

NO MATTER
WHERE YOU
ARE FROM

**YOU
BELONG
HERE**

CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO



**GUIDE FOR NEWLY ADMITTED
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**



YOU'VE MADE A GREAT CHOICE

Small Class Size=
PERSONAL ATTENTION

24:1

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO



BEST COLLEGES

& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News

RANKINGS

Top-10 regional public
university in the West
—U.S. News & World Report,
1998—2021

U.S. News
& WORLD REPORT

Forbes **2023**

AMERICA'S TOP COLLEGES

BEST COLLEGES



Money

★ 2023 ★

★★★★★
4.5 OUT OF 5 STARS



ADVENTURE IS ALWAYS CLOSE



REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK



CHICO



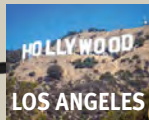
SAN FRANCISCO



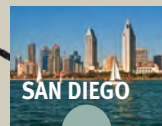
SACRAMENTO



LAKE TAHOE



HOLLYWOOD
LOS ANGELES



SAN DIEGO

Charming College Town

Our picturesque campus is conveniently located right next to downtown Chico—rated a “Top-10 Best College Town” by Matador Network in 2017. Most of our students enjoy Chico’s natural beauty, welcoming atmosphere, and live within walking or biking distance of the University.

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YOU'VE BEEN ADMITTED

WHAT'S NEXT...

Submit Your Intent-to-Enroll

By submitting your Intent to Enroll, you are officially accepting our offer of admission. Only those students who notify us of their intent to enroll will be registered into classes.

1. Visit the [International Admissions web page for admitted students](#).
2. Click on the "Submit your Intent to Enroll" button.
3. Follow the instructions in the online form.

Activate Your U.S. Immigration Record

All international students must pay a fee to the U.S. government for the activation and maintenance of their Student & Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) record. This must be done at least 72 hours before your visa interview. The fee can be paid at www.fmjfee.com.

- \$350 for F-1
- \$220 for J-1

U.S. Transfer Students

Your new I-20 will be issued after your current school transfers your SEVIS record to us. Transfer processing must be completed prior to the end of the second week of classes.

Getting Ready for Chico State To-Do List

Click [here](#) for important dates and steps to take to get ready to attend Chico State as an International student.

Apply for Your F-1 Student or J-1 Exchange Student Visa

Complete the online [nonimmigrant visa application](#) (DS-160). You can do this as early as 365 days before the program start date on your I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1). We advise that you begin the process at the earliest date allowed.

Tips for a Successful Visa Interview

Chico State offers virtual support sessions to help you prepare for your visa interview. You will receive an email invitation with more details about these sessions.

Be Prepared to Take These Items to the Embassy:

Your embassy or consulate will have instructions for what you need to bring to your visa interview. These are some of the documents they may ask for:

- Admission letter
- I-20 (F-1 students) or DS-2019 (J-1 exchange students)
- Valid passport (good for six months or longer)
- Proof of financial support while studying
- Transcripts from prior educational institutions
- Proof of English proficiency
- Receipt showing payment of I-901 SEVIS activation fee
- Embassy/consulate visa processing fee





Class Registration

After you submit your Intent to Enroll, you become eligible for class registration. The Office of International Education is here to

assist with registration of students into their first semester courses.

If students wish to change their class schedules, academic advisors will be available to assist during Orientation.

Course registration processes are different for each student type. [Click this link](#) and select your student type for more information on enrollment processes. You will also receive an email with detailed course selection instructions specific to you.



Tuition and Fees

All F1 visa type students pay registration fees each semester. Because the California State University is supported by taxes paid by California residents, non-resident students must pay additional per unit fees, called non-resident tuition. For details regarding fees and tuition, please visit this [webpage](#).

At this page, you will find information on:

- Fee structure
- Deadlines
- Payment Methods



Insurance and Immunizations

Health Insurance Plan

Your health and wellbeing is critical to your success as a student! All international students are required to participate in a campus-approved group insurance plan that is designed specifically to meet your needs and meet CSU, Chico and visa requirements. This policy will offer you and your family peace of mind when you need it the most.

You will find health insurance policy details [here](#).

**Students with [preapproved U.S. policies provided through employment](#) and through certain government scholarships are exempt from purchasing the Chico State mandated policy.

Immunizations and Tests

CSU, Chico requires that all students be current on a number of immunizations and to complete a risk assessment for Tuberculosis. Check our [Health & Safety page](#) for details.



ACHIEVING ACADEMIC SUCCESS



Student Support Services

CSU, Chico is committed to helping you achieve your academic and career goals. A few of the many [offices here to help](#) you are listed below and on the next page. These services are free to all students.

International Student/Scholar Advising

The friendly and helpful advisors in International Student Support Services (ISSS) welcome and support new and continuing international students. They can advise regarding the following subjects, and more:

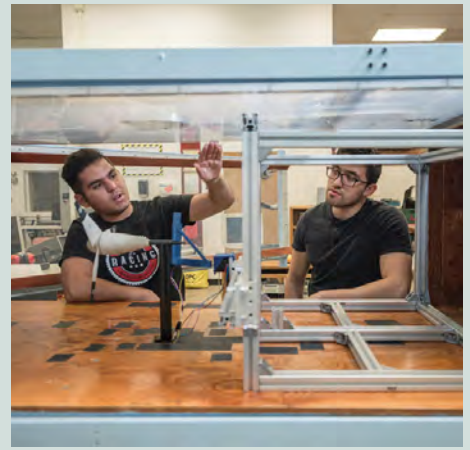
- Personal welfare or confidential issues
- Housing information
- Employment on or off campus
- Career planning & resume building
- Class registration & University procedures
- Language & cultural questions
- Making friends & getting involved on campus

Academic Support

The [English as a Second Language \(ESL\) Resource Center](#) provides free tutoring for international students in grammar, reading, pronunciation, homework assistance, classroom presentations, writing research papers, and vocabulary development. **We are the only California State University that offers this special assistance to international students!**

[The Student Learning Center \(SLC\)](#) is a free tutoring center offering support in a variety of general education and major subjects. It also conducts workshops on time management, study skills, and test taking. Additionally, the SLC provides free, one-on-one writing tutoring at the [Writing Center](#), which many international students use, in addition to ESL Support Services.

Each college within the University has its own team of [Major Advisors and College Success Centers](#) to provide personalized guidance and assistance with class schedule planning, information on major options, professional development opportunities, and progress toward degree completion.





Health & Wellness

The following facilities and services are available to all International Wildcats:

-The [WellCat Health Center](#) provides nonemergency medical services to students, including treatment for cold, flu, or other minor illnesses. Medicine is available for discounted prices.

-The [WellCat Counseling Center](#) provides individual and group counseling services. Some of the many issues they help students explore are stress, loneliness, anger, homesickness, sadness,

relationships, and anxiety. All services are, by law, completely confidential.

-[The Well](#) at Bell Memorial Union provides opportunities for self-care including nap pods, massage chairs, designated quiet spaces, meditation and yoga classes, and spaces for prayer and reflection.

-[The Wildcat Recreation Center \(WREC\)](#) is an on-campus, state-of-the-art exercise facility which offers personal training, group exercise classes, a climbing gym, a pool, recreational sports, and safety courses.

Comprehensive Employment Resources

[The Career Center](#) assists students with career planning and development and provides support during the job search process. They offer one-on-one career advising, provide workshops, and host several career fairs each semester. There are also in-person and virtual workshops for Optional Practical Training (OPT) opportunities offered throughout the school year.



WE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU



Campus Life

CSU, Chico is a residential campus, with most of its students living within 2.5 km of campus. This creates a unique and dynamic atmosphere with the campus at the center of social and cultural activities for students and community members alike.

Visit [this page](#) to take a Virtual 360 degree tour of our beautiful campus.

You have the option to live on or off campus. Visit our housing page for [comprehensive housing information](#).

Chico enjoys an array of arts and entertainment offerings and opportunities to get involved by joining campus clubs and organizations (we've got over 200!). Below is information about some of the many ways you can keep connected and engaged while on campus.

[-Volunteer in the Community](#)

[-Join Student Clubs](#)

[-Enjoy Live Performance](#)

[-Stay Physically Fit & Active](#)

[-Learn About Other Cultures](#)

[-Explore the Outdoors - throughout California!](#)





"Chico has an amazing and welcoming community which made my transition to U.S. education and culture very easy and exciting. The city has everything and more to offer, along with the beautiful campus, parks and people. The major perk that Chico State offered is how affordable it is and near to Silicon Valley. I still, and will continue to, visit the campus and wish I could relive my college days."

—Nomaan Faiyaz Shaikh,
Chico State Alumnus
Employed at: Google
Chico State Major: M.S.
Computer Science



"I love Chico State because it helps me grow. There are hundreds of opportunities for students to learn different things. People here are welcoming and friendly. That helps international students with adapting to studying abroad more easily."

-Akylai Murzakulova,
Biochemistry major from
Kyrgystan

City of Chico

Chico is a charming and friendly community where you can feel safe and at home. The campus is located right next to downtown, and is within a few minutes' walk to restaurants, shops, and entertainment.

Chico's temperate climate makes it easy to enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds the city.

Chico's Bidwell Park, one of the largest city-owned parks in the United States, offers picnic sites, swimming, sports grounds, and hiking trails.

Getting around Chico is easy. Many students walk or bike through downtown and the surrounding areas. Students can also ride the city bus for free!



Orientation is Required

The International Wildcat Orientation is a CSU, Chico and immigration requirement. At Orientation, you will learn the essentials for academic success. You will also have the opportunity to connect with other new and continuing students, meet your support team, and get familiar with your new home.

Orientation is offered in two components:

1. Pre-Arrival (virtual):
Getting Ready for Chico State Seminar
2. In-Person:
Welcome to Chico State

Topics covered during orientation include:

- Academic advising
- Health and safety
- Immigration compliance
- U.S. educational systems & academic expectations
- Cultural adjustment
- Campus and downtown tours

Visit the Getting Ready for Chico State page on the ISSS website for orientation dates and a complete the list of items to prepare for your arrival.



@CSUCInternational
@CaliforniaStateUniversityChico



@chicostateinternational
@chicostate

WEBSITE: www.csuchico.edu/iss

EMAIL: iss@csuchico.edu

PHONE: +1 530 898 5415

Getting Ready for Chico State

Predeparture Guidance and Checklist

The [Getting Ready for Chico State](#) page is your one-stop-shop for:

Important Dates

U.S. Visa Application Process

Travel arrangements

Course enrollment

Housing options

Fee payments

...and so much more!