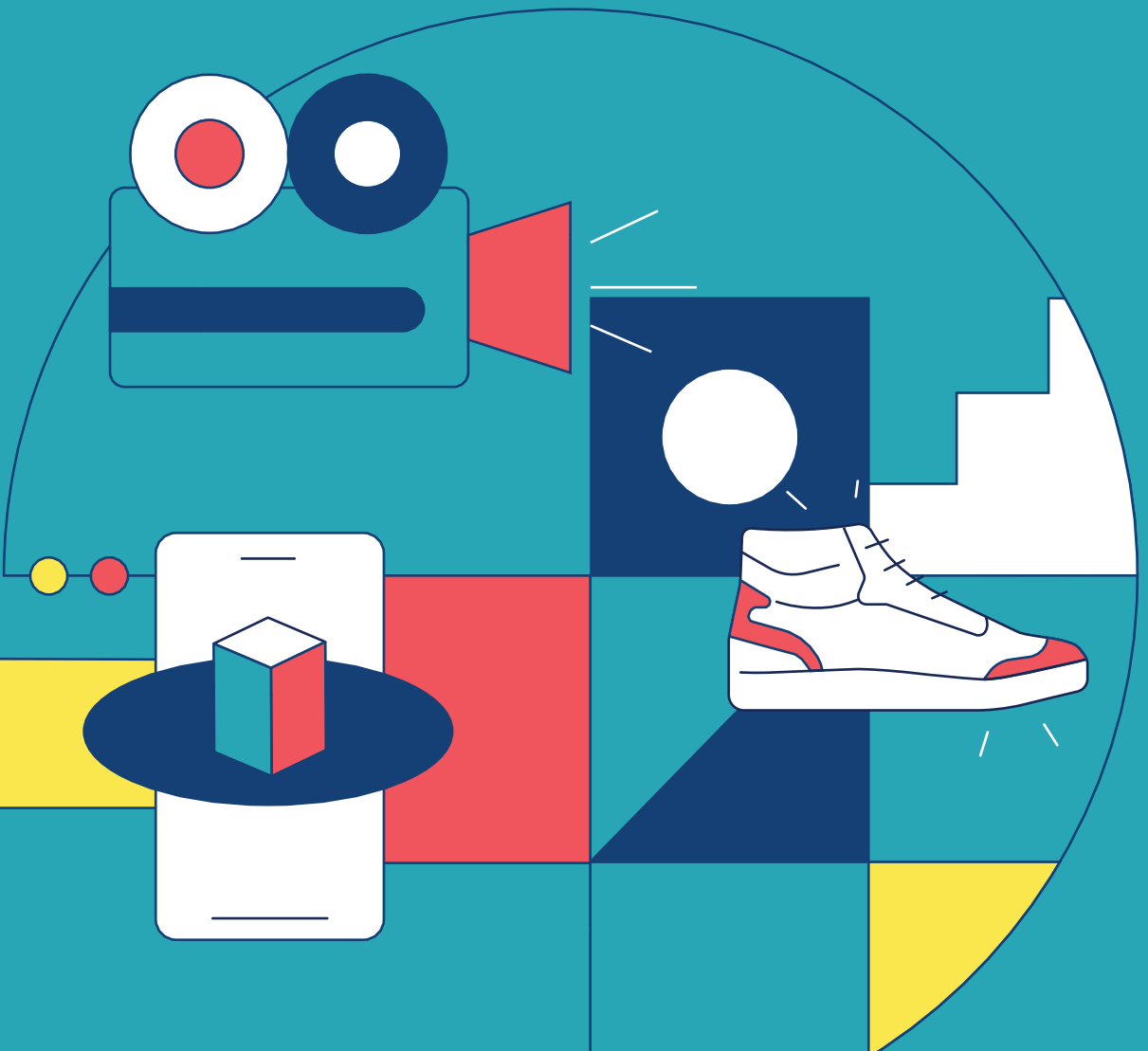


WELCOME TO SCAD



Greetings from ISSO

We are pleased that you have joined us.

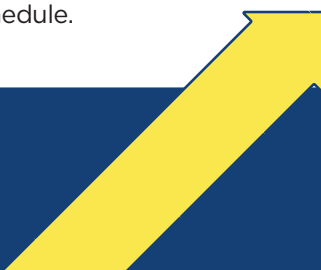
An assigned international student adviser will support you through your entire SCAD experience. Visit MySCAD > Resources tab > Department Directory channel > “International Student Services” link to make an appointment with your dedicated ISSO adviser and to learn more about being a new student in the U.S.

The details in this guide will help you understand important parts of student life and navigate many local resources.

Quick Orientation Checklist

- Complete the online orientation for all students at scad.edu/orientation.
- Check in with residence life and housing.
- Complete the Blackboard Learning course “Maintaining your F-1 visa status.”
- Check in with ISSO and attend the ISSO welcome session.
- Pick up your SCAD Card.

Scan to view more detailed orientation information, including the schedule.



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WHAT WE DO

The International Student Services Office (ISSO) exists to help international students develop and maintain a positive educational and co-curricular experience at SCAD while pursuing their educational and career goals.

We help you adapt to life in America and seek employment authorization in the U.S. We are here to support you with the following topics:

- Immigration responsibilities
- Enrollment requirements
- Important F-1-related documents
- Mandatory reporting
- U.S. health care and insurance
- Transportation
- Student clubs
- Working in the U.S.
- Support services
- Life in the U.S.

BASIC F-1 REQUIREMENTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Documents for F-1: Passport and visa, I-94, and I-20

- **Passport:** Identification document showing your nationality. A government-issued passport permits students to leave and re-enter their own country and normally contains an expiration date. Your passport must be always valid at least six months into the future, especially upon initial entry or re-entry to the U.S.
- **F-1 visa page:** F-1 students are required to present a valid F-1 visa upon entry into the U.S. The visa is stamped into the passport by the U.S consulate or embassy.



The visa does not determine the length of time F-1 students can remain in the U.S. nor does it need to remain valid while students are within the U.S. However, students who plan to leave and re-enter the U.S. must have a valid visa at the time of re-entry.

- **I-94 number:** Your I-94 is the electronic record of your arrival in the U.S. It shows the status in which you entered the country and how long you are legally permitted to remain.
- **Form I-20:** The I-20, also referred to as the “Certificate of Eligibility,” is the immigration document issued to an individual who has been admitted to Savannah College of Art and Design to pursue a full-time academic program and requires a student visa to enter the U.S. to study.
- **I-20 travel signature:** On the second page of your I-20, you will find a space for ISSO to sign your document for travel. This travel endorsement allows you to travel in and outside the U.S. on the F-1 visa status. You must have an updated signature every year from the date the last signature was issued.

New students do not need a signature on their I-20 for their initial entry into the U.S.

U.S. address and phone number reporting

All international students are required by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to submit a current local address within 10 days of an address change or arrival in the U.S. You must update your addresses in MySCAD in order to fulfill this requirement.

How to report your U.S. address:

1. Go to MySCAD > My Info tab > My Personal Info channel.
2. Select the "Update Addresses and Phones" link.
3. Click "Current Mailing" under the "Addresses and Phones - Mailing" section.

How to write your U.S. address:

U.S. Address Format

Example Address

Name (first name, last name)
Jane Smith

Street Address 1
(this is the building number and street name)
548 East Broughton Street

Street Address 2
(this is your apartment number)
Apartment 105

City, State, and Postal Zip Code
Savannah, GA 31401



how to report your U.S. phone number

1. Go to MySCAD > My Info tab > My Personal Info channel.
2. Select "Update Address and Phones" link.
3. Click "Primary Phone" under the "Addresses and Phones - Mailing" section.

LOG IN TO SCAD

How to log in to SCAD Wi-Fi and computer

Log in to the MySCAD portal

1. Go to **my.scad.edu**.
2. Type in your username. This is either your SCAD ID number or the first part of your SCAD email address.
3. Type in your SCAD password. The first time that you log in, your password will be your birthday in the MMDDYY format.
4. Click "Enter" to gain access.

Reset your SCAD password

There are two ways to reset your SCAD password.

Option 1: Change it while you are logged in to MySCAD

1. Log in to my.scad.edu.
2. Click on the My Info tab.
3. Under My Personal Info channel, click "Change SCAD Password" link.
4. Follow the on-screen instructions.

Option 2: Change it when you are not able to log in to MySCAD

1. Go to my.scad.edu.
2. Beneath the login box, click "Forgot password?"
3. Follow the on-screen instructions to obtain a token to reset your password.

Your login credentials (your username and password) are what you will use to log on to SCAD Wi-Fi.

Log in to a university computer

1. Locate a SCAD Mac computer or PC.
2. Type in your username.
3. Type in your SCAD password.
4. Press "Enter" and you will be logged in.

Call the Technology Support Center at **912.525.4567**, 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, to request assistance if the above does not work. You will be asked to answer some security-related questions specific to your identity.

SCAD Card



SCAD Card is both an identification card and a way to access secure SCAD buildings (including residence halls), attend SCAD-sponsored events, pay for meals, check out books from the library, and more.

For more information, students may email scadcard@scad.edu or call the SCAD Card Center at Sand at Victory Village at **912.525.6153** or the Turner House office at **912.525.8406** in Savannah. Students in Atlanta may email atlexpress@scad.edu or call **404.253.3426**.

LIFE IN THE U.S.

Transportation

You have many ways to get around SCAD.



Track SCAD buses with the TransLoc app

The Bee Line bus service provides transportation to and from class and continues to run after class hours to provide late-night transportation. These services are free of charge to students and operate between open university buildings. For quarterly bus routes, visit MySCAD > Resources tab > Department Directory channel > Search "ISSO." On the department's page, click "Life at SCAD" on the left sidebar. Then select the "SCAD Transportation" link.



SafeRide

SCAD SafeRide offers late-night drop-offs for SCAD students from an open SCAD building to their off-campus residence within the midtown and downtown areas of Atlanta and Savannah during the following times:

Monday–Sunday | 8 p.m. to midnight

During normal bus service hours, SCAD SafeRide offers only off-campus drop-offs.

Monday–Friday | Midnight to 7 a.m.

To arrange a SafeRide, call **912.525.4500**.

Biking

SCAD Savannah students are encouraged to use personal bicycles as transportation in Savannah and may register them with SCAD Department of University Safety, 350 Bull St. Savannah cyclists should remember that riding through downtown squares and on sidewalks of Broughton St. is illegal and carries a fine of more than \$100.

At SCAD Atlanta, bicycles and motorcycles are to be parked in the parking deck only. Bicycles must be secured to the bicycle racks located near the second-floor parking deck entrance to the security station. Motorcycles must park in vehicle parking spaces within the deck. For more information, call the Department of University Safety in Atlanta at **404.253.3333**.



Uber and Lyft

Uber is one of the most popular ride-sharing apps in the U.S., and it is available 24/7. The Uber app allows users to select a destination and request a ride. Uber also allows you to schedule a ride in advance and offers carpooling options.

Lyft is another popular ridesharing app in the U.S. Lyft allows riders to save money by splitting costs with other riders. Lyft also offers a subscription service as well.



DOT fare-free visitor transportation in downtown Savannah

DOT is Savannah's free downtown transportation system. With two convenient services, DOT provides fare-free transportation around Savannah's beautiful historic district. You can visit connectonthedot.com to check the schedule.



Public transportation

In Savannah, Chatham Area Transit (also known as CAT) is the local public transportation system that operates fixed routes in the historic Savannah area and Chatham County. You can visit catchacat.org to check the schedule.

In Atlanta, MARTA maintains a network of bus routes to a rapid transit system and operates almost exclusively in Fulton and DeKalb counties, with a bus stop in Cobb County (Cumberland Transfer Center) and a rail station in Clayton County at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International airport. MARTA also operates a separate paratransit service for disabled customers. Visit itsmarta.com for more information.

Driving around town

In Savannah, all university buildings are within driving distance. While traffic laws in Savannah are generally the same as all Georgia traffic laws, Savannah drivers should be aware of pedicabs, horse-drawn carriages, pedestrians, and shuttles.

In Atlanta, plan ahead for rush hours and congested traffic in the mornings and evenings. Many local news stations and media outlets provide up-to-date traffic reports, such as ajc.com/traffic and wsbtv.com/traffic.

Students who are interested in purchasing a car and driving in the U.S. should check with the local Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) to see if they can use their current valid driver's license or apply for a Georgia license.

Driver's license and state ID

Students who came to the U.S. with an "Initial" I-20 should wait to apply for a Georgia driver's license after week four of the quarter.

To learn how to apply for a driver's license, visit MySCAD > Resources tab > Department Directory channel > Search "ISSO." On the department's page, click "Life in the United States" on the left sidebar, then "Transportation and Driving in the U.S."

To learn how to apply for a Georgia state ID, visit MySCAD > Resources tab > Department Directory channel > Search "ISSO." On the department's page, click "Life in the United States" on the left sidebar, then "SSN and GA ID."

Banks and cellphone services

Banks in Savannah

Students have the option to open a U.S. account with any bank or several banks. It's convenient for daily expenses and even to pay your tuition when you have a U.S. bank account.

The closest popular banks located in downtown Savannah are:

BANK OF AMERICA

22 Bull St. | 912.651.8250 | bankofamerica.com

CHASE BANK

201 W. Broughton St., Suite 100
912.328.2080 | chase.com

WELLS FARGO BANK

136 Bull St. | 912.651.0555 | wellsfargo.com

TRUIST

33 Bull St. | 912.944.1003 | truiist.com

What documents do I need to bring to open a bank account?

Students need to provide a valid passport, a valid F-1 visa, the I-20 form, and mailing address proof (depending on the bank) when they open a U.S. bank account. Students living in SCAD housing can ask the residence life office for proof of address.



Banks in Atlanta

WELLS FARGO

171 17th St. NW Ste 100 | 404.214.6120
wellsfargo.com

TRUIST

271 17th St NW, Ste #175 | 404.897.7680
truist.com

CHASE

361 17th St. NW Ste 1 | 470.633.3810
chase.com

BANK OF AMERICA

1088 Peachtree St. NE | 678.686.9080
bankofamerica.com

Cellphone providers in Savannah

There are many cellphone providers in the U.S., and students can purchase cellphone SIM cards at most stores such as Target, Walmart, Publix, and Kroger, or at electronics retailers such as BestBuy.

Students can also visit the cellphone providers' store to shop for cellphone plans and start services. The closest stores located in downtown Savannah are:

T-MOBILE

312 W. Broughton St. | 470.305.5116
t-mobile.com

AT&T

1935 E. Victory Dr. | 912.527.4949 | att.com

CRICKET WIRELESS

1909 E. Victory Dr. | 912.355.0202
cricketwireless.com

Cellphone providers in Atlanta

T-MOBILE

1975 Howell Mill Rd. | 678.608.0492
t-mobile.com

AT&T

1380 Atlantic Drive | 404.249.9052 | att.com

VERIZON WIRELESS

1801 Howell Mill Rd. NW. Ste 700 |
800.880.1077 | verizon.com

What documents do I need to bring to open a cellphone account?

Students need to provide a valid passport, a valid F-1 visa, and form I-20 when they open a U.S. cellphone account.

Safety



Campus and personal safety

The Department of University Safety exists to ensure the safest learning environment possible through a layered and comprehensive approach to security, backed by experienced leadership. SCAD works closely with local police, fire, and emergency personnel, as well as state and federal agencies, to ensure that students have a safe and open college experience.

General safety actions:

- In an emergency, assess the situation, move to a safe location, and dial 911 (in the U.S.).
- Contact university safety and security at 912.525.4500 (Savannah) or 404.253.3333 (Atlanta) and follow instructions. Remain calm and encourage others to do the same.

- Follow directions from emergency personnel and public safety officials.
- If a university-wide or building-specific lockdown is issued by safety officials, occupants of any building within the impacted area should also lock all doors and windows and remain in the building, office, or classroom until the all-clear has been given.

LiveSafe is a free smartphone app that turns every student's phone into a personal safety device. By using a smartphone's GPS system, students can report suspicious activity in real time by snapping photos, recording video, or submitting anonymous safety concerns.

Bike safety

SCAD students are encouraged to use personal bicycles as transportation and may register them with SCAD Department of University Safety. Bicycles are governed by the same traffic regulations as motorized vehicles, and riding on sidewalks or through squares and parks is prohibited.



safety tips for bike riding

- Wear a helmet
- Obey all traffic signs
- Ride with the flow of traffic, not on sidewalks
- Purchase a U-bolt lock
- Signal your directions
- Proceed cautiously through intersections
- Never assume that drivers see you
- Yield to pedestrians
- Pay attention. No texting while biking!

International student health insurance - Anthem Student Advantage Plan



Health care in the U.S. can be extremely expensive. To protect you from the potential financial impacts, SCAD requires all international students to maintain adequate health insurance coverage for the entire academic year. F-1 visa students at SCAD are automatically enrolled in the Student Advantage Health Insurance Plan provided by Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company.

- You should have access to your health insurance card before you visit a doctor's office or in case of medical emergency in the U.S. You can download your insurance card from [anthem.com](https://www.anthem.com) or via the **Sydney Health app** (available in the App Store® or Google Play™).
- The Anthem student advantage plan covers injury and illness according to the coverage rate.
- Dental and vision plans are not included in the Anthem Student Advantage Plan. If you wish to add any of them, contact and work with your health insurance liaison, Palmer & Cay, regarding how to add a dental and/or vision plan.
- Your health insurance liaison, Palmer & Cay, has the tools and educational resources you need to make the most of your insurance, such as how to download your insurance card, how to find local providers, how to deal with medical bills, questions about coverage, and more.

For more information, visit MySCAD > Resources tab > Department Directory channel > Search "ISSO." Then click "Life in the United States" and "International Student Health Insurance."

Atlanta health care providers

PIEDMONT HOSPITAL

1968 Peachtree Rd. NW
404.605.5000 | piedmont.org

EMORY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL MIDTOWN

550 Peachtree St. NE
404.686.4411 | emoryhealthcare.org

WELLSTAR ATLANTA MEDICAL CENTER

303 Parkway Dr. NE
404.265.4000 | wellstar.org

PIEDMONT URGENT CARE - BUCKHEAD SOUTH

2292 Peachtree Rd.
404.996.0120 | wellstreet.com

NORTHSIDE URGENT CARE

1110 W. Peachtree St. NW, Suite 200
404.575.2000 | northside.com

CVS PHARMACY (INSIDE TARGET)

375 18th St. NW
678.954.4266 | cvs.com

Savannah health care providers

MEMORIAL HEALTH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

4700 Waters Ave.
912.350.8000 | memorialhealth.com

CONCENTRA URGENT CARE

109 Minus Ave., Suite C-10
912.966.5445 | www.concentra.com

EXPERCARE URGENT CARE

318 Mall Blvd., Suite 300B
912.358.1515 | experecarehealth.com

CANDLER HOSPITAL

5353 Reynolds St.
912.819.6000 | sjchs.org

MINUTECLINIC DIAGNOSTIC OF GEORGIA

5401 Abercorn St.
866.389.2727 | cvs.com/minuteclinic

CVS PHARMACY (for over-the-counter and/or prescription needs)

119 Bull St. | 912.232.1129 | cvs.com

Culture shock

“Culture shock” is a phrase that is used to describe the difficulty that people have adjusting to life in a new culture. This stage usually ends and can lead to feelings of frustration, anger, loneliness, or homesickness. Certain things about the new culture will strike you as offensive, strange, and unacceptable.

Remember that you are not alone with these kinds of feelings and that many other international students at SCAD will understand what you are going through.

Use these tips for a smooth adjustment:

- Recognize it
- Think positively
- Keep a sense of humor
- Keep an open mind
- Write in a journal
- Set realistic goals
- Get involved
- Ask for help

Counseling and student support services

SCAD counselors are available to assist students with short-term individual counseling, organize support groups, make community referrals, plan educational workshops, and provide self-help resources.

The SCAD office of counseling and student support services believes that reaching out for help is a positive demonstration of strength and the first courageous step toward healing. Call **912.525.6971** (Savannah) or **404.253.3210** (Atlanta) or stop by to visit, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday–Friday.

You can also send an email to **counseling@scad.edu** (Savannah) or **atlcounseling@scad.edu** (Atlanta).

For 24/7 mental health crisis support, call the SCAD hotline at **877.959.3620** (Savannah) or **404.253.3210** (Atlanta).

GETTING INVOLVED

Event calendar

SCAD offers many fantastic discussions, activities, and events. Follow SCAD events on the website and find new ways to get involved at scad.edu/calendar/events.

Student clubs

SCAD student clubs provide social, recreational, and professional activities for every member of the student body. Explore an interest, meet new people, or take on a leadership role. Categories include:

- Academic
- Community service
- Cultural
- Religious
- Special interest
- Student leadership

To see all the student clubs at SCAD, visit scad.edu/life/student-involvement/student-clubs.

International Student Services Newsletter

Remember to check the biweekly ISSO newsletter to find important information for SCAD international students.

SCAD BUILDING MAP

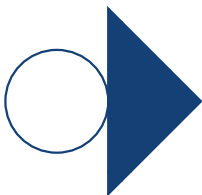
For an up-to-date map of your SCAD location, download the SCAD app from the App Store or Google Play Store. You can locate the map by clicking the “More” icon, and then click “Maps.”

For more information the SCAD app, visit scad.edu/mobile.

QUICK CONTACTS LIST

As an international student at SCAD, you have a lot of responsibilities, but we provide a comprehensive set of resources to manage them.

Refer to this book or visit the ISSO department website under MySCAD when you have questions. Feel free to also talk to your ISSO adviser. Every faculty and staff member at SCAD can help you succeed.



Make new friends.
Explore and try new things.
Enjoy and succeed at SCAD.



Savannah quick contacts

ISSO Savannah

912.525.7304 | isso@scad.edu
Norris Hall | 548 E. Broughton St. | Savannah, Ga.

University Safety and Security Savannah

912.525.4500 | security@scad.edu

Student Accounts Savannah

Billing | 912.525.5820
Payments | 912.525.6104

SCAD Student Health Insurance Provider

Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health
Insurance Company
844.412.0752 | studentsatanthem.com

SCAD Health Insurance Liaison

Palmer & Cay
424.421.1611 | studenthealthins@palmerandcay.com

Counseling and Student Support Services Savannah

912.525.6971 | counseling@scad.edu
Deloitte Foundry | 516 Drayton St. | Savannah, Ga.
Turner House | 302 W. Boundary St. | Savannah, Ga.
Victory Village | 1 W. Victory Drive | Savannah, Ga.

Atlanta quick contacts

ISSO Atlanta

Student Success Center (first floor)
404.253.3104 | issoatl@scad.edu
1600 Peachtree St. NW | Atlanta, Ga.

University Safety and Security Atlanta

404.253.3333 | security@scad.edu

Student Accounts

Billing | 404.253.5400
Payments | 404.253.3400

SCAD Student Health Insurance Provider

Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company
844.412.0752 | studentsatanthem.com

SCAD Health Insurance Liaison

Palmer & Cay
424.421.1611 | studenthealthins@palmerandcay.com

Counseling and Student Support Services Atlanta

404.253.3210 | atlcounseling@scad.edu
SCAD Atlanta
1600 Peachtree St. NW | Atlanta, Ga.

scad.edu

