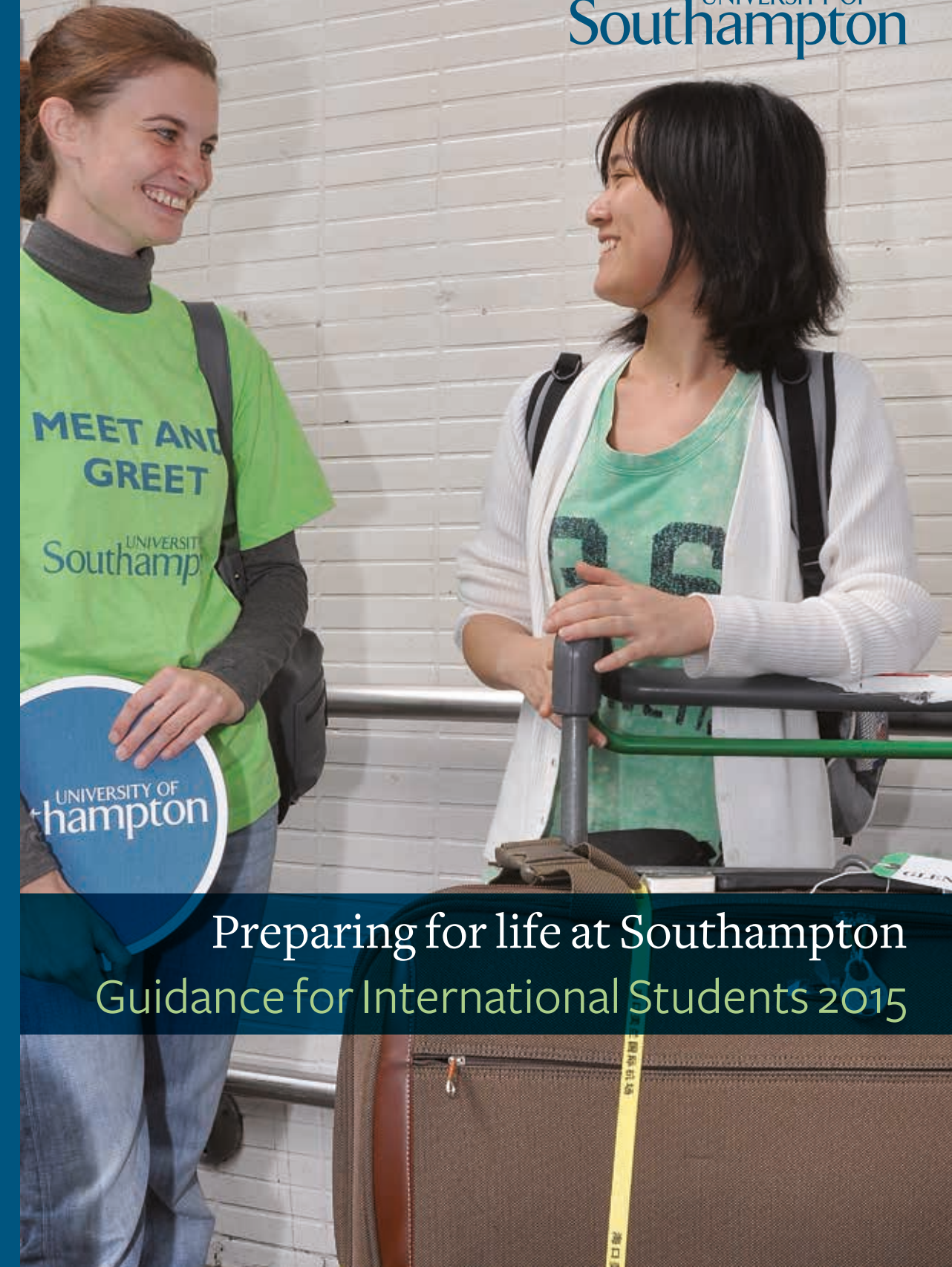


[www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/  
international.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international.page)  
[international@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:international@southampton.ac.uk)

### Checklist before your departure

- Is your offer unconditional?
- Have you accepted your offer through UCAS or by pressing the "Accept Offer" button online? (postgraduate only)
- Have you applied for your accommodation?
- Have you received your CAS statement?
- Have you applied for your visa?
- Have you booked your flights?
- Have you checked out the "Are you ready?" webpage? Information is updated from August.
- Have you set up your IT account? Please note that all communication will go to this account from this point.
- Have you applied for your ID card?
- Have you registered for the Southampton Welcome programme/Meet & Greet service? Registration is available from August.
- Do you have your original documents for registration?

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Southampton**



Preparing for life at Southampton  
Guidance for International Students 2015

# Congratulations on receiving an offer from the University of Southampton!

## Below is some guidance to help you prepare for your exciting new life at university.

### Your offer

- Please make sure you respond to your offer as soon as possible either by the UCAS system (undergraduate) or by accepting your offer online (postgraduate).
- You are required to send us copies of your transcripts/ English language certificates and any other documentation stated in order for your conditional offer to become unconditional.
- Your offer letter will tell you who to contact for sending outstanding documents.
- Have you considered our English Language pre-sessional courses? The below table applies to most courses:

Length of Course	11 weeks	6 weeks
Minimum IELTS	IELTS 5.5	IELTS 6.0
Dates	25 June – 11 September 2015	23 July – 3 September 2015

Useful website: [www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/international/language\\_support/presess.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/international/language_support/presess.page)

Useful email: [elaccess@soton.ac.uk](mailto:elaccess@soton.ac.uk)

### Paying your fees

- We don't require you to pay any fees up front, but if you would like to you can pay online at [www.webpayments.soton.ac.uk](http://www.webpayments.soton.ac.uk). You can also pay by cheque or bankers draft.
- You can pay in full by 28 September 2015 to get a 1% discount or pay in two instalments by 28 September 2015 and 4 January 2016.

- For Master's courses in the Business, Art and Law schools, a £1000 deposit needs to be paid. Details are contained in your offer letter.
- Sponsored students should provide the University with a copy of your official funding letter.

Useful website: [www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/fees-funding/paying-your-fees.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/fees-funding/paying-your-fees.page)

Useful email: [ssc@soton.ac.uk](mailto:ssc@soton.ac.uk)

### Visas

- A CAS statement will be issued by the University when an offer is unconditional firm or unconditional accepted. This is only sent by email at the earliest 180 days before your course officially starts.
- You must accept your offer before we can issue a CAS number.
- Please check whether your course requires an ATAS certificate. Information about this can be found on your offer letter.
- Visas can take up to 30 days to be processed so please submit your application as soon as possible.
- From 6 April 2015, any Tier 4 visa application by international students must be accompanied by proof of payment of NHS surcharge. The surcharge is £150/ visa year for students. More information can be found here [www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application/overview](http://www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application/overview)

Useful website: [www.southampton.ac.uk/sais/visa](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/sais/visa)

Useful email: [visa@soton.ac.uk](mailto:visa@soton.ac.uk)

### Accommodation

- All applications are made online.
- The deadline to apply for accommodation is 1 August. You can apply after the deadline has passed but your accommodation will not be guaranteed.
- Full-time international undergraduate students are guaranteed accommodation for the whole duration of the course. Full-time international postgraduate students are guaranteed accommodation for the first year.
- After you apply for accommodation, you will receive an acknowledgement email from the accommodation team. The offer will be sent from early August by email. Please check your email regularly from this point as your accommodation offer will need to be accepted within 7 days.
- You can also find private rented housing using our accredited SASSH scheme.

Useful website: [www.southampton.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/accommodation)  
 SASSH scheme: [www.sassh.co.uk/Accommodation](http://www.sassh.co.uk/Accommodation)  
 Useful email: [accommodation@soton.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@soton.ac.uk)

### Make friends before you arrive

We arrange pre-departure briefings in many countries to give you an opportunity to meet new classmates as well as current students and alumni who can give you an authentic account of what it is like to study at Southampton.

See what our students think by visiting

Youtube: [www.youtube.com/user/sotoncomms](http://www.youtube.com/user/sotoncomms)

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/UniSotonIntl>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UosInternationalOffice](http://www.facebook.com/UosInternationalOffice)

To find out when the next pre-departure event is taking place in your country please visit: [www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international/meet-in-your-country.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international/meet-in-your-country.page)

### What should I bring?

- The climate in the winter is around 2 degrees Celsius, so bring some warm clothes, although there are plenty of shops in Southampton.
- There are international food stores in the local area so there is no need to pack heavy foodstuff.
- Electrical appliances such as rice cookers, kettles, toasters, etc. can easily be bought in the UK. If you bring your own electrical appliances, make sure they bear European Conformity (CE) marking, and are fitted with a UK 3-square-pin plug to be used in our halls of residence.

### Meet and Greet

- A free Meet and Greet service is available for new international students. University staff and students will meet you at London Heathrow (Terminal 3) and Gatwick Airport (South Terminal) and take you directly to your University halls or campus.
- The service will run this year on 16 and 17 September between 10.00 – 22.00hrs offering four pick-ups a day from both London Heathrow and Gatwick airports.
- Information on how to register for Meet & Greet will be available from early July at [www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international/welcome.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international/welcome.page). The deadline to register is 01 September.
- There is a Meet & Greet service for pre-sessional students on 24 June and 22 July. Please register by 5pm (UK time) 17 June and 15 July by visiting [www.presesswelcome.southampton.ac.uk](http://www.presesswelcome.southampton.ac.uk). This webpage also provide students with essential information on accommodation, visa, ID card, IT account, tuition fee payment, etc.
- If you cannot make our Meet & Greet service, you can make your own way to the University. Please see here: [www.southampton.ac.uk/about/visit/getting-to-southampton.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/about/visit/getting-to-southampton.page)

Useful website available during July:

[www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international/welcome.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international/welcome.page)

Useful website "Are you ready?" available from August: [www.southampton.ac.uk/areyouready](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/areyouready)

Useful contact: [meetandgreet@soton.ac.uk](mailto:meetandgreet@soton.ac.uk)



Southampton has a vibrant international community

### Southampton Welcome

- Our Welcome events have been designed to help you settle in to university life and to introduce you to the City. They take place from Friday 18 September through to the following week (Fresher's week).
- Key activities include campus and city tours, a guide to banking in the UK, introduction to British culture, a range of English and academic skills support services, Faculty induction sessions, etc.
- Please visit the "Are you ready?" website from August for full programme details.

Useful website "Are you ready?": [www.southampton.ac.uk/areyouready](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/areyouready)

### What should I do when I arrive?

- If you have been issued with a 30-day vignette for travel, you will need to exchange it for a Biometric Residency Permit (BRP) within 10 days of arrival. Designated points of exchange will be updated on the "Are you ready?" website from August.
- After you have obtained your BRP, you must prepare for registration with the University. This will include a visa, passport and identity check. You will also be able to finalise your enrolment, register with the police (if applicable), and collect your ID card during registration. Details on the registration events will be emailed to you.

- If your BRP requires you to register with the police, you will need to do so within the required timeframe. Failing to do so could result in a fine and imprisonment. If you attend the Welcome programme, we will give you all the information when you arrive. Our Student Services Centre can also advise you on this process.
- If you are going to be late for your course, please email [international@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:international@southampton.ac.uk) as soon as possible, as there is a deadline for students to enrol on each course.

### Who to contact?

Hopefully you will have all the contact details you need either in your offer letter or listed above in this document. However, if you still need further help, please contact [international@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:international@southampton.ac.uk)

#### Useful external websites:

- National Express: [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com)
- National Rail: [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)
- Southampton tourist information: [www.visit-southampton.co.uk](http://www.visit-southampton.co.uk)
- Winchester tourist information: [www.winchester-tourist-information.com](http://www.winchester-tourist-information.com)
- Radio Taxis (local taxi company): +44 (0)23 8066 6666
- British Council: [www.educationuk.org](http://www.educationuk.org)