



UNIVERSITY of  
DAYTON



<b>Important Numbers</b>	
Emergency (from on-campus phone) .....	911
*Public Safety .....	229-2121
Student Escort (Mom's Limo) .....	229-2124
Parking Services .....	229-2128
Health Center.....	229-3131
*Program Public Safety's number into your cell phone	



Guide for  
International  
Students

**The University of Dayton  
Department of Public Safety**  
  
300 College Park  
Dayton OH 45469-2914  
phone: (937) 229-2121  
e-mail: [pub.safety@udayton.edu](mailto:pub.safety@udayton.edu)  
web site: <http://www.udayton.edu/~safety/>



Guide for International Students

The purpose of this guide is to prepare you to understand the rules of a new culture so that you can have a safe and productive experience. Failure to comply with the laws of the United States and the State of Ohio may have serious consequences, including large fines, being taken to court or even jail. The University of Dayton wants you to have an excellent and safe learning experience. The Department of Public Safety is here to help keep you safe. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask an officer for help.

### **Alcohol**

It is against the law for anyone under 21 years of age to purchase, possess or consume alcoholic beverages, to include beer, wine and liquor. Even if you can consume such beverages in your home country, you cannot do so here.

It is against the law for anyone, regardless of age, to possess an open container of an alcoholic beverage in a public place or inside a motor vehicle.

### **Operating a Vehicle**

In order to drive a car or any other motor vehicle you must be properly licensed. You must have a valid driver's license issued by the State of Ohio. You may operate a vehicle temporarily if you have a valid license from another state, however you must obtain an Ohio license as soon as possible.

If you are the resident of a U.S. Territory, such as Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands, a valid driver's license from your home country is valid in the United States.

You may operate a motor vehicle with a temporary license issued by the State of Ohio as long as you have a fully licensed driver in the front seat of the vehicle with you.

The driver and front seat passenger/s are required by law to wear their seat belts. All persons under the age of 18 are required to wear a seatbelt in an automobile regardless of their position in the automobile.

Children under four years of age and/or weighing less than 40 pounds must be secured in a child restraint device, commonly called a car seat.

A vehicle must display valid license plates that are issued to the vehicle they are on.

All motor vehicles must be insured and you must have the insurance card (proof of insurance) in your possession.

A motorcycle driver must obtain a special license (called an endorsement) in order to operate the motorcycle.

New motorcycle drivers and passengers must wear an approved helmet.

Failure to have a valid driver's license and/or operating a vehicle without having proper registration for the vehicle may result in you being taken to jail and/or having the vehicle towed to an impound yard. It will cost you hundreds of dollars to correct this error and you may have to appear in court.

### **Contact with the Police**

If you are stopped by a police officer keep your hands in plain view and do not make any sudden movements that could be interpreted as trying to reach for or hide something. Do not exit your vehicle unless told to do so. Wait for the officer to approach you and ask you for your driver's license.

Do not flee from or be aggressive with police officers. Comply and cooperate when asked.

Do not offer the officer any money or try to pay your fines on the spot. This is not an accepted custom in the United States.

Don't be afraid to look someone in the eyes

when speaking with them—it is not disrespectful to do so in the U.S. In the United States NOT looking someone in the eyes is often perceived as being untruthful or deceptive.

### **Equal Rights**

Men and women have equal rights in the United States. You may express your own opinion, dress how you wish and go where you would like without being harassed or having to obtain someone else's permission first.

You have the right to practice your religion and worship as you wish.

*Call the Department  
of Public Safety if you are  
the victim of a crime. Our  
phone number is  
(937) 229-2121.*

*If you have a cell phone,  
program our number  
into it since you may not  
remember the number if  
you are under stress.*