

International Student Going Home Checklist

A checklist of things to do as you go home

Attend FIUTS and University of Washington farewell events!

- FIUTS offers several end-of-the-year events, including the Global Gala and the Spring Barbeque.
- If you are graduating, attend commencement and any departmental celebrations

Tie up loose ends on campus.

- Finalize any outstanding University invoices in MyUW (loans, library fines, etc.) so your official transcripts can be released.
- Return library books.
- Provide the University and FIUTS with a forwarding address where you can be reached in the future.
- Gather relevant information for your resume and obtain contact information for professors in case you need references later.
- Ask for letters of recommendation from any campus employment or volunteer positions

Take care of off-campus issues.

- Arrange to have your telephone and cell phone disconnected and pay any remaining fees in your account.
- Finalize all other outstanding utility accounts (rent, electricity, water, etc.).
- Let your landlord know that you are leaving, clean your apartment, return your house keys, and collect your security deposit
- Give away or sell any furniture or plants that you accumulated during your stay in the U.S.
- Sell your car (if applicable).
- Close your bank accounts.
- Complete any medical insurance claims.
- Give at least two-weeks notice in writing to any off-campus employer; collect contact information from any employer for future references.

Prepare your baggage.

- Check with your airline for regulations on the weight and size of suitcases and the cost of excess or extremely heavy luggage. Most airlines allow you to check two bags, and the bags typically have to weigh less than 50 lbs, or 23 kg, each. (Some airlines allow bags to weigh 70 lbs or 32 kg.)
- If sending belongings home, compare the cost of airfreight, sea freight, and mail, and the length of time taken by each method.

- Remember that sending packages by sea is always less expensive, but takes a long time; consider sending things home early to save on freight.
- When sending computers or other high tech equipment home, check with the freight company regarding the relevant regulations and complete the necessary customs and insurance forms. Consider purchasing shipping insurance for high value items.

Send home excess baggage.

There are many companies that you can use for shipping extra baggage home. Perform an Internet search or check out the following Web sites for more information:

<http://www.sevenseasworldwide.com>
<http://www.luggagefree.com/>
http://www.excess-baggage.com/baggage_shipping.php
<http://www.luggageforward.com/>

Make airport arrangements.

- Make arrangements to arrive at the airport at least two hours before the departure of your flight.
- Ensure you have sufficient U.S. currency for the following: travel to SeaTac airport, food at the airport (your flight might be delayed), and any excess baggage fees.
- Make sure you have your passport and travel documents with you and carry them in a secure but easily accessible spot.
- Carry a photocopy of your passport and any other documents in your carry-on luggage in case yours is misplaced or stolen.
- Let people know when you are arriving in your home country, and — if possible — arrange to have someone pick you up at the airport. Send your flight information in advance to people who will meet you so that they can check on the flight before they arrive at the airport.

Good Luck! And stop by the FIUTS office to say goodbye!