The following information is not exhaustive. It is meant to provide you with a fairly wide-ranging list of University-wide resources for international graduate students. Please feel free to use this information as you see fit for recruitment and advising purposes.

Educational Resource Center (ERC)
www.bu.edu/erc

What is the ERC?
The Educational Resource Center helps Boston University students develop the range and depth of academic skills required by the University’s rigorous programs. The center serves as an academic referral, training, and information resource for the University community; including faculty, staff, administration, parents, alumni, and both undergraduate and graduate students.

ERC Language Link
The ERC Language Link offers BU students, faculty, staff, and alumni the opportunity to take part in conversation groups in languages other than English. Programs serve as opportunities for informal cultural exchange.

- English Language Practice: Language Link offers an English program for non-native speakers of English.
- ESL Pronunciation Tutoring: a pilot program launched by the CAS Center for Writing, offering small-group tutorials for ESL pronunciation. Students for whom English is not a first language, and who are currently taking any WR class or are CAS students, are eligible at this time.

BU First Class
www.bu.edu/globalprograms/engage/first-class

What is First Class?
First Class is an online, noncredit course launched through Global Programs designed to prepare incoming international students for the transition to BU and the American classroom.

What is included?
- Three units: (1) the American classroom, (2) academic integrity and expectations, and (3) orientation;
- Comprised of short videos, polls, and quizzes designed to help incoming international students familiarize themselves with the BU academic culture;
- It is meant for graduate and undergraduate students, although some information in Unit 3, regarding dorm move-in and introduction to the writing department, is primarily for undergrads.

Global Programs
https://www.bu.edu/global

Not directed specifically to international students, but shows BU’s commitment to being global.

- Our Global DNA
  - Displays, by numbers, BU’s global community
- Global Study and Research
  - BU’s professors, scholars, and researchers engage in study all around the world. All of our schools have global activities. This page allows you to sample the wide array of programs and study.
    - http://www.bu.edu/globalprograms/discover/study-research
International Students & Scholars Office (ISSO)
www.bu.edu/isco

The ISSO website provides excellent centralized resources for international students:

- New Student FAQ (http://www.bu.edu/isco/getting-started/new-student-faq)
- Executive Order updates
  - Detailed information; updated frequently
- How does the Executive Order affect me?
  - Broken down by nationality, including Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen; U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents, Dual Nationals; Nationals from all other countries; U.S. citizens
- 2016 International Scholar Data
  - Numerical representation of international scholars
- Immigration Overview
  - Helpful links and information on student and scholar classifications. This page can also direct you to information on how to maintain your immigration status.
  - http://www.bu.edu/isco/immigration-status/immigration-overview

Center for English Language & Orientation Programs (CELOP)
www.bu.edu/celop

Who does CELOP serve?
CELOP programs are primarily designed for individuals who need English to succeed in their academic or professional careers.

CELOP Programs
- English intensive courses
- Professional courses (pre-MBA, legal English program, etc.)
- Free English tutoring
- Conversation Partner Program
  - As a way to practice English outside of the classroom, this program matches CELOP students with English speakers who are students and members of the BU community.
  - Meetings are typically one hour per week
  - http://www.bu.edu/celop/support-resources/student-life/conversation-partners

CELOP Bridge Programs
CELOP works with many schools and colleges at BU to bridge students from an English-language program to a graduate degree. They create custom programs based on the needs of the individual school, college, or program. For information, contact CELOP directly.

Dean of Students
www.bu.edu/dos

FYI Student Blog
- Immigration Town Hall https://www.bu.edu/dos/2017/02/01/bu-immigration-town-hall
- How the Trump Administration Could Impact International Study in the U.S.
  http://www.bu.edu/dos/2017/02/15/the-future-of-international-study-how-might-it-be-impacted

Lifebook
- Detailed information on BU policies http://www.bu.edu/dos/policies/lifebook
News articles highlighting BU’s active response to the travel ban:

- “International Students Need to Know Their Rights” [http://www.bu.edu/today/2017/know-your-rights](http://www.bu.edu/today/2017/know-your-rights)

BU Behavioral Medicine
[www.bu.edu/shs/behavioral](http://www.bu.edu/shs/behavioral)

In addition to the counseling services offered through Behavioral Medicine, you will find information related to socio-political stress. This may be particularly helpful for students that are affected by the Executive Orders, or for those students that want to talk about what it may mean for them. [http://www.bu.edu/shs/files/2017/02/Coping-with-socio-political-stress_2_2017.pdf](http://www.bu.edu/shs/files/2017/02/Coping-with-socio-political-stress_2_2017.pdf)

Student Organizations (Graduate)

- Chinese Students and Scholars Association
- Iranian Student Organization
- Taiwanese Student Association

Marsh Chapel
[www.bu.edu/chapel](http://www.bu.edu/chapel)

In addition to worship services, the Marsh Chapel hosts the Global Dinner Club, which is a group that creates safe, sacred spaces for fellowship, relational ministry, and spiritual exploration. Primarily they do this by cooking cultural foods together, sharing stories, and discussing culture. This group is open to people of all nationalities and religions and thrives on diversity.

ISSO Hub
[www.bu.edu/globalprograms/hub](http://www.bu.edu/globalprograms/hub)

Important note: the ISSO Hub is designed to be a resource for all BU students. There is a lot of information available but, at times, it can be difficult or confusing to navigate for an international student. Some resources are not properly organized, but we’ve pulled out those that are relevant and informative. There is some overlap in information with ISSO’s webpage. The resources are broken down into five categories: Academic, Community, Health/Safety, Career/Employment, and Housing.

Academics

- Tips for BU’s New International Students
  - A feature done through BU Today
  - Testimonials from current BU international students; advice about the BU experience
- Applying for a Visa
  - Informative YouTube video
- International Student Orientation
- Shout-out to SED Graduate Student Services
  - SED has prepared an excellent guidebook for their students. Please don’t copy this, but do feel free to use it as a model for something similar in your school.
    - [http://www.bu.edu/sed/files/2016/08/Graduate-Student-Guidebook_V2.pdf](http://www.bu.edu/sed/files/2016/08/Graduate-Student-Guidebook_V2.pdf)
- Videos
  - Success in the U.S. Classroom
  - Writing in the U.S. Classroom
Community

- Howard Thurman Center for Common Ground
  - Focus on unity of all people, and holds a number of events encouraging students to come together.
  - Culture Council
    - A program that brings together various cultural student groups to facilitate the development of relationships among its member and to encourage collaboration.
    - http://www.bu.edu/thurman/programs/culture-council
- Travel & Visas
- Banking and Currency
- Various student groups (primarily though schools)
  - BU Hindu Students Council
  - Islamic Society

Please note that the information related to residence life in the Community section is heavily focused on undergraduate students living in on-campus residences.

Health and Safety

- Medical Care, Immunization, and Health Insurance
- Student Health Services Emergency Numbers http://www.bu.edu/shs/emergencies

Please note the following in the Health and Safety section (we have reported dead links):
- Virtual tour found in the International Students page does not include graduate schools.
- On the visa page (found under the International Students page), information could be misleading since it is undergraduate focused.

Housing

- Top Ten Things to Know Before Signing a Lease
- Common Renting Terms

Please note the following:
- The page “Off-Campus Housing Resources for International Students” directs you to a page run by the medical campus. It provides a lot of valuable information, but could be confusing to incoming students that are not entering a program on the medical campus.

Employment

- Employment & Internships
  - Information for international students on employment and internships
  - https://www.bu.edu/isso/employment-internships
- Immigration Status
- Know the Conditions of Your Work Permission

Questions about this document? Contact
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