

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRAVEL AND HOLIDAY INFORMATION FOR 2014-2015

Travel:

In order to avoid extra costs, prior to purchasing tickets a student's flight information should be approved by a Dean or the International Student Services Director. Students/parents may ask for assistance in researching flight possibilities if needed. The school calendar should always be used in travel planning. Days missed due to early departures or late arrivals are not excused absences AND the final exam schedule will not be altered to accommodate flights.

Outbound travel arrangements should be given to a Dean or International Student Services Director at least thirty days prior to departures so arrangements for transportation from SMA can be scheduled. Students submitting travel arrangements after this, specifically in the five-day window before travel, may incur extra charges. When making outbound flight reservations, please know **the last** bus transporting students taking **international flights** will depart for the airport in Austin at 6:00 a.m. the morning after school breaks for summer or long holidays to wait on their specific flights. Early flight departures will lessen the time students will be waiting in the airport.

Inbound travel arrangements should be provided as early as possible to a Dean or International Student Services Director so arrangements for transportation to SMA can be scheduled. Students should plan to arrive the weekend before classes begin for the fall semester and on Sunday afternoon following a long holiday (Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Break). Buses will pick up students from the airport at approximately 12:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. An Academy employee will be at the airport for assistance during this window of time. These times are considered our Transportation Window. Flights that do not arrive close to one of these pick up times causing an additional trip to the airport would be considered Out-Of-Window and will cost \$125.00.

Holidays:

Three times during the year the campus is closed: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Break.

Students should depart campus by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to a major holiday.

The following chart outlines options for international students on days when SMA dorms and dining hall are closed.

SITUATION	EXPLANATION	CHARGE
One Night Stay after school closes	<u>International flights</u> may prevent students from departing campus on the day that school closes. The dorm will remain open this one night for International students only.	Transportation charge only
Home-Stays	Students that are not traveling during long holidays may request placement in a Home Stay. Home Stays enable students to spend the holiday in the home of a person(s) the Academy has approved. These are limited and may not always be available. International parents should communicate with state-side relatives before requesting Home Stays.	\$100.00 per day + transportation
Spring Break Trip	This is a non-school sponsored trip that is planned and coordinated by a faculty member.	Pricing set by the company the trip is booked through.