

# Harper College

**International Student  
Pre-Departure Orientation**

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# Welcome!

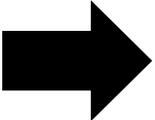
**Harper College is pleased to welcome students from around the world!**

**Here at Harper we are excited to welcome you and support you on your educational journey in the United States.**

**We offer many programs and resources to help make your time here a success. We hope that Harper College serves as an educational platform for your continued personal, professional, and educational growth.**



# What is Harper College?



Community  
College

- Associate degrees (first two years of college)
- Certificates
- ESL Intensive English Program

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University

- Certificates
- 2-year Associate degrees
- 4-year Bachelor's degrees
- Master's degrees
- Doctorate degrees

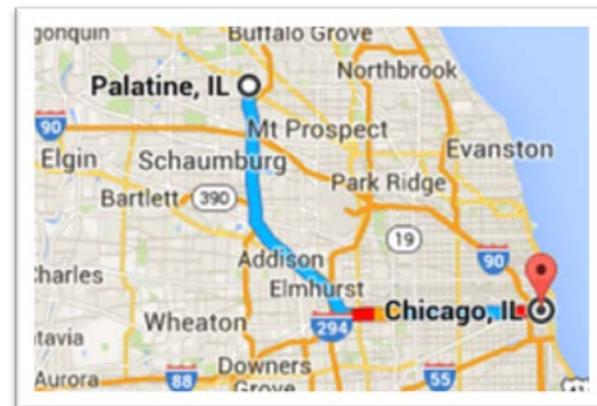
# About Harper College

**College President:** Dr. Avis Proctor



**State:** Illinois

**City:** Palatine (Northwest suburb of Chicago)



# Harper Highlights



- Accredited two-year college, Higher Learning Commission
- Beautiful 200 acre campus located 30 miles outside of downtown Chicago
- Over 230 full-time faculty (professors) who care about teaching
- Associate/transfer degrees and applied science career degrees

# Things to do - Near Palatine

- **Game Works** <http://www.gameworks.com/>



- **Woodfield Mall** <http://www.simon.com/mall/woodfield-mall>

- **Six Flags Great America Amusement Park**  
<https://www.sixflags.com/greatamerica>



# Things to do - Restaurants

- Mitsuwa Marketplace <http://www.mitsuwa.com/>
- Level 257 <http://www.level257.com/>

**Chicago won 'Restaurant City of the Year' 2017**  
You can find almost any type of restaurant you would like in the Chicago area!

# Things to do - Chicago

- **Chicago**

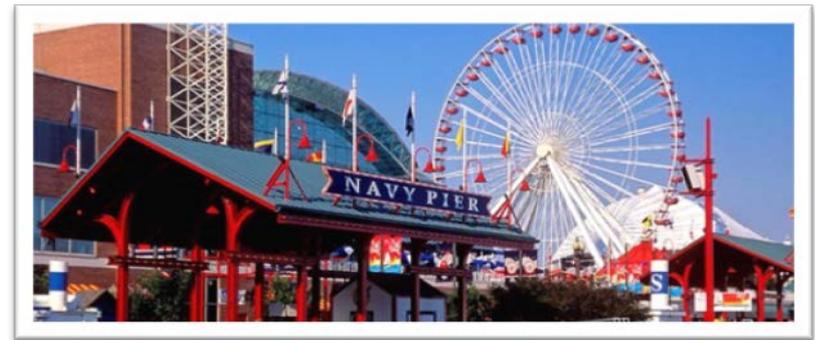
- **Navy Pier** (<https://navypier.com/>)

- **Museums**

- Museum of Science and Industry
    - Field Museum of Natural History
    - Museum of Contemporary Art
    - Art Institute of Chicago
    - Shedd Aquarium
    - Adler Planetarium

- **Places to Visit**

- Willis Tower Skydeck
    - John Hancock 360° Observatory



# Academic Information

- **Academic Year**

- **Fall Semester:** Late August – Mid December
- **Spring Semester:** Mid January – Mid May
- **Summer Session:** Late May – Mid August

- **Areas of Study**

Architecture/Construction

Arts/Media

Business

Education

ESL

Health Sciences

Hospitality

Human Services/Social Sciences

Information Technology

Manufacturing

Paralegal/Law

Enforcement/Public Safety

Science, Math, Engineering

Transportation

# Beyond the classroom

Here at Harper College, there are many ways to stay involved to help you become a part of the community!

Harper's [Office of Student Involvement](#) offers **over 50 clubs!**

[Like sports?](#) Harper offers a variety of sports – both intercollegiate and intermural!



# Student Support

Throughout your time at Harper College, you have many support services that are available to you to be successful.

- [Career Development Center](#)
- [Center for New Students](#)
- [Computer Labs](#)
- [Harper College Library](#)
- [Academic Advising and Counseling Services](#)
- [Tutoring Services](#)
- [Writing Center](#)
- [Success Services for Students](#)
- [Health and Recreation Center](#)

# Other Student Services

- Northwest Community Healthcare
  - Physicians and Nurses
  - Appointments
  - Walk-In
  - Medicine
  - Physical Exams
- Psychological Services
- Access and Disability Services

# Office of International Students



**Jill Izumikawa**

Coordinator, International Students and Services

**Assists with:**

- New International Student Information
- Cross-Cultural Adjustment
- Employment Opportunities
- Transferring to Another U.S. College or University

# International Student Tuition/Fees

	<b>Fall Semester</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>
<b>Credit Hours Required</b>	12	12
<b>Tuition</b> (Cost per Credit: \$466.00)	\$5,592.00	\$5,592.00
<b>College Fees</b>	\$285.00	\$285.00
<b>Health Insurance</b>	\$541.52	\$825.18*
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$6,418.52	\$6,702.18

\*Includes health insurance coverage for spring and summer months

# Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a very important part of your time here at Harper College.

**It is important that you are familiar with our policy and have a good understanding of what academic integrity is.**

## **What is “Academic Integrity”?**

- Honesty and responsibility in education
- Adhering to moral and ethical principles

## **What you need to avoid**

- Cheating
- Academic dishonesty
- **Plagiarism** = The practice of taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as your own (International Center for Academic Integrity)

## **Why is “Academic Integrity” so important?**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BeyUy\\_QyO8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BeyUy_QyO8)

# What to expect - WEATHER

## Average Chicago Climate

- Summer (June – August)
  - 75° - 84°F (23° - 28°C)
- Fall (September – October)
  - 75° - 50°F (23° - 10°C)
- Winter (November – February)
  - 35° - 15° F (1° - -9°C)
- Spring (March – May)
  - 40° - 60° F (4° - 15° C)
- Average snowfall: 38 inches (96.52 cm)

## What to pack or plan to purchase upon arrival

- **Winter:** gloves, hat, scarf, heavy coat/jacket, warm boots
- **Summer:** shorts, t-shirt, sandals

# What to expect - TRANSPORTATION

Transportation within the suburbs can be limited if you do not have a car, but the following options are great ways to get to and from the city:

- Taxi / Uber / Lyft
- Bus
  - [CTA Bus](#) (Chicago)
  - [PACE](#) (Suburbs)
    - [Route 696](#) stops at Harper College
- [Metra Train](#)
- [CTA Train](#)
  - There is a great app called Transit Stop: CTA Tracker

# What to expect - CUSTOMS

- Legal drinking age is 21
- People you don't know may say "hello" and smile
- You will be asked "how are you?" often...it is a form of "hello"
  - Customary response: "I'm well, and you?"
- We like queues: Do not jump in line in front of others!
- Participation in the classroom is expected
- Hold the door for others

# What to bring with you

When entering the United States, **it is important to have all the following documents and items readily available** to hand to the immigration specialist when you arrive.

- **Passport**
- **Form I-20**
  - **Keep document available to provide to the airline and immigration**
- **Visa**
- **Admission letter to Harper College**
- **SEVIS fee payment receipt**
- **Money**
  - **Make sure your bank knows you are traveling**
  - **Have access to sufficient funds for your first semester**
    - **Be careful in bringing large amounts of cash. If it is lost or stolen, there is no compensation.**
    - **U.S. Customs and Border Protection does not allow anyone to bring more than \$10,000 in cash without declaring it upon entry**

# Immigration Expectations

Before you arrive, it is important to understand your legal immigration requirements.

**Below is key information to keep in mind before arriving.**

- [U.S. Government Information for International Students](#)
- [Maintaining your LEGAL STATUS](#)
  - Maximum of 3 credits online of the full-time credits per semester
  - Must enroll in and complete a minimum of 12 credits for Fall and Spring semesters for degree-seeking students (minimum of 15 credits for IEP students)
  - No unauthorized employment is permitted
- **Customs and Border Protection**
  - Do not bring fresh fruit or vegetables, meat, prepared food, spices, or plants

# Parent and Family Information



Having a student transition to a university setting can be challenging for all families. We recognize the importance of making your student feel comfortable in the college environment. The following website connects parents and families to information that will be beneficial during this transition:

<http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/start/parent/index.php>

We look forward to meeting you!

**Thank you for participating in this orientation!**

**We hope we have provided you with information to help you feel comfortable and excited about coming to Harper College.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

**Jill Izumikawa**

jizumika@harpercollege.edu *phone:* +1(847)925-6756