With all of the COVID-19 related changes to both U.S. immigrations and the operation of U.S. universities, we want you to have all the documents that you may need in coming or returning to the U.S. When you arrive at the U.S. port of entry, the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer will certainly want to see the first three documents but may ask to see other documents on this list. The officer may also ask you to answer additional questions about your study plans. Documents #6-8 on this list relate to the current situation and may be helpful. Please review them. You will also find this list here [1].

Carry these documents with you - don’t put them in your checked luggage

1. **Valid Passport**: must be valid at least 6 months into the future at the time of admission.

2. **Valid U.S. Visa** (Canadian citizens do not need a visa)

3. **Your Immigration Document**: an I-20 for F-1 status, a DS-2019 for J-1 status, an I-797 approval notice for H-1B holders.

   If we sent you a new electronic I-20 this summer, please print that updated I-20 and carry that with the original that we issued you initially.

4. **Receipt from paying the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) fee** [2]: if you are an F or J visa holder.
5. **Copy of your admissions letter and proof of funds:** while you may not be asked for it, it is advisable for new students to carry these documents as well. Proof of funds can include the same documents you submitted to obtain your I-20 or DS-2019, such as bank statements and scholarship letters.

6. **NEW:** [Yale Fall 2020 Letter][3]: This letter, updated on August 6th and issued by OISS, explains that Yale is open and will be operating for full-time study this fall.

7. **Travelers from Schengen Area, United Kingdom, and Ireland:** print off this bulletin from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection [4] which notes that F-1 visa holders are able to travel.

8. **Travelers from Canada:** if you will be traveling over the land border, print off this page which clarifies “individuals traveling to attend educational institutions” are considered “essential travelers”. [5]

Source URL: [https://oiss.yale.edu/news/entry-documents-for-travel-to-the-us-fall-2020](https://oiss.yale.edu/news/entry-documents-for-travel-to-the-us-fall-2020)

Links: