

Dear Student;

(Please share this letter with your parents, if necessary)

Congratulations on your acceptance to Portland State University. We are delighted that you will be joining us here in Portland, Oregon. As you prepare to come to Portland State University for your studies, there are many things to prepare. One consideration you may have now and that we will discuss at International Student Orientation is mandatory health insurance coverage during your entire stay at PSU.

Please read the following information about the PSU Insurance Policy, effective Fall term, 2007:

International Student Accident and Health Insurance Plan

The State of Oregon government requires all international students to be covered by medical insurance. PSU offers a medical health insurance plan for you which we believe is complete, convenient, and cost-competitive. Beginning Fall term 2007, we will require that all PSU international students use this PSU plan.

However, we recognize that students who enter the country with a J-visa or who are sponsored by their embassies or governments may be fully covered by excellent insurance plans purchased in the home country.

J-1 students and embassy or government sponsored students may choose one of two options with regards to health insurance:

1. Provide an "Insurance Waiver" form with our office after arriving at PSU during the International Student Orientation. Please bring proof of insurance equal to or better than the insurance outlined below. If we find that the policy has coverage similar to the PSU plan, we will allow you to use your own insurance plan and we will not be required to purchase the PSU insurance plan. (If you wish to use an insurance plan from your home country, you must have obtained or purchased this insurance BEFORE you enter the United States.)

OR

2. Purchase the PSU plan. More information about PSU insurance and the waiver policy can be found on the following website: www.oia.pdx.edu/iss/insurance

The US Department of State requires that J-1 exchange visitors and their J-2 dependents have sickness and accident insurance for the duration of the J-1's program. **Minimum coverage must provide: medical benefits (\$50,000 per accident or illness), a deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness, expenses associated with the medical evacuation to the home country (\$10,000), and repatriation of remains (\$7,500).**

Please make sure that the insurance plan that you choose covers you fully from the day that you leave your home country until the day that you return, including periods before the start of your academic program and vacation periods in between. Also, please make sure that your insurance policy covers repatriation or evacuation back to your home country.

If you have any questions about the PSU international student accident and health insurance plan, or if you are interested in purchasing the PSU extended insurance plan for \$183 per term, please contact via e-mail DJ Jaspersen in the Office of International Students and Scholars, at jaspersond@pdx.edu

Thank you for choosing Portland State University. We look forward to meeting you soon!

Yours truly,

Judy Van Dyck
Director, Office of International Student and Scholar Services

J/embassy letter