



**READ BEFORE YOU LEAVE!**

## HERE ARE SOME VERY IMPORTANT REMINDERS BEFORE YOU TRAVEL.

- Make sure to take your passport, I-20, acceptance letter, and financial documents to your VISA appointment and carry them with you on the plane. The U.S. Customs and Border Patrol will ask you for these documents upon arrival. **DO NOT PACK** them in your suitcase.
- F-1 students are permitted to arrive in the U.S. no earlier than 30 days before the program start date listed on your I-20.
- Keep your PDSO's (Hala Alkasm) emergency phone number handy at the port of entry: 1.203.292.0618.
- Check that the CBP officer properly stamped your passport as "F-1 D/S" with date of arrival." If there are mistakes on your I-94, have the officer fix it right then.
- You must check-in with your PDSO upon arrival and attend the mandatory International Student Services Office (ISSO) orientation.

Principal Designated School Official  
(PDSO) **Hala Alkasm**

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[cooper.edu/admissions/international](https://cooper.edu/admissions/international)