Congratulations on your acceptance to Marist College! The Center for Multicultural Affairs welcomes you to the Marist community. We look forward to your arrival and to assisting you throughout your future academic career.

Each semester, Marist schedules an Orientation Program specially designed for new international students. This informative program will take place from Tuesday through Friday, 25-28 August 2015.

**All international students are required to attend**

Please make arrangements to arrive in the USA before Tuesday, 25 August 2015, and confirm your attendance at orientation by completing the form on the link below:

http://www.marist.edu/academics/multicultural/orientation-registration.html

When: Tuesday, 25 August, promptly at 9:30 a.m.
Where: The Student Center, Nelly Goletti Theater

Orientation Program

The Marist International Orientation Program is a four-day, intensive workshop before classes start, with additional American Culture and Language Seminar sessions during the semester. This seminar will enable you to understand the academic practices and policies vital to success at college in the United States. It will also provide you with a better understanding of American cultural practices. Open discussion is encouraged in the seminar. Both the orientation workshop and seminar are mandatory for all international students.

Graduate students who require temporary housing may stay on campus for the nights of 24 and 25 August 2015 only as Undergraduate residents will return on the morning of 26 August 2015. It becomes necessary for graduate students to move out at that time.

Please Note: There will be an additional charge of $130 USD for the orientation program (this includes both the intensive workshop and the additional seminar sessions).

Helpful Information

The Center for Multicultural Affairs understands the initial hurdles a visitor can encounter in a new country and would like to provide information to help facilitate your arrival at Marist. Based upon our experience, international students often need help in the following areas:

- Information about transportation from John F. Kennedy (JFK) and other area airports
- Housing accommodations
- Information about the academic and financial requirements of Marist College
- Health insurance
- Employment information
Transportation from the Airport
The least expensive way to get from JFK airport (and from other area airports) to Marist College is to take a shuttle bus to the train.

Shuttle bus is by New York Airport Service,

**Website:** [www.NYCAIRPORTER.com](http://www.NYCAIRPORTER.com)
**Telephone:** (718) 777-5111
**Cost:** (approximately $15 USD) from the airport to Grand Central Railroad Terminal, located on 42nd Street in Manhattan, New York City.

For Metro-North train schedules and information: [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info)

Purchase tickets to Poughkeepsie in the lobby of Grand Central Terminal. Tickets need to be for the Metro North Hudson Line.

**Cost:** approximately $27 USD

Upon arrival in Poughkeepsie, you may take a taxi (cost: approximately $6 USD) for the short ride to Marist College.

*Ask the driver to take you directly to Donnelly Hall where you will check in with the Security Office. A security officer will inform the Center for Multicultural Affairs (campus ext. 3204) of your arrival.*

Alternative Transportation:
As an alternative you may choose to take a taxi or car service. A taxi from JFK airport to Grand Central Terminal, although it will be more expensive than taking the airport shuttle bus (see instructions above).

A taxi ride directly from JFK airport to Marist College is also possible; however, it will cost approximately $300 USD or more.

Another convenient but more expensive option is to hire a car and driver through a car service to take you directly from JFK airport to Marist College. If you coordinate your arrival with other students who are coming to Marist on the same day, you can divide the cost making it more affordable. Examples of such car services are:

- Mid-Hudson Limousine Service, [www.midhudsonlimo.com](http://www.midhudsonlimo.com) (888) 800-3627

Directions to Marist College from the New York City area (by car)
**Marist College** is located at 3399 North Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Detailed driving information: is available at the Marist College Visitor’s Center at [www.marist.edu/about/visit.html](http://www.marist.edu/about/visit.html)

General Directions:
Take Route 87 (NY State Thruway) North to exit 18. Go East on Route 299 to Route 9-W. Make a right on Route 9-W South to the Mid-Hudson Bridge. Cross the bridge and take the first exit to Route 9 North. Drive approximately two miles; Marist College is on the left.  

*or*
Take Route 684 North to Interstate 84. Go East on 84 to exit 13. Take Route 9 North approximately 14 miles; Marist College is on the left.

**Poughkeepsie Hotel Accommodations Closest to Marist College**

Holiday Inn Express  
(approximately 10 minutes by taxi from the Marist campus)  
341 South Road (Route 9)  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Tel: 001-845-473-1151, Fax: 001-845-485-8127  

Residence Inn  
(approximately 10 minutes by taxi from the Marist campus)  
2525 South Road (Route 9)  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Tel: 001-845-463-4343, Fax: 001-845-463-4344  

Courtyard Marriott  
(approximately 10 minutes by taxi from the Marist campus)  
2641 South Road (Route 9)  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Tel: 001-845-485-6336, Fax: 001-845-485-6514  

**NOTE:** There are many other hotels in the area. These are just the closest to Marist College. For more information about lodging in the area check the Dutchess County Tourism site at [http://www.dutchesstourism.com](http://www.dutchesstourism.com)

**Housing**

Graduate international students live off-campus. There is no campus housing for graduate students at Marist College.

For information about off-campus housing, please read all of the information and links on the Marist College off-campus housing page at [www.marist.edu/housing/offcampus](http://www.marist.edu/housing/offcampus)

Off-campus apartments with one bedroom may be rented beginning at approximately $1,500 USD per month. A two-bedroom apartment can be rented for approximately $1,800 USD. A single-bedroom apartment may be shared by two students and a two-bedroom apartment by four. Of course, you may choose to stay in a single-bedroom apartment by yourself or rent an apartment in a higher price range. Most students share apartments. It is up to you to contact your fellow students regarding their willingness to share living accommodations. As a rule, apartments are leased for one year. Landlords usually demand one month’s rent in advance and require an additional month’s rent as a security deposit. In order to secure housing, please be prepared to bring enough funds to cover the estimated costs. Usually, apartments are not furnished. You may need to purchase essentials: a bed, dresser, and
desk, upon your arrival. Many students have been able to obtain second-hand furniture at reasonable rates. Please plan your finances accordingly.

**Registration for Courses**
Incoming graduate students will meet with their academic advisor during orientation to arrange a complete course plan prior to the start of classes.

**Course Load and Tuition Costs**
In accordance with requirements for your student visa, you must enroll at Marist for a full-time course load. The academic year consists of the fall and spring semesters. A limited number of courses are also offered during the summer and January intercessions. Full-time study consists of 9 - 12 credit hours of coursework (three to four courses) each semester for graduate students.

Graduate tuition for the 2015-2016 academic year is $750 USD per credit hour. Tuition and fees may change for the 2016-2017 academic year. Please check the Marist College web site for more detailed information about fees and full cost of attendance at [www.marist.edu/financialaid](http://www.marist.edu/financialaid).

Graduate tuition and fees are due in August prior to the start of classes. Please note that you are expected to pay your semester bill (tuition, fees, medical insurance, and orientation) in full before the start of classes. You will also want to have money readily available for books (which can cost as much as $250 USD per course) and other living expenses.

**International Student Health Insurance**
International students are required to have medical insurance. A medical accident and sickness policy is offered through Marist at an annual cost of approximately $1,410 USD. All international students must purchase this policy.

Please see [http://www.marist.edu/financialaid/pdfs/mhsinsuranceplanbrochure1415.pdf](http://www.marist.edu/financialaid/pdfs/mhsinsuranceplanbrochure1415.pdf) for medical insurance policy details.

**Reminder:** New York State Law requires certain immunizations of all entering students and recommends certain others. Please complete all health forms and submit them to Enrollment Services. Forms can be found at [http://www.marist.edu/healthservices/healthforms](http://www.marist.edu/healthservices/healthforms).

**Campus Employment**
International students are eligible to work on campus.

Please note although opportunities exist for on-campus employment, *jobs are quite competitive and may not be available during your first semester*. Please plan your finances accordingly. Do not rely on campus employment.

If employed, you will be paid for the work that you perform on a bi-weekly basis. International students are limited to a maximum of 20 hours per week of campus employment during the academic year. Students may work up to 40 hours during the summer and during semester breaks. According to United States Department of Homeland Security regulations, off-campus employment is *not* permitted for international students on F-1 visas unless it is through an approved academic internship program.
All tuition and fees need to be paid in full when registering, even if you are receiving student employment consideration.

**Climate**
The weather in Poughkeepsie varies a great deal. During the summer, temperatures may go above 90° Fahrenheit (33°Celsius); and during the winter, they often go well below the freezing point, 32°F (0°C). You will need warm clothing (boots, hats, gloves, and a heavy coat) for the winter because Poughkeepsie can get snow and ice from November through March. During the fall and spring, the weather is generally very pleasant.

**Additional Information**
We hope that this information will assist you in your preparation. The orientation program will provide you with answers to your questions and will assist you in your transition to a new and exciting academic experience.

Helpful information for students new to Marist and the United States can be found in our International Student Handbook on the Marist web site at

www.marist.edu/academics/multicultural/pdfs/internationalstudenthandbook2010.pdf

For additional information you may wish to contact one of our graduate student orientation leaders:

Pritesh.Ghandi1@Marist.edu
Dhanesh.Chandrasekaran1@Marist.edu
Rohit.Salpe1@Marist.edu,
Dinesh.Mendhe1@Marist.edu
Chaithanyakrishna.Noti1@Marist.edu

who are current Marist graduate students, or you may contact the Program Coordinator at Karen.Tomkins-Tinch@Marist.edu

The Center for Multicultural Affairs will be here to assist you throughout your years at Marist. We look forward to seeing you at international student orientation.

*Again, the Center for Multicultural Affairs welcomes you to Marist!*
Details:

Who: ALL International Students
What: International Student Orientation
Where: Marist College, Student Center, Nelly Goletti Theater
When: 25 - 28 August 2015
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Confirmation:
http://www.marist.edu/academics/multicultural/orientation-registration.html

CENTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS
International Student Orientation
Karen Tomkins-Tinch
Coordinator of International Student Programs and Services
Marist College
3399 North Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387

phone: 001-845-575-3204 x2818
e-mail: Karen.Tomkins-Tinch@Marist.edu

Iris Ruiz-Grech
Director, Center for Multicultural Affairs
Marist College
3399 North Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387

phone: 001-845-575-3204
e-mail: Iris.Ruiz-Grech@Marist.edu