I'll give you 8 bucks an hour starting today, and in three months I'll raise it to 10 bucks an hour. So when would you like to start?"
The employee replies, "How about in 3 months?"



Types of milk.



City Boy: Say, Dad, how many types of milk are there?
Father: Well, there's evaporated milk, buttermilk, malted milk, and --but why do you ask?
City Boy: Oh, I'm drawing a picture of a cow, and I want to know how many "spigots" to put on her.

Poem of the Month

Maybe There is More to Life than Living

Maybe there is more to life than living.
Existence has more meaning as a means.
Maybe life's a gift that's well worth giving
Once the sacrifice distills the dreams.
Remember, then, the heroes we have squandered
In ignorance and fear and lust and greed.
All sacrifice ought equally be honored
Lest we confuse the courage with the need.
Destiny decrees the undreamed end
As some die for the dreams they would defend,
Yet yearning for what lies beyond the deed.



<http://www.poemsforfree.com>



May Birthdays

- 3 Fernanda Velame
- 7 Duangnet Chantaprasert
- 8 Maria fernanda Da silva
- 8 Mehmet Aktas
- 9 Elias Santa Rita
- 13 Makoto Matsuba
- 16 Rakpong Raksapun
- 20 Allie Lushan
- 21 Marcia Koike
- 23 Sidney Silva
- 25 Bushra Anjum
- 25 Cassia Pinheiro
- 26 Mariana Guerrero
- 31 Simla Balci

April Activities Scrapbook



Mariana from Colombia shows her appreciation for all the food at International Lunch.



Patcharin and Rakpong from Thailand made many delicious smoothies for everybody during International Lunch.



Raehana from Cape Verde really loves the food at International Lunch.



Duk Whan from South Korea tries a delicious Brazilian dessert during International Lunch.

“The best part of the activities is to be together with students from all over the world.”



Our students pose for a moment during their trip to the arboretum with Carl.



Luciana and a staff fish at the New England Aquarium, and some Approach students were there too.



Luciana on her trip with students to the New England Aquarium.



Sirat and Anna eating some of the great free food at our Graduation Party at Tonic.



by Luciana Sarra

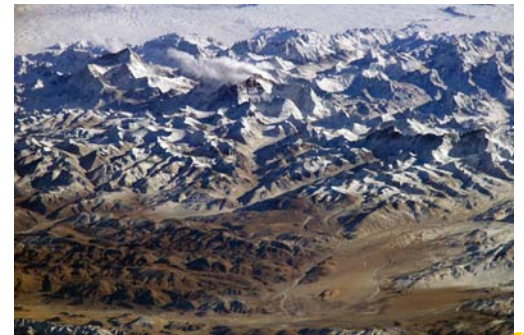
BBC's 50 Places to Visit Before You Die

Alaska is a state in the U.S., located in the extreme northwest portion of the North American continent. It is the largest U.S. state, and one of the wealthiest and most racially diverse. Its area was purchased from Russia in 1867, becoming the 49th state of the U.S. in 1959. More than 90 languages are spoken today in Alaska. Alaska's economy relies heavily on petroleum extraction, with more than 80 percent of the state's revenues derived from this industry. Alaska's main export product (excluding oil and natural gas) is seafood, primarily salmon, cod, pollock and crab. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alaska>)



Angkor Wat is a temple at Angkor, Cambodia, built for King Suryavaman II in the early 12th century as his state temple and capital city. The largest and best-preserved temple at the site, it is the only one to have remained a significant religious centre — first Hindu, dedicated to Vishnu, then Buddhist — since its foundation. The temple is the epitome of the high classical style of Khmer architecture. It has become a symbol of Cambodia, appearing on its national flag, and it is the country's prime attraction for visitors. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angkor_Wat)

The Himalayas are a mountain range in Asia, separating the Indian subcontinent from the Tibetan Plateau. Together, the Himalaya mountain system is the planet's highest and home to the world's highest peaks: the Eight-thousanders, including Mount Everest. The Himalayas stretch across six nations: Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is the source of three of the world's major river systems. An estimated 750 million people live in the watershed area of the Himalayan rivers, which also includes Bangladesh. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Himalaya>)



Monthly Special - May

by Carl Phillips



May Events:

- In the Irish calendar May 1 is Beltane (Bealtaine), the first day of Summer, and a public holiday is held on the first Monday in May.
- In many countries, May Day is May 1. This is celebrated as Labor Day in many countries.
- In the UK, May Day is May 1, but a public holiday is held on the first Monday.
- In Germany it is an old custom to plant a "tree of May" to honor someone. Often young men set up an adorned birch in front of their girlfriends house in the night before May 1.
- Cinco de Mayo or the Batalla de Puebla is celebrated in Mexico on May 5.
- In the European Union May 9 is Europe Day
- On May 12, International Nurses Day is celebrated.

- May 12 is also International Awareness Day for Chronic Immunological and Neurological Diseases (CIND). These diseases include Neurofibromatosis, Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome (CFIDS), Multiple Sclerosis, Myalgic Encephalomyelitis, Fibromyalgia, Gulf War Syndrome and Multiple Chemical Sensitivity.
- On 17 May, the Norwegian Constitution Day is celebrated.
- In Argentina, the May Revolution (or Revolución de Mayo), a national holiday, is on May 25.
- Under the French Ancien Régime, it was of habit to "plant a May" or a "tree of May" in the honor of somebody. The County of Nice saw girls and boys "turn the May" with the sound of fife and drum, i.e. to dance rounds of May around the tree of May planted on the place of the village.
- The second Sunday in May is Mother's Day in the United States.

- In the United States, Memorial Day, a public holiday, is on May 30, but observed on the last Monday in May.

Trivia

- Within any calendar year, no other month begins on the same day of the week as May.
- The bird of May is the nightingale
- May's birth flower is the lily of the valley or hawthorn.
- May's birthstone is the emerald.
- May is the only month in which a President of the United States has not died.
- May in the Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent to November in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa.

Retrieved from en.wikipedia.org/wiki/May

Tips of the Month from Our Teachers



Common Mistake

by Luciana Sarra

Peace/Piece

It's hard to believe many people really confuse the meaning of these words; but the spellings are frequently swapped, probably out of sheer carelessness. "Piece" has the word "pie" buried in it, which should remind you of the familiar phrase, "a piece of pie." You can meditate to find peace of mind, or you can get angry and give someone a piece of your mind.

<http://wsu.edu/~brians/errors/peace.html>



Movie Reviews

by Brian Smith

North By Northwest (1959) Starring: Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint, James Mason, Directed by Alfred Hitchcock

Grant is an advertising executive who is mistaken for a spy and then framed for murder. He must stay on the run if he is to stay alive and dear his name. Famous scene: Grant is chased through a cornfield by a machine-gun firing crop duster. One of Hitchcock's best.



Spring Clean-up for English

by Carl Phillips

Now that the weather is finally warming up, it is a perfect opportunity to "air out" your English. During the winter you have been limited mostly to indoor activities to work on your English. Now is the chance to get outdoors and do things. Walk along the Charles River. Go to a baseball game. Attend an outdoor concert or theatre performance. And listen to all the English activity around you. Travel by "T" or drive your car to new places. Approach will be offering more trips to outdoor places - including shopping, beaches, and restaurants. Check out the weekend ideas on the Monthly Calendar. If you are unsure about what to do or where to go, please ask us for suggestions. If you have an idea for an activity, please tell us. See if your classmates want to go somewhere on the weekend. These are all great chances to listen, speak, read, and learn. And, most of all, to have fun.



Monthly Activities

by Andrew Haynes

Faneuil Hall Marketplace "Taste of Quincy Market" (International Food Festival)

More than 1000 food samplings from all over the world offered FREE OF CHARGE the first Wed. of every month. 35 food stalls lining the Marketplace's food Colonnade and showcasing an international gourmet feast, headline "The Taste of Quincy Market." Shrimp soup; Cooked wine leaves; Tortillas; Tamales; Gourmet pizzas; Israeli dates; Pepper water; Egg noodle & beef stock soup; Banana Splits, Creamsicles & more, are on tap! A great experience for the entire family! And all Marketplace shops, restaurants, venues, clubs are open daily.

Time: Wed., May 2 5pm-7pm

Contact: 617.523.1300, charles@cjpr.com, www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com

An Evening of Springtime Magic

This Gala celebration will take place at the Back Bay Event Center on Berkley St. in Boston and will honor the contributions of David and Eileen Perini.

The evening will include a wide variety of entertainment. The cocktail portion of the event will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will include magicians and caricature artists. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. followed by a performance by well-known comedian and actor Jimmy Tingle. Guests will also be able to bid on wonderful items in a live auction.

Location: Back Bay Events Center

Time: 6:30 AM

Boston Classical FREE Youth & Family Concert

The Boston Classical Orchestra (Steven Lipsitt conducting) offers the Second Annual Anne W. Hiatt Youth & Family Concert on Saturday, May 5th at 2:00 pm at Faneuil Hall. The concert, featuring The Boston Children's Chorus, will be free to children and their families. An instrument petting zoo will follow the one-hour concert. Call (617) 423-3883 for FREE tickets.

Location: Faneuil Hall

Time: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Nearest T Station: Government Center, Haymarket, State

BIG APPLE CIRCUS

This year's Big Apple Circus production "Step Right Up!" returns to the heart of historic downtown Boston.

Ticketmaster 617.931.2787

Location: City Hall Plaza, Boston

Nearest T Station: Government Cen/Green or State St./ Orange Line

Time: Every day from 3/31/2007 to 5/6/2007

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/calendar/calendar.asp>



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