

# Student Arrival Resources

**Revised November 2018** 

## Welcome to Tulsa Community College!

Dear International Students,

We hope that you learn and have an enjoyable time while attending Tulsa Community College. It is our goal to make sure that you feel safe, cared for, and a part of the Tulsa community.

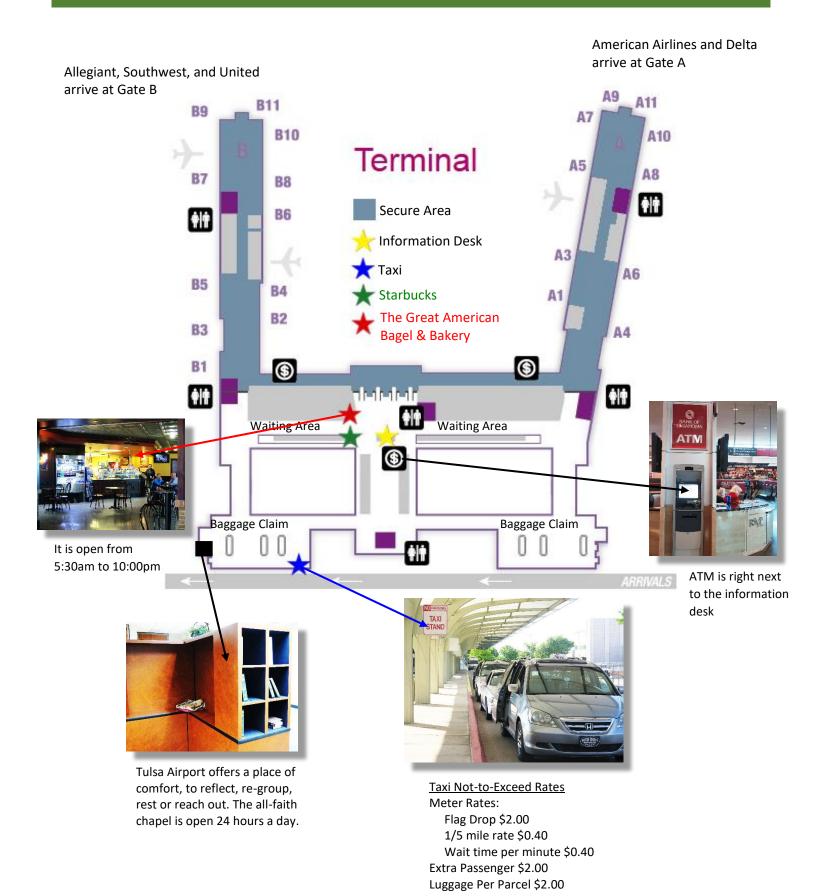
### Our office provides:

- Information to help you adjust to college and U.S. culture
- Advising services to help you maintain your immigration status and to follow your educational pathway at TCC
- Educational and social programs to help you meet U.S. students and other international students

-Activities for all international students including parties, and trips which help students to enjoy themselves and understand American culture.



# Tulsa Airport Map



### Housing

On-campus housing is not available at TCC. Local hotels are available and suitable as temporary housing. Please arrange your housing before arriving at TCC.

Make sure to ask about the rate for TCC international students.

- Hilton Garden Inn Midtown (near TCC Conference Center)
- Fairfield Inn & Suites Tulsa Southeast/Crossroad Village (near TCC Southeast campus)
- Staybridge Suites Tulsa (near TCC Southeast campus)
- Holiday Inn Tulsa City Center (near TCC Metro campus, airport shuttle service available)

### Apartments

Apartments below have a refrigerator, stove, microwave, A/C unit as well as cable and internet ports. Some of them have washer and dryer in each unit. None of them are furnished and utilities are not included in the rent.

### Near Southeast Campus:

- Remington at Memorial
- <u>Cascata Luxury Apartments</u>
- Stonehaven Villas Apartments
- Woodland Park Apartment Homes
- Sonoma Grande Apartment Homes

Near Metro Campus:

- 📥 Mansion House Apartment Homes
- University Club Apartment Homes

Renaissance Uptown Apartments
Direct Bus Route to Campus:

- Cobblestone Apartments
- Huntington Hollow Apartments
- 🖊 Lincoln Glens Apartments
- Red River Apartments

When you rent an apartment, please read the lease term carefully (e.g. minimum length of lease, how many persons may occupy the apartment, pet policy, security deposit, parking etc.) Some apartments include utilities in their rent. Water: the City of Tulsa manages the water lines and the sewer system. Call (918) 596-9511 to set up your account. They require a copy of your passport and \$110 deposit.

**Gas:** Oklahoma Natural Gas manages our gas lines. Call (800) 664-5463 to set up your account. They require a copy of your passport.

**Electricity:** Public Service Company of Oklahoma manages Tulsa area electricity. Call (888) 216-3523 to set up your account. The deposit amount varies per location. They require a copy of your passport.

Internet: Cox, AT&T (DirectTV), Windstream and BTC are currently available in Tulsa area. Also, fourteen libraries and some restaurants offer internet access to the public. TCC provides free WiFi access for students.

**Cell Phone:** AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile, Sprint, and Cricket are reliable providers.

### **Renters** Insurance

Although it is not required by the law, it is worth looking into buying Renters Insurance. It is relatively inexpensive so there is really no reason not to have it. It covers fire damage, theft, and weather damage. Renters Insurance provides coverage for your personal belongings, whether they are in your home, car, or with you while you travel. In addition, it provides liability coverage in case someone is injured in your apartment. Be sure you understand what your policy covers. Ask your agent about available student discounts, bundle discounts, deductibles and coverage limits.



Things you may need for your new place...

**Kitchen:** plates, bowls, cups, silverware, paper towel, dish soap, dishcloth, kitchen utensils, pots and pans, trash can, trash can liner, cutting board, knife

Living Room: couch, TV\*, coffee table Bathroom: towel, shower curtain, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, hair dryer

**Bedroom:** bed, mattress, pillow, set of sheets, comforter and blanket **Other:** laundry detergent, laundry basket, vacuum cleaner, iron, ironing board

\*we recommend you to purchase a surge protector for your electronics. Oklahoma is known for severe thunder storms.

### Local Stores

Household items: Target, Walmart, Macy's, SEARS, J.C. Penny, Dillard's, Kohl's, Bed Bath & Beyond

**Electronics:** Best Buy, Target, Walmart, Kohl's, SEARS

**Appliances:** Home Depot, Lowes, SEARS, Hahn Appliances

**Groceries:** Walmart, Whole Foods, Reasor's, Sprouts

**Medicine:** Walgreens, CVS, Walmart, Akin's Natural Foods

Automobile Accessories: Walmart, AutoZone, O'Reilly, Pep Boys. SEARS, Advance Auto Parts

**Furniture Rental:** 1 Bedroom apartment furnished will cost approximately \$100/month.

### Transportation

Getting around Tulsa may seem like a tricky endeavor without a car, but don't despair. Tulsa Transit bus stops are conveniently located at each campus.

### **Public Transportation**



### Bus

TCC students can ride the bus for free to campus and around Tulsa. You need to pick up your ID and the current "TCC Rides Free" sticker from a Student Life Office before boarding the bus. The office is located at each campus. Please check <u>Tulsa Transit</u> site to check the route and schedules. They have a very nice real time <u>bus tracker</u> for you to see the current bus location.

Although it is not free, <u>Greyhound</u> offers cheaper fares within U.S., Canada, and Mexico.



### Тахі

Taxis are available in Tulsa; however, you will probably never catch a taxi on the street. You need to call them ahead of time. You can use this <u>taxi fare</u> <u>estimator</u> to get an idea of the cost. There are many taxicab companies available in Tulsa.

If you have a smartphone, you may want to check the <u>Uber</u> app and the <u>Lyft</u> app.

### Oklahoma Driver's License and Insurance



You may purchase a bike. Biking is a quick and cost effective way to travel short distances without needing a car. Also it is a way to stay healthy and fit. Here is the current <u>map of trails</u>. These trails are secured for bikers and pedestrians. Some of Tulsa streets have sidewalks for you to bike on. However, please remember to be alert when you ride on the city streets.

### Car

### Car Rental

Many car companies are happy to rent vehicles to international students. To rent a car without an Oklahoma/U.S. driver's license, you will need a passport and an international driver's license.

Here are some reputable companies. These companies are also available at the Tulsa airport.

- 📥 Enterprise
- Handberger
- 📥 Hertz
- 📥 Avis
- 📥 <u>Alamo</u>
- **h** National
- 📥 <u>Dollar</u>
- + Thrifty
- 📥 <u>Payless</u>

### Purchasing a Car

If you are like the majority of students attending TCC, you may want to have your own transportation. You can buy a car from dealers or private individuals. When you purchase a car from a dealer, they will give you a temporary license plate which is good for 30 days. You must register the car to get a permanent plate within 30 days. You must also show proof of auto insurance coverage. It is against the law to drive a car without having insurance.

### Before purchasing a car, make sure to:

 determine how much money you can afford to spend (keep in mind that auto insurance and registration cost extra \$400 and up)

- check <u>Kelly Blue Book</u> to compare the price

- test-drive the car (if it is possible, ask your friends or mechanic to accompany you on a test drive)
- ask for the history of the car (accidents, salvage, mechanical failure etc. If necessary, use a service such as <u>Carfax</u>)
- make a rational decision (don't let the dealers impair your ability to think)
- check the mileage
- check the dealership and manufacture's warranty information

To obtain OK Driver's License, please check <u>Oklahoma Department of Public Safety</u> requirements. In addition, read <u>the Oklahoma</u> <u>Driver's Manual</u> carefully. Even though basic traffic laws and regulations are similar all over the world, there are still numerous differences you should be aware of.

AAA, <u>GEICO</u>, <u>Progressive</u>, and <u>State Farm</u> currently support a foreign driver's license up to a year. Most insurers offer the Auto-Renters Insurance bundle discount. As for Medical/Health insurance, please contact <u>our office</u>.