Welcome to the United States, the State of Idaho, and Boise State University!

The international student handbook has been prepared to assist you with your adjustment to Boise State University and life in the United States. The staff of the International Student Services office and the faculty and staff at Boise State welcome you. We are very happy to have you here. We recommend that you read through this handbook, as well as the Boise State student handbook, to become familiar with the information provided.

The International Student Services (ISS) office is located in the Student Union Building, on the second floor, in the Student Diversity Center. At our office you can:
- have your immigration questions answered
- request letters for visa support, work authorization, etc
- receive assistance with any issues which arise while you are a student at Boise State
- get information about opportunities and assistance available to international students
- participate in a variety of social and cultural programs sponsored by our office

The International Student Association (ISA) is a recognized student organization of Boise State University. All international students are welcome to participate in ISA. This organization plans social and cultural events, seeks to promote better understanding between people of different cultures and gives our international students a voice in the student body. Please consider becoming involved in ISA!

The Boise State International Insider is the ISS weekly newsletter designed to keep you updated on events, immigration information, campus news and opportunities. The “Insider” is sent electronically to your my.BoiseState email each week. All ISS announcements are communicated to international students in this way, so be sure to read it each week so you don’t miss something important.

Another great source of information is the ISS Website. http://iss.boisestate.edu/

Coffee & Conversation. Each Wednesday afternoon during the school year you are invited to the Student Diversity Center from 3:30pm – 5:00pm to drink coffee (or tea), eat snacks and share some time and talk with international and domestic students and ISS staff. It’s a great time to connect with others and relax a little.
World Cup of Tea is a friendship program that brings international and American students together for friendship across borders.

- The World Cup of Tea International Student Friend is an international student who wants to learn about American culture from the American Student Friend. Aside from learning, the International Student Friend also teaches the American Student Friend about his or her home country and culture. Through friendship, the WCT International Student Friend gets a personal guide to help with questions about Boise State, the Boise community, and other things he/she wants to know about the U.S.A. and Americans.

- The World Cup of Tea American Student Friend is a student who wants to guide an international student in American cultural awareness and adjustment to life at Boise State, but also desires to learn about other ways of viewing the world. The WCT Student Friend teaches the international student friend while simultaneously learning about his/her home country and culture.

Boise State University Statement of Shared Values

Boise State University is committed to personal and social development, educational excellence, and civic engagement. Membership in the campus community is a privilege and requires its members to conduct themselves ethically with integrity and civility. Campus community members enjoy the same rights and freedoms that all U.S. citizens enjoy, including personal responsibility for one’s own conduct, behavior and speech.

In a culture of intellectual inquiry and debate, where the search for knowledge and discovery flourish, campus community members are expected to demonstrate civility, abide by norms of decorum, and adhere to the principles of civil discourse. “Being civil means being constantly aware of others and weaving restraint, respect and consideration into the very fabric of this awareness,” (Forni, 2002, p. 9).

Higher education has the duty to educate students to be responsible citizens. Boise State strives to provide a culture of civility and success where all feel safe and free from discrimination, harassment, threats or intimidation.

Boise State University upholds the following values as the foundation for a civil and nurturing environment. Campus community members are expected to adhere to these common values (Josephson, 2002).

- **Academic Excellence** – engage in our own learning and participate fully in the academic community’s pursuit of knowledge.

- **Caring** – show concern for the welfare of others.
Citizenship – uphold civic virtues and duties that prescribe how we ought to behave in a self-governing community by obeying laws and policies, volunteering in the community, and staying informed on issues.

Fairness – expect equality, impartiality, openness and due process by demonstrating a balanced standard of justice without reference to individual bias.

Respect – treat people with dignity regardless of who they are and what they believe. A respectful person is attentive, listens well, treats others with consideration and doesn’t resort to intimidation, coercion or violence to persuade.

Responsibility – take charge of our choices and actions by showing accountability and not shifting blame or taking improper credit. We will pursue excellence with diligence, perseverance, and continued improvement.

Trustworthiness – demonstrate honesty in our communication and conduct while managing ourselves with integrity and reliability.

International Student Services Purpose and Mission

As a part of the Division of Student Affairs at Boise State University, International Student Services (ISS) provides comprehensive support services to international students as they integrate into the larger campus community.

- ISS serves as the primary source of expertise regarding immigration and cross-cultural issues for the campus at-large.
- ISS acts as a welcoming center where international student needs can be met directly or referred to the appropriate university or community resource.
- ISS serves as a liaison between faculty, staff and international students.

The mission of International Student Services is to provide the support and assistance necessary for international students to achieve their educational goals and to ensure institutional compliance with governmental immigration regulations. We are involved in the campus effort to develop a dynamic and participatory campus climate that values global engagement and is welcoming to people from all international cultures. We serve as the central campus resource for referrals and information relative to international and intercultural affairs and as a place of expertise to develop and promote programs to internationalize campus.
Student Affairs Mission Statement

The role of Student Affairs is to promote student success; enhance student growth and development; and assist in developing an institutional climate that promotes intellectual inquiry, celebrates diversity, and promotes acts of civility. Furthermore, the mission of Student Affairs is to:

- Create a community that reflects the composition of our global society;
- Make available and promote services and programs that facilitate a successful transition to Boise State University, thereby creating pathways to student success;
- Foster and enhance academic achievement by connecting campus and community activities in a seamless and meaningful learning experience;
- Provide students with opportunities to experience cultural, social, recreational, spiritual, political, and intellectual connections with each other and the rest of the Boise State University community;
- Prepare students to become contributing members of the global society by ensuring that they are ready to join the workforce, committed to lifelong learning, and willing to participate in civic activities at local, regional, and national levels;
- Foster and promote a healthy and safe learning environment that encourages the academic and personal growth of students and supports healthy behaviors and lifestyle choices;
- Enhance the reputation of Boise State University as an institution of distinction and choice among students, by providing them with an exceptional, relevant, well-rounded learning experience.