

The International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) staff and the rest of Minnesota State University, Mankato, would like to thank you for selecting our university for your studies. We welcome you as you pursue your academic career with us.

Please read this email and print a copy to take with you.

Your transition to the United States may be difficult at first. This difficulty can be controlled by proper planning and understanding of the procedures used when you arrive.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

- Please plan to arrive at Mankato between **August 10-17, 2009**. This will allow you to have time to settle in and rest before the mandatory orientation sessions begin on August 18, 2009.
- When making your flight reservation, you will be flying in to the **Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport** (airport code is **MSP**).

TRANSPORTATION FROM THE MSP AIRPORT—Mankato is 80 miles (around 128 kilometers)

YOU are responsible for your own transportation. We recommend you take a shuttle (Land-to-Air transport shuttle) instead of a taxi cab (as a taxi is very expensive to take that long of a distance). When you arrive in Twin Cities (Minneapolis-St. Paul), you will need to secure transportation to Mankato. The shuttle service is located in the main terminal.

- **Land to Air** (shuttle service) runs between the MSP Airport and Mankato (their office is located in the MSP Airport). Current times, costs, etc. are on their website, www.landtoairexpress.com. Only CASH is accepted; therefore, plan to bring cash (currently \$30 for fare for one-person, one-way trip to Mankato). Remember to tell the shuttle driver that you are a MSU International student. You will receive a 10% discount and you will be dropped off at the Horse Shoe Parking Lot (This is in between the Centennial Student Union and the Library at MSU). If not, call the International Center's mobile phone at **507-351-7853 before 11:30 p.m.** If it is after 11:30pm and you need a ride from the shuttle stop to a hotel the Mankato Taxi Phone is 507-388-7433

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING (RESIDENTIAL LIFE)

- If you have reserved space in the dormitories but have **NOT** been assigned a room, you can get a temporary room between August 10-17th, but you will need to go to the Residential Life Office during their regular working hours or utilize the Int'l representative to be able to check into your room. There are a limited number of temporary rooms available and if you have other accommodations available, please leave the temporary rooms for those who really need them. (see room procedures grid on Page 2)
- If you arrive after 11:30 pm you must seek alternative housing (motel or hotel) until you are able to check into your room. The closest hotel to MSU is AMERICINN 507- 345-8011 and ask for the New Int'l student discount (website: www.americinnmankato.net). The discounted rate is \$60 per night.

IMPORTANT: Only students who will be living on campus during the Fall semester may check into a temporary residence hall room.

ARRIVAL DATES

DORMITORIES—The earliest date for arrival is July 27th, 2009 if no prior notice is given. The accommodations fees vary (see cost section). No food service is available until Thursday, August 20, but students can use kitchens in their dorms to prepare meals.

ARRIVAL TIMES

We strongly recommend that you try to make arrangements to arrive in Mankato during OPEN hours of the Residential Life Office.

Residential Life Office – located at Carkoski Commons (CC111)

Office Hours: **OPEN:** Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (until August 14th 7:30am -4:00pm)
CLOSED: Saturdays, Sundays

If the following pertains to YOU...	What YOU need to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have reserved your room AND made your pre-payment. <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive during Residential Life Office Hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). 	<p>Check in at the Residential Life Office located in Carkoski Commons (CC111) to pick up room information and keys.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have NOT made a room reservation. <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive during Residential Life Office Hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). 	<p>You may be able to sign up for a room depending on availability, but there may be a wait time for processing before you get your room keys. We recommend making a reservation immediately.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have reserved your room AND made your pre-payment AND have a room assignment (you know your room number) <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive between... 4:00 p.m.-11:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, OR 8:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday 	<p>An ISSS representative will help you check into a room because the Residential Life Office is closed. Call 507-351-7853.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive after 11:30 p.m. <p>OR/AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have reserved your room AND made your pre-payment BUT do NOT have a room assignment (you don't know your room number) 	<p>You will need to take a taxi and stay in a hotel (at your expense) until you can check into your room. Please plan for this inconvenience in case your flight or trip plans are unexpectedly altered.</p>
<p>NOTE: If you arrive ON or AFTER August 17 you must arrive between 8 am and 4 pm to enter a dorm room. No temporary rooms will be available and you will need to go to a hotel.</p>	
<p>For someone to meet you at Land To Air (in Mankato ONLY – NOT from the airport) between 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m., call the IC mobile phone: 507-351-7853</p>	

Cost of Staying in the Dormitories (Dorms):

Between August 10-16, 2009 - \$11 per day
 Anytime from July 27th, 2009 – a flat fee of \$284 which covers you until Aug. 20.

*Regular price starts on August 17, 2009
 Meal Plans and Dining Facility start the evening of August 20, 2009.*

Housing Questions

On-Campus Housing Information (Residential Life):

Website: www.mnsu.edu/reslife Email: reslife@mnsu.edu

Off-Campus Housing Information (Student Leadership Development and Service Learning Department)

Website: www.mnsu.edu/slds/

*Thank you again for choosing our university for your academic needs. **We look forward to your arrival.***