

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY



Greetings! We are thrilled you will be joining our Pepperdine community in California, which represents well over 75 nations of the world. This Passport to Pepperdine International Student Arrival Guide will help you prepare for your educational journey and your transition to the greater Los Angeles area and the United States.

Pepperdine is known for our welcoming community, which stems from our warm, Christian heritage and commitment to the highest standards of academic excellence. While our students pursue their degrees, students are also strengthened for lives of purpose, service and leadership. You, too, were selected to be among this network of dynamic service-minded leaders and we want to learn from and alongside you. We encourage you to engage with us, share your unique background and perspectives, and also establish a true sense of “home” here.

The Office of International Students Services is among a team of individuals throughout all campuses and offices committed to enhancing the international student experience. Our goal is to, like a lighthouse, guide you toward countless on-campus resources on your pathway to success at Pepperdine. Please don't hesitate to ask questions or for help. It is our pleasure and our expertise!

Once again, welcome to the United States and to the Pepperdine family!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brooke A. Cutler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brooke Cutler
Director, Office of International Student Services
Chair, International Students Advisory Council
Pepperdine University
brooke.cutler@pepperdine.edu

Table of Contents

[Pepperdine University Overview](#)

[1. Preparing to Study in the USA](#)

[2. Housing](#)

[3. Airport, Transportation, and Hotels](#)

[5. Daily Transportation](#)

[6. Campus Policies](#)

[7. Food](#)

[8. Student Services and Facilities](#)

[9. Banking and Finances](#)

[10. Mobile Phones and Internet](#)

[11. Social Customs](#)

Pepperdine University Overview

-
- ” Los Angeles is known for heavy traffic, and this should be considered when you select a place to live. Free traffic App predictors such as [Waze](#) are popular to navigate around traffic and to plan your route to school.
 - ” Off-campus housing resources:
 - o [Housing Listings](#)
 - o [Rentspree](#)
 - o [Apartment Search](#)

Policy Reminders

- ” **No Smoking** Pepperdine cares for the health of the campus community, so smoking is not allowed on campus. A Smoking Cessation program is provided to students free-of-charge through the Student Health Center to help students who wish to stop smoking or vaping.
- ” **No Alcohol or Drugs** Pepperdine fosters an alcohol and drug free environment to support a healthy campus. Alcohol, marijuana, and illicit drugs are prohibited on campus.

3. Airport, Transportation, and Hotels

[Los Angeles International Airport \(LAX\)](#) LAX airport is recommended for your arrival to attend school at Pepperdine.

- **Immigration** - Students with F-1 visas should also have their Form I-20 ready to give to the officer. **Do not use a B1/B2 visa or ESTA (Visa Waiver Program) to enter the U.S. to study**
- **Secondary** 941.9 (s) 416, (r) 10.6 (er) 8ratiotar941.9 0.1 (ran) 0.003 T7 (r)-10(t) 2.dn

Buying a Car Most students recommend that you buy a car while living in the U.S.

- **New cars** Students recommend searching online at www.truecar.com which allows you to compare prices and choose the best dealer.
- **Used cars** Students recommend searching online at

Food Delivery Food delivery services are growing plentiful. Many local restaurants offer delivery, and students recommend [UBER Eats delivery service](#).

8. Student Services and Facilities

Pepperdine App Download the App for live campus shuttle updates, campus maps, cafeteria information, and other tips. Upon arrival, you will receive a Student ID card with Campus Wide ID (CWID) number. With this card, you will be able to access all of the services and facilities listed below:

- ” [The OneStop Office](#) will provide your payment status, enrollment verification, and even discounted movie tickets!
- ” [Mail Services and Shipping](#) can receive packages up to 30 days ahead of your arrival; shipments can be picked up at Mail Services during regular office hours.
- ” [Free Shuttle Services](#) available on-campus (see live schedule on the [Pepperdine App](#) or click [here](#) to view the full shuttle schedule including the “Shopping Shuttle” for off-campus grocery shopping).
- ” [Campus Recreation](#) offers sign-ups for casual sports teams, information on the sports and swimming pool

10. Mobile Phones and Internet

Social Communication Students in the U.S. prefer email and texting instead of other platforms like WeChat or WhatsApp.

Phone Reception Due to the mountainous terrain of the Malibu campus, mobile phone coverage is not evenly spread. Verizon, Sprint, and AT&T offer good mobile phone coverage throughout the campus area. For more information, please visit [Phone and Mobile Services](#).

Discounts are available to all Pepperdine students who choose AT&T mobile plans.

WiFi