



# Immigrant's Checklist: Moving to the United States



## Before Departure

- ☐ Confirm visa type (e.g., F-1, H-1B, EB Green Card, etc.)
- ☐ Collect all required immigration documents:
  - ☐ Valid passport
  - ☐ Visa stamp
  - ☐ I-551 (Green Card, if applicable)
  - ☐ Birth certificate
  - ☐ Marriage certificate (if applicable)
  - ☐ Police clearance certificate
  - ☐ Medical exam and vaccination records
- ☐ Make copies of all important documents
- ☐ Digitally scan and store documents securely
- ☐ Open a U.S. bank account (if possible before arrival)
- ☐ Transfer initial funds to cover living expenses
- ☐ Purchase international health insurance
- ☐ Schedule any required vaccinations or medical exams
- ☐ Verify job offer or university admission
- ☐ Book flight tickets and plan arrival logistics



## Upon Arrival in the U.S.

- ☐ Attend USCIS check-in (if required)
- ☐ Report change of address to USCIS within 10 days
- ☐ Apply for a Social Security Number (SSN) or ITIN
- ☐ Get an Alien Registration Receipt (Green Card) if not already received
- ☐ Open a local U.S. bank account
- ☐ Apply for a U.S. credit card
- ☐ Secure temporary or permanent housing
- ☐ Set up utilities (electricity, gas, water, internet, phone)
- ☐ Learn public transportation system

- ☐ Enroll in a health insurance plan
- ☐ Find a primary care doctor or clinic
- ☐ Join local immigrant support groups
- ☐ Obtain a state ID or driver's license



## **Long-Term Planning**

- ☐ Start building credit by paying bills on time
- ☐ Open a savings account and start emergency fund
- ☐ Contribute to retirement accounts (401(k), IRA) if available
- ☐ Network through local business associations
- ☐ Explore naturalization process (if planning to apply for citizenship)
- ☐ Keep traditions from your home country alive
- ☐ Learn about American customs, holidays, and etiquette