

# PRE-DEPARTURE BRIEFING & TRAVEL CHECKLIST

**Congratulations on your Visa Approval!** You are now ready to begin your international education journey. Please read this checklist carefully to ensure a smooth trip and a safe arrival in your new country.

## 1. Documents to Carry in Your Hand-Luggage (DO NOT put in check-in bags)

*Keep these documents in a secure folder. Immigration officers will ask to see them at the airport.*

- [ ] **Original Passport:** With the stamped student visa.
- [ ] **Travel & Health Insurance:** A printed copy of your international travel insurance policy. This is critical for emergencies during your flight or your first few weeks abroad.
- [ ] **University Documents:** Original Offer Letter, Acceptance Letter, and Fee Receipts.
- [ ] **Visa Approval Letter:** (e.g., POE Letter for Canada, CAS for UK, COE for Australia).
- [ ] **Academic Documents:** All original mark sheets, degree certificates, and IELTS/PTE scorecard.
- [ ] **Financial Proof:** Copy of your Education Loan letter, Bank Statements, or Sponsor's Income proof.
- [ ] **Accommodation Proof:** Letter confirming where you will stay for the first few nights (Hotel booking, University dorm, or Relative's invitation letter).
- [ ] **Medical Records:** Medical check-up receipt, vaccination records, and prescriptions for any personal medicines.

## 2. Finance & Forex (Money)

- [ ] **Forex Card:** Carry a loaded Forex card for immediate expenses like taxi rides, food, and initial rent.
- [ ] **Cash:** Carry a small amount of cash in the local currency (e.g., 300 to 500 dollars/pounds) for emergencies at the airport. *Do not carry large amounts of cash.*
- [ ] **International Activation:** Ensure your home country credit/debit cards are activated for international use before you leave.

## 3. Packing & Luggage Rules

- [ ] **Weigh Your Bags:** Check your airline ticket for exact baggage limits (usually 2 bags of 23kg each for check-in, and 1 bag of 7kg for the cabin). Do not overpack.

- [ ] **Universal Adapter:** Pack at least two universal power adapters so you can charge your phone and laptop immediately.
- [ ] **Medicines:** If you carry personal medicine, keep it in its original packaging along with a doctor's prescription.
- [ ] **Prohibited Items:** Do NOT pack fresh fruits, vegetables, seeds, dairy products, or loose spices. Most countries have very strict border security and will fine you heavily.

#### 4. At the Airport & Immigration

- [ ] **Arrive Early:** Reach the airport at least 4 hours before your flight departure time.
- [ ] **Immigration Interview:** Be confident. The border officer may ask you a few simple questions:
  - *"Which university are you going to?"*
  - *"What course will you study?"*
  - *"Who is funding your education?"*
- [ ] **Keep it Simple:** Answer only what is asked. Keep your answers short and respectful. Show your documents if the officer asks for them.

#### 5. Your First Week After Arrival

- [ ] **Contact Family & Agent:** Use the free airport Wi-Fi to message your family and your counsellor that you have landed safely.
- [ ] **Get a Local SIM Card:** Buy a cheap local SIM card at the airport or near your accommodation.
- [ ] **Open a Bank Account:** Visit a local bank to open a student account. You will need your Passport, Visa, and University Offer Letter.
- [ ] **University Registration:** Visit the international student office at your university to complete your physical enrolment and get your Student ID card.

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#### Emergency Contact Information

- **Your Agent's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Agent's WhatsApp/Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **University Emergency Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

**We wish you a safe flight and great success in your future studies!**