APU GSO FAQ's

Who is GSO for?

GSO is for all incoming international students of APU planning to study in undergraduate (UG), graduate (GR), American Language and Culture Institute (ALCI), Artist Certificate, Research Scholars programs. TCKs with U.S. passports are also encouraged to attend.

Is it mandatory?

Yes! All new international UG, GR and ALCI students are required to attend GSO. Grad students must attend GSO in addition to their program orientations.

TCKs (not on a F-1 Visa) are not required to attend, but it is recommended for those who have spent the majority of their life outside the United States.

Should I attend GSO if I'm an athlete or in a music ensemble that has training camp?

If you are an athlete or in a music ensemble that has mandatory music camp or practices, please email iss@apu.edu so that we can coordinate what sessions you need to attend.

I'm a Graduate Student and also have a program orientation. Should I attend GSO?

Yes!

When is GSO?

For Incoming International Graduate F1 students studying at Azusa campus who have already completed an UG or Master's degree at another U.S. institution _prior_ to APU: You are required to attend a 1-day GSO on **Wednesday, August 21, 2019 from 8:30am-4:30pm** (ALCI Level 5 students must attend).

For International Graduate Students studying at a Regional Center (LA or SAN DIEGO): You are required to attend GSO only on **Wednesday, August 21, 2019 from 8:30am-4:30pm.**

For all other F1 or J1 Students: GSO will take place on **August 21-22, 2019**. Attendance is mandatory for all days. Check-in begins on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 8:30am. Please be at APU by 8:15 am on the first day of GSO.

For UG TCKs with U.S. Passports: Attendance at GSO is not mandatory. You are welcome to attend GSO from **August 21-22, 2019**.

When should I register for GSO?

Only register for GSO once you have been officially admitted to APU by receiving an official admit letter from your admissions counselor.

If you are not sure, please email your enrollment counselor at **international@apu.edu** before registering for GSO.

How do I register for GSO?

Please go the following link to register. **Fall 2019 GSO Register Link**

It will take you 5 minutes to complete this form. GSO is Mandatory for all incoming Intl students. We expect your attendance whether you register or not. However, we do ask that you register by **August 2** so that we can be prepared to serve you.

When is the latest I should arrive at APU?

We recommend arriving no later than **Tuesday, August 20, 2019**. That way you can get settle in, find off-campus housing, and take university skill tests.

When is a good time to arrive at APU?

The week of August 15-August 20, 2019 would be an ideal time to arrive. If you have on-campus housing you can move in early. If you don't have off-campus housing you can fill out a motel-request form from your enrollment counselor.

When is the earliest I can move into my on-campus dorm or apartment?

If you are living on-campus, you can move in as early as **August 15, 2019.**

If you are living in apartment style on-campus housing please contact your roommates in advance to have them set-up utilities.

Will someone help me to find off-campus housing?

Yes, we will have volunteers available to help you once you arrive. It typically takes a week of active searching to locate suitable housing.

Do I have to attend GSO in addition to Welcome Weekend?

Yes! All UG students must attend GSO and Welcome Weekend. Welcome weekend starts on August 23, 2019. Welcome weeken is ONLY for UG students. Click **HERE** to register for Welcome Weekend.

Where will GSO be held?

GSO will be held at Upper Turner Campus Center and the Wynn Academic Building on APU's East Campus. http://www.apu.edu/map/?id=125&mrkIid=48388

Where should I park?

Please park at **LOT A** on the Azusa Pacific Campus. Parking is free, but you will need to stop at the entrance to get a visitor pass. Please see campus map below:

http://www.apu.edu/maps/online/?id=24:0

What should I bring?

1. Immigration Documents
   a. (Passport, Visa, I-94, and SEVIS I-20 or DS2019)
   b. If you have dependents, please bring their immigration documents
2. If you are a transfer student with a "transfer pending I-20" from APU you will also have to bring your previous US school's I-20.
   a. Transfer Form completed by previous school(For transfer students)
3. APU Health Center Immunization Record Form
   a. Immunization Records (if you have them)
   b. Bring any chest x-rays for TB clearance (if you TB shows positive)
4. Cash/credit cards to make payments and set-up bank account.
5. Unlocked Cell-phone
6. Laptop or other devices that you will need to get connected to APU Wireless network.

Do I need to get Immunization Shots at GSO?

Yes, you will either need to provide proof that you have met APU's requirements or will need to get your shots scheduled during GSO or in the first weeks at APU.

All APU students are required to show proof of 3 immunizations: MMR 1, MMR 2 and TB (done within last 6 months)

A doctor must complete the APU Health Center immunization record form to sign off that you meet the requirements.

If you don't have records, you can either get the shots done outside APU or at APU.

Will there be testing at GSO?

ALCI English Placement testing takes place on Friday, August 23, 2018.

UG students will need to take University skill assessments testing in Math and English on Friday, August 23, 2019. Please speak with your enrollment counselor to determine what tests you need to take.

Does GSO cost anything?

No, it is FREE!

Are meals provided at GSO?

Yes, we provide a light continental breakfast and lunch all 2 days. We also provide free dinner and activities.

Are there any sessions for parents and family at GSO?

Yes, there are sessions for parents and family. Check the schedule.

Where can my parent's stay?

Click on this link http://www.apu.edu/orientation/lodging/

What if can't attend?

Please notify Vijay Jacob at vjacob@apu.edu if you can't attend.

I have unanswered questions about GSO? Email gso@apu.edu