

PACKING SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

To help you prepare for your arrival, we've created the following suggested packing list below, along with items that are better left at home or to be obtained upon arrival.



ADDITIONAL TIPS

In your carry-on, put a basic change of clothes, a small amount of essential toiletries, contacts/glasses, and several days worth of any medicine you take regularly, so that you have these essentials on hand should your luggage be delayed.

WHAT SHOULD I LEAVE AT HOME?

For those living on-campus, several items are absolutely prohibited. Items you are NOT allowed to have in your room include: weapons, fireworks, candles, incense, hot plates, space heaters, and pets. Airlines also have a list of items you are not allowed to travel with in checked or carry on baggage, so be sure to check with your airline for specific restrictions. In general, it is also best to leave most electrical appliances home, as the U.S. voltage and electrical outlets differ from most other countries.

OTHER ITEMS YOU MAY WANT TO BRING:

- Photos of family and friends
- Traditional clothing representing your home culture
- Small items/mementos from home
- Backpack

WHAT TO PACK ON YOUR CARRY-ON

- **Plane Tickets**
- **Passport and Valid Visa**
- **Immigration Documents (1-20/DS-2019)**
- **Admissions letter to NKU**
- **Copies of Financial Documents**
- **Official Academic Transcripts (if requested from ISSS)**
- **Cash:** We recommend traveling with at least \$200 USD. Do not pack all of your cash in one place.
- **Credit Card/Debit Card/Traveler's Checks:** You will need to be prepared for at least \$1000 USD in expenses the first several weeks upon your arrival. Expenses upon arrival often include:
 - Linens, room decorations, food and bathroom items (Estimated \$250-\$500 USD)
 - Textbooks and school supplies (up to \$500 USD)
 - US Cell Phone and Phone Plan (initial expense can range from \$75—\$500+ USD depending on type of phone and plan purchased)
- **A photocopy of your passport and visa, should your original copy be lost**
- **Emergency phone numbers:** Have the contact information of ISSS on hand. If you are living on campus, you will also receive an email with your on-call resident assistants phone number, as well as your airport pick up volunteer.
- **Prescription medication (if needed)**
- **Extra glasses or contact lenses (if needed)**
- **Electronic devices:** iPod, Camera, Laptop, etc.
- **Clothing:** Bring at least one change of clothing should your luggage be delayed. If you are arriving in January, be sure to bring cold weather essentials—a jacket/coat, hat, and gloves are a must!

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WHAT TO PACK IN CHECKED LUGGAGE

- **Seasonal clothing:** Including jeans or pants, a few pairs of shoes, short and long-sleeved shirts and blouses, sweaters and sweatshirts, a jacket/coat, and an umbrella. You may want to pack one dressier outfit, but in general most students here dress casually. Be sure to pack for the weather! Average temperatures at NKU in August range from 21—32°C. Average temperatures at NKU in January range from -6—4°C. If arriving in January, we highly recommend packing a winter coat, hat, and gloves.
- **Linens:** NKU Housing does NOT provide linens, however they can be bulky to pack! We strongly suggest ordering them online to be delivered to your dorm room through the [NKU linen service](#). If you choose to buy them on arrival, be sure to pack a travel pillow and lightweight blanket if you can.
- **CDS, video games, or other favorite items from home**
- **Photos and small mementos from home:** your new friends will want to see these! We also suggest bringing one traditional outfit from home to wear to the cultural events and festivals throughout the year.
- **List of home phone numbers and NKU emergency contact numbers.**

PLANNING PURCHASES IN THE U.S.

Items you may want to buy once you arrive in Northern Kentucky:

- **Computer**
- **Linens for a Twin XL size bed:** We strongly suggest ordering them online to be delivered to your dorm room through the NKU linen service, so that you have them on arrival.
- **Towels, wash cloth, laundry bag.**
- **Winter coat, snow boots, hat, scarf, and glove:** If arriving in January, we strongly recommend buying these items in your home country. You may need them immediately upon arrival.
- **Pens, pencils, notebooks, folders, and other school supplies.**
- **Kitchen supplies and food storage containers**
- **Cups/mugs**
- **Coffee pot/Electric kettle**
- **Cleaning supplies**
- **Lamps**
- **TV**
- **Speakers**



REMEMBER!
Make sure your
NKU/Local US address
is on your luggage tag.