

First steps when arriving in Russia

1 step. Obtaining a migration card

Migration card — is a document that confirms that you have crossed the border of the Russian Federation legally. It is filled out by all foreigners who come to Russia with or without a visa. Migration card forms are issued on the plane, train, before passing through passport control at the airport or train station.

When filling out the migration card, you must select and emphasize **the purpose of entry — “study”**.

This document must be filled out in Russian or in English if you do not know Russian. But if you fill in the migration card in English, then you will need to have it translated by a notary when you receive your permit for residence or temporary residence permit.

TIP

Be sure to check the data in the migration card. If you notice an error in place of border crossing, you can immediately contact a checkpoint officer. If you notice the mistake later, you will have to get a duplicate migration card from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation. When the border guard officer picks up the card, do not forget to take the tear-off part of the form. This is your migration card.

Step 2. Notification of Arrival

Upon arrival at the place of study, the international student must notify the representatives of the educational organisation of his/her arrival on the same day on the same day to the representatives of the educational organisation:

- **to the dean's office of your faculty;**
- **specialists in working with international students.**

Step 3. Migration registration (obtaining registration)

Within **7 working days** from the date of entry into the country, you must be registered at the place of stay (registration).

- **Citizens of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan — within 15 days from the date of entry into the Russian Federation;**
- **Citizens of Armenia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan — within 30 days;**
- **Citizens of Belarus — 90 days.**

For this purpose it is necessary to provide the host party (dormitory, hotel, flat owner):

- **photocopy of passport;**
- **photocopy of the migration card.**

Registration must necessarily coincide with the address of actual residence!



All foreign citizens must be placed on migration registration (registered at the place of stay) strictly at the address of actual stay.

I will live in a dormitory

An employee of the University's Migration Registration Department will help you to issue a notification of registration at the place of stay. Contact them on the next working day after your arrival with a full set of documents.

I will be staying in a hotel

The administrator of the hotel will issue a notification of registration for migration registration. Do not forget to get it and bring it to the University Migration Office.

I will live in the flat

Remember, living in a flat does not exempt you from migration registration. Together with the owner of the flat, on the next working day after your arrival, you should go to the Migration Department of the municipality where the flat is located and issue a notification of migration registration. You will need an application from the university. To obtain it, contact a member of staff of the migration department of the university. After you receive the notification, remember to bring it to the university's migration department.

Step 4. Voluntary health insurance policy

If you decide to make a VHI policy for a short period of time before entering the Russian Federation, then before its expiration, you must receive a new VHI policy for a longer period.

TIP

In which company it is better to make a VHI policy, you can ask in the international department of your university. You can also search for information on the university's website and ask senior colleagues who have already issued a VHI policy.

Step 5. Medical examination and fingerprinting

Foreign students arriving in Russia for a long term, **within 90 days** from the date of entry must undergo:

- 1. medical examination (every year);**
- 2. dactyloscopic registration and photographing (every 5 years).**

The procedures must begin to take place in the specified order immediately after the initial temporary registration is ready. You can find out where to undergo these procedures in your city in the international department of your university.

TIP

Take a Russian-speaking friend with you if you have difficulties in communicating with the staff.

The dactyloscopic registration and photographing can be done at the representative offices of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation abroad. Card is issued upon arrival in Russia by an authorised body of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation.