

Palm Beach Atlantic University's Guide for

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



**A handy guide for you and
your family as you prepare
to join Sailfish Nation.**

WELCOME TO PBA

We're here to help!

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Palm Beach Atlantic
UNIVERSITY

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WELCOME

Welcome to Palm Beach Atlantic University! We are thrilled you've chosen PBA to pursue your higher education goals. Here, you will be supported in following your God-given calling, with a focus on and commitment to Christ.

Located in South Florida, PBA's campus is adjacent to a walkable downtown area and one mile from the Atlantic Ocean. On any given day, our students can be seen enjoying campus, meeting at local coffee shops, and on their way to and from the beach. Our students represent 49 states and 85 nations, enriching our classroom discussions and student experience. We value the perspectives each of our students brings to campus and believe our international students make PBA an even more special place to learn and grow together.

As you move through the admissions process, PBA's International Student Services Office (ISS Office) is here to guide you from application to graduation and beyond. We assist with navigating the visa process, maintaining good visa status, and applying for any benefits you may be eligible for. That's why we've created this guide—to give you an overview of the most important topics for international F1/J1 visa students so you can be informed and prepared.

Sincerely,
Dawn
Director of International Student Services



OUR MISSION

Palm Beach Atlantic University equips students to grow in wisdom, lead with conviction and serve God boldly.

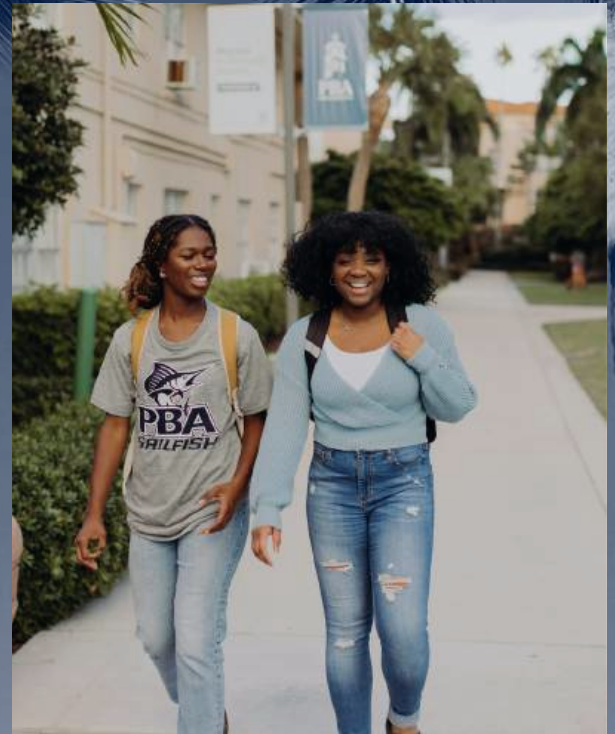
PBA's Values

- **Seek Unity** *Eph. 4:3*
- **Pursue Excellence** *2 Peter 1:3*
- **Show Respect** *1 Peter 2:17*
- **Reflect Love** *Col. 3:14*
- **Demonstrate Integrity** *Prov. 2:7*
- **Be Accountable** *Psa. 139:23*

View PBA's [Diversity Statement](#)

View PBA's [Kingdom Approach to Culture, Sexuality, Sanctity of Life, and Compassion](#)

Every student who chooses to become a part of the PBA community agrees to live in a way that is consistent with and not contrary to the PBA student conduct policies, which embody Christian ethical and moral standards of behavior. Our guiding document, [the Navigator](#), uses our six core values to outline university expectations, policies and procedures for student conduct.





YOUR NEXT STEPS

1. Submit your [Enrollment Deposit](#) to reserve your place in our incoming class.
2. Submit your I-20 documents to PBA.
3. Pay your DS-160 fee and SEVIS I-901 fee.*
4. Apply for your student visa and schedule your visa interview.*
5. Send a copy of your student visa to ISS Office.
6. Complete your Enrollment Checklist.

**Not required for transfer students*



International Student LIFE CYCLE



1 Apply to a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-Certified School

Student applies and is accepted to an SEVP-certified school.



2 Receive a Form-I20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status"

A student's Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) record is created and the student is then issued a Form I-20 by the designated school official (DSO) at the SEVIP-certified school they have chosen to attend.



3 Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee

Student must pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee at [FMJFee.com](https://www.fmjfee.com).



4 Apply for the Student Visa

Student brings their Form I-20 and other required documents to apply for a student visa from the U.S. Department of State.



5 Arrive in the United States

Student arrives no more than 30 days before their program start date and presents their Form I-20 and valid student visa to U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the port of entry.



6 Maintain Status During Program Study

Student must take a full course of study, not work without prior authorization and speak with their DSO if they cannot finish classes before their program end date, or have any other concerns about maintaining lawful status.



7 Explore Post-Graduation Opportunities

A student has the option to transfer schools, change education levels (e.g., undergraduate to graduate), or if eligible apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) opportunities.



8 Depart the United States

An F-1 student has 60 days to depart the United States after completion of their program of study or OPT. An M-1 student has 30 days after completion of their program of study to depart.

For more information on the International Student Life Cycle, [click here](#).



Terminology

- ▶ **PDSO and DSO:** Principle Designated School Official and Designated School Official, a person designated by the school to assist you with your SEVIS status, report changes in status and employment.
- ▶ **SEVP:** Student Exchange and Visitors Program, an office in the Department of Homeland Security, the Student Exchange and Visitors Program manage schools, nonimmigrant students.
- ▶ **SEVIS:** Student Exchange and Visitors Information System the data base managed by SEVP.
- ▶ **USCIS:** US Citizenship and Immigration Services oversees lawful immigration to the US and adjudicates employment applications.
- ▶ **CPB:** Customs and Border Protection, federal law enforcement officers at the port of entry (POE).
- ▶ **ISS Office:** International Student Services Office at Palm Beach Atlantic University.
- ▶ **Passport:** Official government-issued document that certifies a person's identity and nationality, allowing them to travel internationally.
- ▶ **F1 Visa:** a non-immigrant visa that allows international students to enter the United States to pursue full-time academic studies at accredited institutions.
- ▶ **I-20:** Government-issued document provided by a U.S. educational institution that allows international students to apply for an F-1 visa and maintain their student status while studying in the United States.

HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR VISA

1 OBTAINING YOUR I-20 FROM PBA

▶ For New (Initial) Students:

1. Submit your enrollment deposit.
2. Fill out the affidavit of financial support on your application status page: apply.pba.edu/status
3. Upload financial documents (bank letter or statement no older than 3 months) showing you can cover the estimated cost of attendance.
4. Upload a copy of your passport.



► For Transfer Students:

1. Submit your enrollment deposit.
2. Fill out the F-1 transfer form on your application status page: apply.pba.edu/status
3. Fill out the affidavit of financial support.
4. Your previous school will transfer your SEVIS record to PBA.
5. Upload financial documents (bank letter or statement no older than 3 months) showing you can cover the estimated cost of attendance.
6. Upload a copy of your passport.

2 PAYING THE SEVIS FEE *(not required for transfer students)*

1. Go to fmjfee.com and click on the “PAY I-901 FEE” button at the top of the page.
2. **Complete the fields on the screen titled “Applicant Validation”.** Enter your information exactly how it appears on your completed Form I-20 or DS-2019 before clicking “Submit”.
3. **Click the drop-down arrow in the “Please Select Form Type” field and select the form you will use to enter the United States:** Form I-20 or Form DS-2019. **Be prepared to enter additional information, listed below:**
 - Given Name
 - Email Address
 - Country of Citizenship
4. **Review payment conditions.** Click the box “I Agree” to indicate that you have read the form and agree to its payment conditions. Click “continue”.
5. **Review form information in the screen titled “Form I-901 Review”.** If your information is correct, choose your payment method. If your information is incorrect, click “Return to Form I-901” to correct your information.
6. **If you selected “Credit Card Payment” as your Payment Method,** you will be taken to the page where you can enter your card information. Follow the fields and click continue when finished. Please note: If you are from Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, or Kenya, you are ineligible to pay online. As such, you will need to fill out the I-901 Form online and then select “Pay with a Check or Money Order” or “Pay through Western Union Quick Pay”. Print out your payment coupon and mail it with your payment.
7. **Complete “Check I-901 Status” page.** Re-enter your SEVIS ID, last name, and date of birth exactly as it appears on your Form I-20 or DS-2019. Click “Check Status/View Payment Confirmation” to continue.
8. **Confirm your payment was sent.** Your payment has been received if you see a green status bar that says “Current Payment Status: Paid.” Your payment has NOT been received if you see a red status bar that says “Current Payment Status: Not Paid”. Follow the directions to correct any payment issues.
9. **Print your receipt and send a copy to iss@pba.edu.** Click “View Payment Confirmation” to view your I-901 receipt. This receipt is your proof of payment and you will need it for your visa appointment and also when you enter the United States. You can also reprint your payment confirmation.



3 COMPLETING YOUR VISA APPLICATION

Documents you will need in order to complete your Visa Application (DS-160)

1. **Passport.**
2. **Travel itinerary**, if you have already make travel arrangements.
3. **Dates of your last five visits or trips to the United States**, if you have previously traveled to the United States. You may also be asked for your international travel history for the past five years.
4. **Résumé or Curriculum Vitae.** You may be required to provide information about your current and previous education and work history.
 - *Other information:* Some applicants, depending on the intended purpose of travel, will be asked to provide additional information when completing the DS-160.



HOW TO COMPLETE THE DS-160 APPLICATION

1. Go to ceac.state.gov/genniv to begin your application.
2. Click on the button labeled **“Start a New Application.”**
3. **Write down the Application ID** displayed on the top right-hand corner of the page. If you need to close the browser before submitting your application, you will need this Application ID to continue your application.
4. **Follow the instructions on each page.** Make sure you answer all the questions - if you do not, your application may not be accepted. **Please Note:** *Your answers must be in English and must use the English alphabet. That means you cannot use letters like ñ, é, ü, or ç. For example, instead of writing “São Paulo,” write “Sao Paulo.” There is only one exception to this rule, which is when you are asked to provide your full name in your native alphabet, then you can use non-English characters.*
5. **Review answers** once all the questions are answered to ensure they are correct.
6. **Click on the “Sign Application” button** to sign your application electronically.
7. **Submit your application.** When you do, you will see a confirmation page on your screen with a barcode. Following the completion of your application, **be sure to pay the application fee.**

If you have previously submitted a DS-160 application, you may use that information to complete a new application. You will need the Application ID from your previously submitted application to do this. To access previously submitted application information, click the **“RETRIEVE AN APPLICATION”** button and follow the instructions. If you use this option to complete a new application, please make sure to carefully review it to ensure that all information is current and correct.

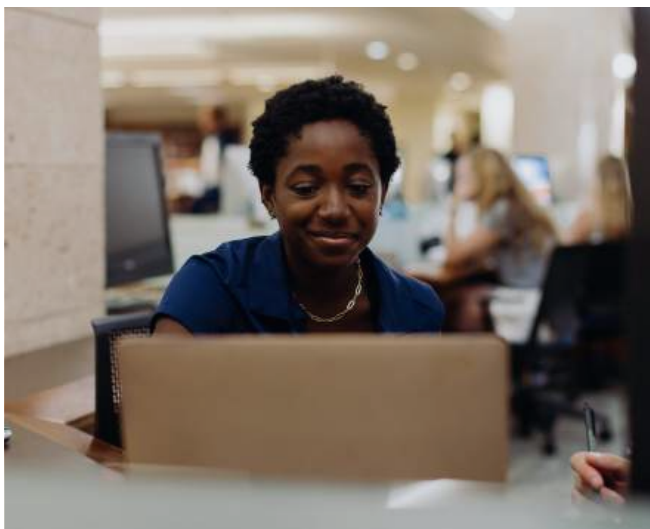


4 SCHEDULING AN F-1 STUDENT VISA INTERVIEW

It is important to schedule your F-1 Student Visa Interview as soon as possible after receiving your Form I-20 and paying the I-901 SEVIS Fee.

To identify the U.S. embassy or consulate that is most convenient for you to visit, go to usembassy.gov. When arriving for your appointment, a consular official will electronically scan your fingerprints and expect you to have the following completed documentation with you for the interview:

- **Form I-20** issued by PBA.
- **Printed Form DS-160**, “Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application,” confirmation page.
- **Passport** is valid for at least six months after you plan to enter the United States.
- **A two-inch by two-inch photo** of yourself.
- **Receipt** for your DS-160 visa application fee payment.
- **Receipt** for your I-901 SEVIS Fee payment.
- **Admission letter** from **PBA**.
- **Financial Guarantee Form & Bank Statement**.
- **Certificates**, transcript and test taken.
- **Information** proving the student intends to return to home country after studies. This can be an introductory letter from workplace.



5 PREPARING FOR AND ATTENDING YOUR VISA INTERVIEW

In preparation for your F-1 Student Visa interview, you should be prepared to tell the consular officer about your plans while in the United States and what you will do when you have completed your studies. You should also be prepared to show the following:

1. You have received acceptance to PBA. Your Form I-20 verifies this.
2. You have the financial ability to pay for school costs plus living expenses (the amount shown on Form I-20). You should bring copies of financial documents you provide to PBA. These documents are evidence of the preparations you have made to finance your stay (e.g., bank statements).
3. You are prepared for the academic program in which you plan to enroll. You may want to bring copies of any standardized test scores, academic transcripts, diplomas or certificates from previous study you provided as part of your application to PBA.
4. Your stay in the United States is temporary, so proving strong ties to your home country is vital during your interview process. (e.g. you are not permanently immigrating).
5. **Please Note:** The interviewing official may be interested in how you intend to use the education you receive in the United States when you return home.

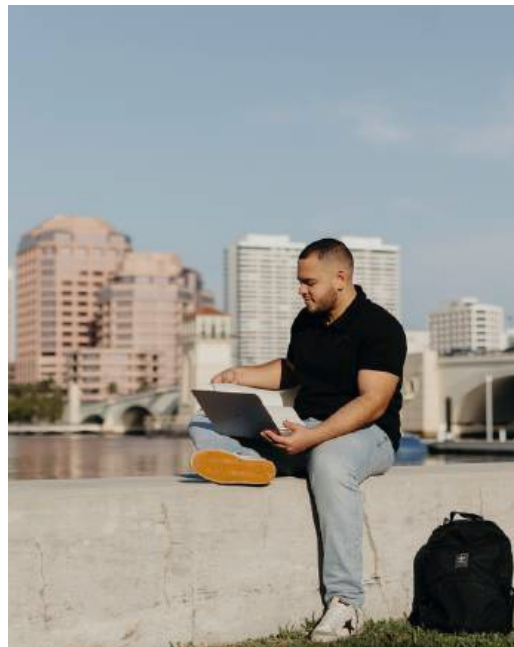




SET SAIL FOR SUCCESS

(AS LISTED ON DHS WEBSITE)

- ▶ **Proofread all of your travel-related documents** (i.e., Form I-20, Form I-901 SEVIS Fee receipt and F-1 Student Visa) to ensure they are correct. Make sure your name and birth date are written exactly the same way on all of your documents. If you find an error in a document, have it corrected by the people who completed the document before you apply for the next document in the process.
- ▶ **Proofread your visa** when the consular official returns your passport to you - mistakes in the visa information cannot be corrected once you travel. If you find a mistake in your biographical data or your visa type, contact the embassy or consulate and ask an official to correct the error.
- ▶ **Be skeptical** of anyone who claims the ability to either provide a document that you need or to get you a visa other than as this guidance suggests. If you are deliberate and prepare carefully for each of these steps in obtaining travel authorization and F-1 Student Visa status, you can succeed by yourself!
- ▶ Read through the [student process](#) for how to navigate the U.S. immigration system



6 COMPLETING YOUR PBA ENROLLMENT CHECKLIST

The Enrollment Checklist is a visual guide of all the required steps to fully prepare your student for the beginning of the semester. To access the [Enrollment Checklist](#), you will use the MyPBA login credentials provided. You can also find the Enrollment Checklist on my.pba.edu. It is important for you to have the Enrollment Checklist completed before classes begin to gain PBA Card and residence hall (if applicable) access.

Students are required to complete the Enrollment Checklist prior to the start of each semester.



7 TRAVELING TO THE U.S. & REPORTING TO PBA

► Required Documentation for Arrival in the U.S.

- Valid Passport
- F-1 Visa (*except for Canadian citizens*)
- Form I-20 signed by designated school officer
- Admission/Acceptance letters from PBA
- I-901 SEVIS Fee payment receipt
- Copy of Financial Guarantee Form
- Any original education certificates
- Name and contact information of PBA designated school officer
- Address of where you will stay in the United States

****Be sure to carry these documents with you when traveling and DO NOT pack them in your checked luggage.***

If you arrive at the U.S. Port of Entry without all the necessary paperwork, you may be denied access into the United States.

► Upon Arriving at a U.S. Port of Entry

If you arrive by a land port, you will receive a paper Form I-94, “Arrival/Departure Record,” which you must fill out upon arrival. Be sure to show your F-1 Visa and your I-20 to the immigration officer in addition to your passport. If you arrive at the port of entry by air or sea, an automated Form I-94 record will automatically be generated for you by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers. CBP will provide you with an admission stamp on your passport that is annotated with date of admission, class of admission, and admitted-until date. The electronic arrival/departure record can be obtained at cbp.gov/I94.

The primary ports of entry near Palm Beach Atlantic University include Palm Beach International Airport (PBI), located just a 15-minute drive from campus. Additionally, Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) and Miami International Airport (MIA) are both about an hour away from West Palm Beach via the [Brightline](#), Florida’s high-speed passenger train. For those arriving from Orlando International Airport (MCO), it’s a convenient three-hour *Brightline* ride to West Palm Beach.

► Instructions for Reporting to PBA

Contact PBA immediately after entering the U.S. You may arrive no earlier than 30 days prior to the program start date shown on your I-20. You must report to PBA by the program start date listed on the Form I-20 you received. This is one of the rules you agreed to when you received your student or exchange visitor status. If you do not follow this rule, you will not maintain your status. For more information on how to maintain your status, visit: studyinthestates.dhs.gov. If you cannot enter the United States for the term listed on your Form I-20 or if you will be late by a few days, immediately contact PBA school officials so that they can accurately enter this information in your SEVIS record.



CHECK-IN REQUIREMENT UPON ARRIVAL TO THE U.S.

Attend the mandatory F-1 student orientation at PBA. You will be asked to provide the following documents at the orientation.

- ▶ Your I-94 and travel history (you will need your passport information)
 - Print I-94
 - Print Travel History
- ▶ The original hard copy of any bank letters/statements
- ▶ A copy of your F-1 visa page (excluding Canadians)

MAINTAINING YOUR STATUS

It is vital to your success to know the rules and regulations for F-1 visa students in order to maintain good status. Failure to maintain status may result in the termination of your SEVIS record and require your immediate departure from the U.S. It is the student's responsibility to understand and comply with the rules to maintain good SEVIS status. As an F-1 student at PBA, your "status" is determined by factors such as the program end date on your I-20, the expiration date of your passport, your progress toward your educational goals, attendance in in-person classes, compliance with reporting regulations, and refraining from any illegal actions, such as working without authorization.

In your case, the main goal of the F-1 student is to study at a university. Maintaining your status means avoiding any action that takes away from that goal, working towards your degree, and following all regulations related to that purpose.



DEPARTURES FROM U.S.

Leaving before degree completion or unexpected departure?

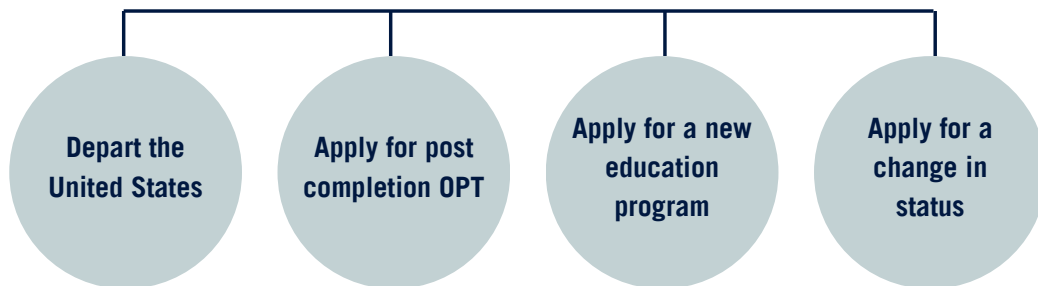
Unforeseen events happen and if they do, contact the ISS Office so your SEVIS record can be updated.

- ▶ Report to your DSO if you need to withdraw from school.
 - Notification from the student allows a 15-day grace period for an authorized early withdrawal entry on your SEVIS record.
 - Not reporting to school and/or leaving without notice to your DSO will result in an immediate termination of SEVIS record and departure from the US is required with no grace period.

Degree Completion Departure Requirements

After you have completed your degree and reached your program end date, the following timeline would apply:

60 Day Grace Period to do the following:



Departure from the U.S.

The requirement to depart the U.S. is set by the U.S. government. Failure to follow the regulations for departure can result in unlawful presence as shown in the information below.

- ▶ Unlawful presence and bars to admissibility.
 - Period of time inside the United States not in your “period of stay authorized by the secretary.”
 - More information can be found at uscis.gov under the laws tab > other resources > unlawful presence and inadmissibility.
- ▶ Bars from admissions.
 - 3 years: 180 but less than 365 days of unlawful presence
 - 10 years: 365 days or more
 - Permanently: if you have 365 days or more and try to re-enter



International Student EMPLOYMENT

▶ On campus employment is permitted within the following regulations:

- Obtain approval through the ISS Office and your DSO.
- Does not require USCIS application or approval.
- Part-time 20 hours or less per week during school sessions (if working two or more jobs, the hours cannot exceed a total of 20 hours combined).
- Full-time 20 or more hours per week during break periods (no classes meeting).
- Summer may be considered a break period. However, if you choose to enroll in summer courses, the 20 hours maximum per week does apply.

▶ Off campus employment is NOT permitted unless pre-approved per US Government regulations:

- USCIS: “Working in the United States without authorization has serious consequences, including removal from the country and reentry bars.” (uscis.gov)
- May not work off campus during 1st academic year, unless required by your specific program.
- Required US Government application and fee submitted to USCIS and MUST be approved by USCIS before working.
- Types of off campus employment authorizations include OPT, CPT, Economic Hardship.
- Unauthorized work will result in immediate termination of SEVIS record, will require immediate departure from the US, and may prohibit re-entry to the U.S. in the future.



KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

▶ **Maintain a valid passport, F-1 visa, and Form I-20**

- Passports MUST be active while in the U.S. You can renew while in the U.S.
- F-1 Visa can be expired if you remain in the U.S., but must be renewed in your home country if you plan to travel outside of the U.S.
- I-20 must be currently updated with correct program, end date, and travel signatures.

▶ **Attend and pass all your classes**

- Keep in mind, you have a set number of semesters to complete your program. Extensions are not granted for failure of classes.

▶ **Take a full course of study each semester**

- Graduate level: 6 hours minimum (3 hours each subterm)
- Undergraduate level: 12 hours minimum each semester
- Although online courses can be approved, you must have the majority of your classes on ground with no more than one online course to create a full time status. Example:
Undergraduate: 12 hours: 9 hours on ground, 3 hours online.
- Dropping below full-time status must be reported to the DSO and authorized before the start of the semester. Two acceptable reasons are: documented medical reasons or last semester to complete program.

▶ **Work only when authorized to do so.**

- Unauthorized work is a violation of your status and will result in termination of SEVIS record and immediate departure from the US is required. Always ask the ISS Office for guidance before you begin any employment.



HOUSING

Undergraduate Students

- ▶ **On-Campus** *not for students 22 years old or above by the beginning of the semester*
 - 72 hours after submitting your Enrollment Deposit to PBA, you will receive access to the [Housing Application](#). In the Housing Application, you will be able to rank the buildings in order of your preference to then receive your Housing placement. After that, you'll be able to match with a roommate.
 - You will receive an email from Residence Life with your Housing assignment.
 - To learn more about On-Campus housing, please review the [Residence Life Handbook](#).

- ▶ **Off-campus**

Within 72 hours of submitting your Enrollment Deposit to PBA, you'll gain access to the [Housing Portal](#) where you can submit the "New Student Housing Exemption Application".

Here are the helpful house hunting steps:

1. Identify your housing wants and needs, such as lease terms, distance from campus, price range, etc.
2. Identify your housing options. Discover local housing options at [PBA's Off-Campus Housing Marketplace resource](#).
3. Tour your housing options in-person.
4. Assess safety, landlord compatibility and current resident experience.
5. Select and secure your housing option.

Learn more about off-campus housing in [PBA's Off-Campus Guidebook](#).

Graduate Students

We suggest having a plan to secure housing arrangements after your arrival. Researching ahead of time is highly encouraged. *Here are a few local housing options we recommend:*

321 Northwood	Flats at Rosemary	The Bohemian
Alora West Palm Beach	Indigo West Palm Beach	The Grand
Avalon West Palm Beach	Loftin Place	The Landings
Broadstone Locklyn	Park Line	The Landings Apartments
Cameron Estates	Park Place Apartments	The Mid
Cortland	Park West	The Vue at 1400
Cortland Portofino	Resia Pine Ridge Apartments	The Whitney
District Flats (2400)	Riverstone	Fairway Vista Apartments
Flager Station	Sole at City Center	



LOCAL CHURCHES

When you arrive in West Palm Beach for your program start date, we recommend visiting one of the 20+ churches within minutes of PBA's campus, where many PBA students find their church home! All of the local churches represent diverse denominations, all of which provide a great opportunity to immerse yourself in the role that faith plays in our community.

Bow Down Church

Christ Fellowship (Trinity/Gardens Campus)

Connect Church

 **Family Church Downtown**

Family Church Village

First Presbyterian Church North Palm Beach

Grace Fellowship Church

Grace Immanuel Bible Church

Journey Church

 **Lakeside Presbyterian Church**

Life.Church West Palm Beach

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church

Reveal Fellowship

 **Truth Point Church**

SoFlo Church

 **St. Ann's Catholic Church**

 **The Royal Poinciana Chapel**

Community of Hope

First Baptist Church- Boynton Beach

Frontier Ministries

 **Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**

 **Providencia Church**

West Pines Baptist Church



= within walking distance of PBA's campus



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

At PBA, you will find academic support services and programs designed to help you succeed in your classes, make the most of the experience at PBA, and realize all of the God-given potential you have. View our services:

- [Peer Tutoring](#)
- [Academic Enrichment Workshops](#)
- [Online tutorial Support](#)
- [Academic Coaching](#)
- [Accessibility Resources](#)
- [Writing Central](#)

Sailfish Smart

PBA's textbook rental program, [Sailfish Smart](#), offers a convenient and cost-effective way for you to receive all required course materials for each semester, including textbooks, lab manuals, and access codes, on or before the first day of class.



How Sailfish Smart Works:

- Once you have registered for classes, you will be automatically enrolled in the program and charged per credit hour. This charge will be placed on your account.
- Thirty days before classes begin, you will receive an email to verify the order.
- When the materials are ready for pickup, the PBA Bookstore will send an email. You should bring the order number to the Bookstore. Alternatively, the materials can be delivered to your home address.
- Return materials at the end of the semester, or keep them for an additional fee by contacting the Bookstore.

Important Things to Remember:

- You are automatically enrolled in the Sailfish Smart program at the beginning of each semester.
- You must confirm the order so that the PBA Bookstore can prepare the course materials.
- While this program offers great convenience at an affordable rate, there may be a semester where it makes sense for you to opt out based on your student's circumstances. The link to opt out is available in our [Sailfish Smart FAQ](#) under the question "If I choose not to participate, how do I opt out?" Please note that the link will only be active during the opt-out period and can only be accessed by an active PBA student.





Finalizing Payment Arrangements

1. **Pay online in full or set up a Nelnet payment plan:** A credit is placed on your account for the payment plan amount and monthly payments are made.
2. **Research international student loan options.** Some private loan options may available to you through private banks or credit unions.
3. **Pay by wire transfer**

Bank of America
222 Lakeview Ave Ste 100
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
ABA #026009593
Account # 00548-259-4896
Swift Code (for international transfers): BOFAUS3N
Reference: Student Name & ID Number

4. **Send Payment by mail to:**
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Attn: Student Accounts
PO Box 24708
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4708

5. **Pay in person** at the cashier's office located in the Student Accounts Office, Sachs Building.



COMMUNITY FAQs

▶ How to order my PBA Card?

You will use the PBA Card to access your residence hall (if applicable), the dining hall, and on campus buildings. In order for you to have your PBA Card ready to pick up upon your arrival to campus, please complete this [form](#) to submit a PBA Card photo. Please make sure to complete this PBA Card ID form before your first semester begins and follow the instructions carefully to ensure the submitted photo will be accepted.

▶ How to get involved?

PBA has many ways that students can get involved on campus!

- Student Government
- Clubs and Organizations
- Campus and Student held activities and events
- Leadership Development
- Learn more ways to get involved at pba.edu.

▶ What are my transportation options?

- Palm Tran, palmtran.org
- Tri-Rail, tri-rail.com
- Brightline Train & Bikes, gobrightline.com
- Ride WPB or Circuit, ridewpb.com
- Ride-hailing services, such as [Uber](#) or [Lyft](#)

▶ Contacting Dept. of Public Safety?

PBA's Campus Safety and Security patrols the campus 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, using foot patrols, bikes, and cars. The university is equipped with various safety features, including 22 emergency call boxes placed across campus. You can contact Campus Safety and Security anytime at (561) 803-2500. PBA encourages students to add this number to their contacts for quick and easy access to Campus Safety and Security when necessary. Additionally, PBA students are required to download the Rave Guardian App, which serves as an alternative method of communication.



CLIMATE INFORMATION

Our environment is considered tropical and offers unique features like warm weather year-round (if you consider 70 degree temps on some winter days warm!) and beautiful blue skies. It can be humid. To prevent any kind of bio growth in residence halls, students should keep their rooms clean, with surfaces wiped down and taking care not to leave the air conditioning on if your door is open. We experience brief rain showers frequently at certain times of year in the afternoon and, occasionally, tropical storms and even hurricanes. In the event of stormy weather, we prioritize the safety of our students, faculty, and staff by ensuring everyone is well-informed and prepared.

Preparation is Key *Hurricane and other weather related occurrences*

PBA's community, including the Dept. of Public Safety and Emergency Management Team, maintains strong connections with local experts and government officials and the National Weather Service. These relationships help ensure our campus receives timely alerts and remains well-prepared for emergencies.

If a storm approaches, Palm Beach Atlantic's president may decide to close the campus for safety reasons. During such closures, Florida-resident students typically return home, often inviting out-of-state roommates and friends to join them. This means out-of-state students rarely need to worry about booking flights home.

At PBA, we firmly believe that preparedness is crucial in all situations. We take this responsibility seriously and approach it with great care. If you ever find yourself leaving the area due to weather, please report to the ISS Office to let us know your plans.

PBA's plans in place to help prepare for the approach of a tropical storm or hurricane:

- Notification of class cancellations or campus closings prior to the storm from PBA's alert messaging system
- Information updates during the storm
- Reports on power outages or damage to campus facilities as a result of the storm
- Information on reopening campus and the resumption of classes

In the event of a tropical storm or hurricane, please note that what is shown on national news is not a firm indication of what will take place. There is no need for panic. We are grateful for the trust you have given us regarding your future, career, and safety. We take this trust seriously and prepare for stormy weather, making decisions with your safety and best interests in mind. We believe that God is our refuge and help, and we do not need to be afraid or anxious (Psalm 46:1-3).



SEE YOU SOON

We hope this information is helpful for you as you prepare to join us on campus as our newest Sailfish. If you have any questions, please reach out to your Admissions Counselor or the International Student Services team by emailing ISS@pba.edu or calling 561.803.2100.



Palm Beach Atlantic
UNIVERSITY