Getting Ready to Study at PSU

- Learning about PSU Student Information System
- Tuition fee payment
- Managing your finances
- Financial assistance for international students
- Arranging accommodation
- Learning about student life
- Making travel arrangements
- Packing for your trip
- Checklist

CHAPTER 2



After finalizing the visa application process, you can start preparing for your journey to PSU.

This includes preparing your finances, arranging your accommodations, learning about student life, making your travel arrangements and packing. If you have any questions before you arrive in Thailand, be sure to contact the International Students and Staff Office team or your contact person at the related PSU faculty.

Offices on campus are open Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, except the official national holidays.



Learning about PSU Student Information System

PSU uses an internet-based system for managing student records called Student Information System (SIS). You will use SIS to register for courses, but first you will have to receive a PSU Passport from your faculty. Once you arrive at PSU, the faculty will contact the Registrar's Office, which will generate a PSU Passport for you. This Passport is your user ID and password to access the SIS system. Please remember to personalize your password and activate your PSU Passport.

Through this Passport you will have access to the university's student system, where you can find your classes schedule, financial records, transcript and other important information regarding your study at PSU.



1. Bill Payment System

Students can pay their tuition fee through Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited, Bangkok Bank Public Company Limited, or Krung Thai Bank Public Company Limited. The bill must be settled at least three (3) working days before the registration period. Students are strongly requested to carefully check the reference number of the payment slip that must have the same digits with the reference document issued by the Bank. In case of any mistake, student should immediately contact the Bank for correction; otherwise, the registration will not be completed.

2. Direct Pay System

The money will be withdrawn online directly from the student's Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited account. The payment procedures can be obtained from http://sis.psu.ac.th. In order to enable the Direct Pay System, students are required to open an account at Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited and apply for an ATM card. Moreover, students have to sign the Authorization Form which allows the Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited to online withdraw money from their account via the ATM machine at least 30 working days before the registration period. The authorization form is valid from the signing date and is effective for every semester thereafter.

However, in some cases, students might be requested to resign the Authorization Form because of the following reasons:

- the unintended loss of the account number from the system,
- the wrong account number,
- the change of the account number or student ID number.

Students who want to settle the bill with this system must deposit in their account an amount of money including the total amount of tuition fee they have to pay, plus at least 300 Baht more. Payment made after the deadline is subject to a fine of 500 Baht.

Managing your finances

One of the most important things you must do before you depart is to make sure that you have enough money to cover your tuition and all of your expenses in Thailand. Do not forget that you may need to also provide this information in order to obtain your Non-immigrant "Ed" Visa.

The estimated living expenses for one person for one year of study at Prince of Songkla University are as follows:

- Accommodation (plus utilities and amenities): 60,000 Thai Baht / per year (5,000 THB/month)
- Books and Supplies: 5,000 Thai Baht / per year
- Meals: 60,000 Thai Baht / per year (5,000 THB /month)
- Health Insurance Coverage: 2,000 6,000 Thai Baht / per year

Please note that:

- * All costs are approximated at the time of writing, and should be used as a guideline only. The cost of living may differ depending on your lifestyle and general economy.
- * Health insurance charges are set by the health care provider and are subject to change at their discretion.
- * If you are bringing any family members, you should re-estimate the budget accordingly.

Financial assistance for international students

PSU offers financial support for international students in the form of scholarships, which are available for both undergraduate and graduate students.

For undergraduate international students, PSU, as well as each faculty, offers scholarships. However, the official process requires that your faculty must apply for a scholarship on your behalf, once you have been accepted as a PSU student. Therefore, contact the International Affairs officer and/or advisor at your faculty and let them know that you would like to apply for a scholarship.

The PSU scholarships for graduate students are listed on the PSU Graduate School's website below: https://grad.psu.ac.th/en/news/scholarship.html.

Arranging accommodation

You may opt for an accommodation either on or off campus. We advise you to finalize your living arrangements before arriving at PSU.

1. Student Dormitories

Many students find that living on campus is a great way to meet new people and become familiar with PSU's green and relaxing surroundings, while being in a safe and secured environment. International students will be accommodated in rooms with other students of the same gender in selected on-campus dormitories.







PSU International Students' Comments about Dormitories: "Life at PSU"

How to apply for on-campus housing?

The 1st-year students must contact their faculty to book a room for them.

Please book your accommodation as early as possible. It is advised to book your on-campus housing at least three (3) months previous your arriving date to PSU. In case of any difficulties with the on-line booking system, please contact Student Affairs at dorm.psu.ac.th.

2. Alternative Accommodations

Some foreigners may opt to lease housing in town. Most apartments in Hat Yai and the surrounding areas are similar to studio apartments - a single room with a restroom and balcony. Houses may also be rented, if you let your faculty's contact know well in advance.

How to book off-campus housing?

Please contact the International Affairs officer/adviser at your faculty at PSU, in order for them to help you book an off-campus accommodation.



Learning about student life

You may have many questions about what is like to study and live at PSU. That is why PSU provides you with a wealth of opportunities for networking, socializing and making friends through the social and cultural activities organized through its International Students Association (PSU-ISA) website and Facebook page.





Making Travel Arrangements

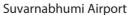
The first thing you should plan is to arrive at PSU at least one week before the term begins, in order for you to have time to make the final arrangements for your comfortable setting. This will also give you time to become acquainted with the campus and Hat Yai city before classes begin. Be sure that you inform your faculty's contact well in advance about your arrival date at PSU Hat Yai Campus.

Airline travel

Most international students travel to Thailand by air. Remember that PSU Hat Yai Campus is located in the South of Thailand, at about one hour and fifteen minutes flying from Bangkok and 60 km from the Malaysian border. To reach PSU Hat Yai Campus, you must take one more flight from Bangkok to Hat Yai.

You must know that there are two airports in Bangkok: Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) and Don Muang Airport (DMK). There are connecting flights from both airports to Hat Yai International Airport (HDY).







Don Muang Airport

If you need assistance for making travel arrangements, you may contact the International Students and Staff Office, but please be aware of the opening hours of the offices on campus, which are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (all offices are closed during weekends and official holidays).

Airport pick-up service

There are several ways to travel from the airport to PSU, but generally, PSU faculties provide an airport pick-up service for their new coming international students. Be sure that you let your contact person at the faculty know way in advance about your exact arrival date and time to Hat Yai International Airport.

If you already made arrangements for an airport pick-up service with your faculty, your trip will be very simple. A PSU representative will wait for you at the exit gate, holding a PSU sign.

If you did not arrange a pick-up service, please see how you can get from Hat Yai airport to PSU in "Chapter 5: In Hat Yai".

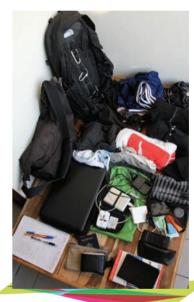
Traveling by Train or Bus

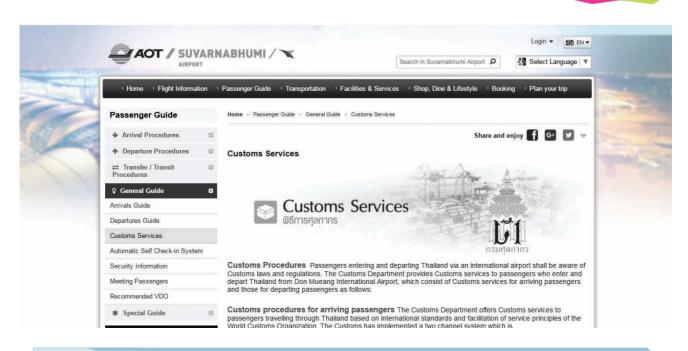
If you did not arrange a pick-up service with your faculty, please read "Chapter 5: In Hat Yai" about how you can travel to PSU if you arrive in Hat Yai by train or bus.

Packing for Your Trip

Moving to a new country is exciting, but it can also be challenging. If this is the first time that you have lived away from home, you may be feeling anxious and worried about what items to bring with you to Thailand. No matter how you are travelling, there may be restrictions on the amount of luggage you can bring or the type of items allowed.

Before you start packing: verify your luggage restrictions with your airline, check which items are not permitted through Thai Customs; make sure that you do not pack any money or valuable items in your checked luggage; plan to pack two sets of clothing in your hand luggage in case your flight is delayed or if your luggage is lost in transit.





CHECKLIST

Learned about PSU SIS

to get Ready for my Journey:

		Prepared my budget
		Arranged my accommodation
		Made my travel arrangements
		Contacted faculty for airport pick-up or plan a transportation to PSU
		Verified luggage restrictions with the airline, bus or train company
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