

Money

1. Remember to bring sufficient money to cover your expenses during the first 30 days.
 - This money must cover transportation, vehicle fees, lodging fees and deposits for services or rents, if necessary.
 - Lodging costs can exceed fifty dollars per day in military facilities, and usually more outside military installations.
2. It is very important to check the appropriate website or find out from your SAO the cost of lodging at your destination installation.
3. IMET students should not expect to receive any pay for 30 days after you arrive
 - Your IMSO may not be able to get you an advance on your pay.
4. FMS students should make sure that your host government has arranged to pay you your salary and relevant allowances before your departure.
5. While you are traveling avoid carrying large amounts of “cash” (regular money).
 - Traveler’s checks are a good alternative and may be refunded if lost or stolen.
 - Keep a separate list of the traveler’s check serial numbers in case they must be replaced.
6. In order to avoid cash transactions, it is recommended that you establish a checking account at a local bank.
 - Bank accounts cannot usually be established for a period of time less than 3 months.
 - Most people in the United States use their checking accounts to pay bills by mail.
7. Your SAO will tell you about your specific pay options, including what you will be paid by either your government or the United States Government.