



Disclaimer: All views expressed here may not apply to all students and all department. It is meant to give students a general idea and ANKUR cannot be held responsible in any event.

PITT GRAD ANKUR - INDIAN GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (IGSA) @ PITT

WELCOME... ALL STUDENTS

THINGS TO BRING ALONG

Presented below is a comprehensive list of things you should bring to University of Pittsburgh from India. Please note that almost all the items mentioned below are readily available in PITT i.e. this is not a list of must haves. However, the list is prepared with a view of minimizing your initial expenditure upon arriving in the US , and to provide a checklist to help students who might be leaving home for the first time.

DOCUMENTS

- Remember to carry all important documents in a neatly arranged folder.
- Make 3 copies of the documents. Leave 1 copy at home in India and carry 2 copies with you.
- Preferably carry the originals (especially PASSPORT, I-20 LETTER etc.) on person (or in your cabin baggage) during travel as checked-in luggage is liable to get lost.

Checklist

- Passport (with stamped VISA)
- Form I-20 (Note: American citizens/Green card holders do not need the I-20 form)
- Correspondence regarding your admission to PITT
- Letter of Financial Aid (if present)
- Graduation diploma (if available)
- Transcripts/Mark-sheets of previously attended schools
- Any other bona-fide certificates / documents

CLOTHES

NOTE: PLEASE BUY YOUR WINTER AND FALL JACKET IN PITTSBURGH; DO NOT BRING FROM INDIA

Quantity Clothing

Quantity	Clothing
3 pairs	Jeans
4	Light T-shirts (summer wear)
2	Thick T-shirts (or sweatshirts)
3	Shorts
1	Cap
1 pair	Sports shoes (sneakers)
2 to 3	Formal shirts & trousers / dresses (for presentations etc)
1	Formal blazer or suit (for interviews, etc.)
1 pair	Formal leather shoes (carry shoe-polish too)
2 to 3	Neck-ties
2 to 3	Belts (formal and informal)
1	Light jacket for fall (temp. in beginning of Fall at Pittsburgh is about 7-100C)
2	Sweaters
1	Woollen Cap
2 pairs	Thermal underwear (OPTIONAL)
2	Night dresses
14 (!) pairs	Underwear (note: laundry normally done once in 2 weeks)
8 pairs	Socks
1 pair	Slippers/Sandals
1 or 2	Leather wallets (preferably with pockets for lots of plastic cards)
1 or 2	Traditional outfits (Kurta-Pyjamas/Sarees - for ethnic functions organized by Ankur-Indian grad students association)

TOILET KIT

Quantity	Item
2	Toothbrushes
1	Toothpaste
1	Talcum powder
1 or 2	Razors
2	Packets of shaving blades (- expensive here!)
1	Shaving cream
1	After-shave lotion
1	Shampoo

Quantity	Item
2	Soaps
1	Deodorant/perfume
1	Bottle hair-oil
1	Comb
1	Nail cutter

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Quantity	Item
1	Umbrella (it rains often here)
1	Bag / backpack
1	Scientific Calculator (required for engineering students)
1	Stationery set (pens, pencils, rulers, erasers, staplers, cello-tape, etc.)
1	Can opener
2	Towels
3	Napkins
1	Sewing Kit (needles, thread, buttons, safety-pins, scissors, etc.)
1	Screwdriver
1	Watch
1	Alarm clock
2	Bed-sheets (large - beds here are slightly wider)
1	Pillow (if used)
2	Pillow covers (if pillow is used)
1	Blanket
1	Torch (OPTIONAL)
1	International Calling Card (OPTIONAL: Better calling cards are available here, but may be useful for making a few initial calls, esp. if you will be calling from a public place). If u have a computer in india, u can use skype for free
N.A.	Text books - all important ones in your field of study (expensive here)
N.A.	Religious idols, photos, CDs, cassettes, walkman, swimming trunks, badminton/tennis/table-tennis racquets, musical instruments, etc. (- you will have ample opportunity to pursue your hobbies here :-)

MEDICAL KIT

- Please carry prescriptions from your doctor for any chronic illness or medical condition.
- If you use spectacles/lenses, do carry an extra pair (- a new pair of glasses is very costly).
- It is also advisable to have an eye and dental check-up prior to coming to the US.

In addition to your prescription medicines, you might want to carry :

Type	Examples
Fever reducers	Crocin
Pain Relievers	Brufen, Disprin
Anti-allergy, cough and cold medicines	Actifed, Coldarin
Band-aids (cotton and bandages)	
Ointments for burns, cuts, etc.	Burnol, Soframycin
Medicine for diarrhoea, stomach ache	Lomotil, Pudim Hara
Pain relieving sprays/ointments	Iodex
Moisturising cream	

UTENSILS

Please note that if you know who your room-mates will be, it might be a good idea to share/distribute the utensils to be carried. Do carry a few recipe books if you are not familiar with cooking.

Quantity	Item
1	Large frying pan (non-stick preferable)
1	Kadhai (for deep frying)
1	Cooker - 5 litre (also carry extra gaskets, whistles, safety valves, etc.)
1	Tea strainer
1	Strainer spoon for deep frying
1	Rolling pin set (OPTIONAL)
3	Kitchen knives (different sizes are useful)
1	Peeler
1	Holder (to move warm vessels)
4	Cooking spoons
1	Serving ladle
2	Wooden spatulas
-	Small PET bottles for salt, spices, etc.
1	Cutting board (wooden/plastic)
4	Dinner plates (preferably microwaveable)

Quantity	Item
2	Plastic bowls
4	Eating spoons (teaspoons)
2	Coffee mugs

FOOD ITEMS

Warning: The U.S. immigration and agriculture department strictly prohibits carrying food, meat, vegetables, fruits, seeds, etc. into the United States. Your baggage might be subject to a security check and inspection by sniffer-dogs at airport.

However, our experience at the Logan airport is that you are normally allowed to bring in food articles as long as they are carried in adequately sealed packets. At your risk and discretion, you may carry sealed packets of spices (red chilli powder, turmeric, jeera, garam masala, etc.). Please note that all these items (and more) can be easily purchased at the nearby Indian grocery store.

For initial use you may want to carry:

Quantity	Item
1 kg	Rice
1 kg	Dal
1 packet	Coffee/Tea
1 packet	Salt
1 packet	Sugar