

Student ID To-Do List **2026** *(For Students Abroad)*



Before You Travel

Make sure you prepare all documents and basic items you'll need to apply for your student ID once you arrive abroad.

- 1 Accept your university offer**

You can't apply for a student ID until your enrollment is confirmed.
- 2 Pay your tuition deposit**

Some universities issue IDs only after the first payment is made.
- 3 Collect your admission letter**

This acts as your proof of enrollment for both university and international ID.
- 4 Keep passport and visa copies ready**

These will be needed for ID verification.
- 5 Print passport-size photos**

Most institutions still need a physical photo for your card.
- 6 Create a student email account**

You'll need this to activate student discounts online.
- 7 Check your university's orientation schedule**

Student IDs are often given out during orientation week.
- 8 Bookmark ISIC or TOTUM websites**

So you can apply for your international ID after arriving.
- 9 Download GradSearch app or visit website**

Compare universities and find where student benefits are included.
- 10 Join WhatsApp support group**

Ask your university or GradStar advisor to join their student support group before arrival.

After You Arrive at University

These are the steps to get your local university student ID card and use it effectively.

- 1 Register in person at your university**

Bring your passport, visa, and admission letter.
- 2 Attend orientation**

Most universities issue IDs during the first week.
- 3 Visit the Student Services Office**

If you miss orientation, you can still get your ID here.
- 4 Provide your student number and photo**

This is usually taken on-site.
- 5 Pick up your student ID card**

Check your details carefully before leaving the counter.
- 6 Activate your digital student ID (if available)**

Many schools offer mobile versions for quick access.
- 7 Use your ID to open a bank account or get a SIM card**

Many providers offer special student rates.
- 8 Link your ID with your transport pass**

For cheaper metro or bus tickets.
- 9 Use your ID for library and lab access**

It's your key to all on-campus resources.
- 10 Keep your card safe**

Lost cards often cost \$10–\$25 to replace.

Apply for an International Student ID (ISIC or Equivalent)

An International Student Identity Card (ISIC) helps you get discounts worldwide. Here's how to get one.

- 1 Go to isic.org**

Choose your country of issue.
- 2 Prepare your documents**

Passport, proof of enrollment, and a digital photo.
- 3 Fill out the online form**

Takes less than 10 minutes.
- 4 Pay the small fee (USD 10–25)**

Depends on where you apply from.
- 5 Wait for approval and delivery**

Digital version is ready instantly; physical card in 1–3 weeks.
- 6 Download the ISIC App**

Use it to browse student discounts in your host country.
- 7 Verify your card on the app**

Activate it with the code sent to your email.
- 8 Start using your student ID abroad!**

Flash it at stores, attractions, and during travel.

How to Use Your Student ID for Discounts

Learn to save money the smart way with your new card.

1

Public Transport

Student metro cards, bus passes, or semester tickets (up to 50% off)

2

Food & Coffee Shops

Chain cafes like Starbucks, Costa, or Subway often have student menus.

3

Bookstores & Stationery

Save 10–15% on textbooks and supplies.

4

Software & Apps

Adobe, Canva, and Spotify offer special student plans

5

Museums, Cinemas & Events

Show your card for reduced entry.

6

Clothing Stores

Brands like Nike, ASOS, and Levi's offer 10–20% off for students.

7

Travel & Flights

Airlines like Qatar Airways, Lufthansa, and Emirates have student deals.

8

Online Learning Platforms

Coursera and Skillshare have student-only pricing.

Renewal & Maintenance

Don't forget — your student ID isn't forever!

- 1 Check expiry date**
Usually valid for one academic year.
- 2 Renew before expiry**
Apply at least one month early to avoid losing discounts.
- 3 Update your student photo**
Some schools require a new photo each year.
- 4 Replace lost cards immediately**
Visit student services to reissue.
- 5 Update your ISIC number online**
Renewal is quick and can be done digitally.

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