INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BRAND BOOK

Sharmanov National Medical University

NCJSC

EDITION 2026

A guide to studying and living in Astana



WELCOME TO ASTANA

Everything you need for a smooth start: arrival and registration, getting to our campuses, accommodation, health insurance, clothing for the Astana climate and everyday life in Kazakhstan.

Beibitshilik street, 49A, Astana, Kazakhstan

Department of International Cooperation · 4th floor, room 414 · iro@amu.kz · +7 (7172) 53 94 42

A WORD BEFORE YOU START

WELCOME

Dear Student,

Welcome to **Sharmanov National Medical University**! Moving to a new country is exciting, and it brings many practical questions. This brand book gathers what you need for your first weeks in Astana: whom to contact, how to reach our campuses, where you will live, what to wear and how everyday life works in Kazakhstan.

Please read **First steps** and **Registration** before you travel. Our Department of International Cooperation is always ready to help.

Your Department of International Cooperation team

QUICK FACTS

Main Campus
Beibitshilik street, 49A

Department of International Cooperation
4th floor, room 414

Phone
+7 (7172) 53 94 42

E-mail
iro@amu.kz

Bus ride
110 KZT

Emergency
112

IN THIS BRAND BOOK

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Tip: before you land, save the addresses of your campus and residence in a map app (2GIS works best in Astana) and download the offline map of the city.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVAL

FIRST STEPS

YOUR CONTACTS · DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Mr Alrakhman Baryssov
Academic mobility coordinator
Beibitshilik str., 49A · 4th floor · Room 414
+7 (7172) 53 94 42
Baryssov.a@amu.kz

Ms Dinara Makhmetova
Specialist · migration & registration
Beibitshilik str., 49A · 4th floor · Room 405
+7 (7172) 53 94 72
Makhmetova.d@amu.kz

THREE THINGS TO DO STRAIGHT AWAY

1

Submit your passport scan

Send a clear scan of your passport to the Department of International Cooperation within 3 days of arrival.

DEADLINE: 3 DAYS AFTER ARRIVAL

2

Obtain your IIN

Your passport data is used to issue your **Individual Identification Number (IIN)** through the eGov system.

PROVIDED BY: eGov

3

Open a Kaspi account

Once your IIN is issued you can register for a **Kaspi Bank** account – used for most local payments.

AFTER YOUR IIN IS ISSUED

Why it matters: without your passport scan the Department of International Cooperation cannot start your registration, and without registration you cannot get an IIN or a local bank account. Do the first step on your first day.

WHERE YOU WILL STUDY AND LIVE

OUR CAMPUSES

THREE CAMPUSES

Main Campus

Beibitshilik street, 49A

The central administrative and educational campus, close to public transport in the city centre. The Department of International Cooperation is here: 4th floor, room 414.

Saryarka Campus

Saryarka Avenue, 33

An academic campus at a major intersection on Saryarka Avenue, reachable from Astana's main transport hubs. Renovated in 2024, with a new library and co-working space.

Abay Campus

Abay Avenue, 47

The campus at 47 Abay Avenue shares its site with Student Residence No. 3, so classes and accommodation are in the same place.

THREE STUDENT RESIDENCES

Residence No. 1

Zhenis Avenue, 35

A student residence on Astana's Right Bank, close to university facilities, shops and transit hubs.

Residence No. 2

Zhenis Avenue, 35A

Next door to Residence No. 1 on Zhenis Avenue, with the same surroundings and transport links.

Residence No. 3

Abay Avenue, 47

Located on the same site as Abay Campus – no commute between your room and your classes there.

WHERE DO I GO FOR…?

Registration, passport scan, IIN support
Main Campus · Department of International Cooperation, 4th floor, room 414

Classes
Check your timetable for the campus of each class

Your room and check-in
Residence No. 1 (Zhenis Ave. 35), No. 2 (Zhenis Ave. 35A) or No. 3 (Abay Ave. 47)

STEP-BY-STEP DIRECTIONS

MAIN CAMPUS ROUTES

DESTINATION · MAIN CAMPUS

Beibitshilik street, 49A, Astana

ул. Бейбітшілік, 49A

GETTING HERE

From the airport

Nazarbayev International Airport



BOARD

Bus 10 or 12 at the airport terminal stop.

ROUTE DETAILS

Bus 10: get off at the AMU stop.
Bus 12: towards Moscow Bus Station.

From Nurly Zhol station

Nurly Zhol Railway Station



BOARD

Bus 14 or 65 at Nurly Zhol Railway Station.

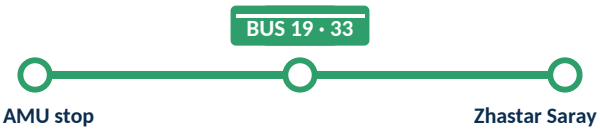
GET OFF

Bus 14: Astanatechnopark stop.
Bus 65: Beibitshilik stop; walk to campus.

FROM MAIN CAMPUS TO YOUR STUDENT RESIDENCES

Residence No. 3

47 Abay Avenue



BOARD

Take bus 19 or 33 from the AMU stop.

GET OFF

Youth Palace (Zhastar Saray) stop; walk to Residence No. 3 at 47 Abay Avenue.

Residences No. 1 & 2

35 and 35A Zhenis Avenue



BOARD

Walk to the Beibitshilik Street stop on Bogenbay Batyr Avenue and take bus 13 towards Koktem.

GET OFF

“Kazakh National University of Arts” stop, then walk to Student Residences No. 1 and No. 2 at 35 and 35A Zhenis Avenue.

Routes checked November 2026. Bus fare: 110 KZT per ride.

STEP-BY-STEP DIRECTIONS

SARYARKA CAMPUS ROUTES

DESTINATION · SARYARKA CAMPUS

Saryarka Avenue, 33, Astana

пр. Сарыарка, 33

GETTING HERE

From the airport

Nazarbayev International Airport



BOARD

Bus 12 at the airport stop, heading into the city.

GET OFF

“Saryarka Avenue” stop, then walk to the campus at No. 33.

From Nurly Zhol station

Nurly Zhol Railway Station



BOARD

Bus 2 at Nurly Zhol, towards the Burabay residential complex.

GET OFF

“Saryarka Avenue” stop. This is a long cross-city route, so allow extra time.

FROM SARYARKA CAMPUS TO YOUR STUDENT RESIDENCES

Residence No. 3

47 Abay Avenue



BOARD

Walk to the Koktem Shopping House stop and take bus 65 towards Otau.

GET OFF

“Halyk Bank” stop, then walk to Student Residence No. 3 at 47 Abay Avenue.

Residences No. 1 & 2

35 and 35A Zhenis Avenue



WALK

Follow Bogenbay Batyr Avenue towards Zhenis Avenue.

ARRIVE

Student Residences No. 1 and No. 2 at 35 and 35A Zhenis Avenue. No bus is needed.

Routes checked November 2026. Bus fare: 110 KZT per ride.

STEP-BY-STEP DIRECTIONS

ABAY CAMPUS ROUTES

DESTINATION · ABAY CAMPUS

Abay Avenue, 47, Astana

пр. Абая, 47

GETTING HERE

From the airport

Nazarbayev International Airport



BOARD

Bus 10 at the airport, heading into the city.

GET OFF

“Halyk Bank” stop, then walk to the campus at 47 Abay Avenue.

From Nurly Zhol station

Nurly Zhol Railway Station



BOARD

Bus 65 from Nurly Zhol Railway Station.

GET OFF

Halyk Bank stop; walk to the campus at 47 Abay Avenue.

FROM ABAY CAMPUS TO YOUR STUDENT RESIDENCES

Residence No. 3

47 Abay Avenue



WALK

The campus and Student Residence No. 3 share the same address: 47 Abay Avenue.

ARRIVE

Use the residence entrance on the same site. No bus is needed.

Residences No. 1 & 2

35 and 35A Zhenis Avenue



BOARD

Take bus 65 from the Halyk Bank stop.

GET OFF

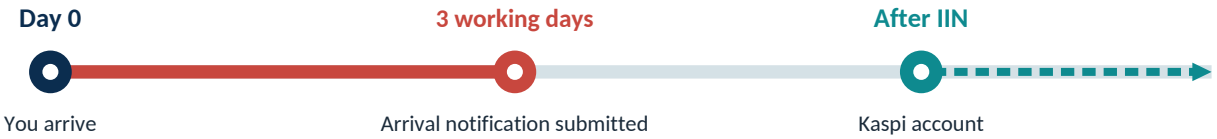
Bogenbai Avenue stop; then walk to 35 and 35A Zhenis Avenue.

Routes checked November 2026. Bus fare: 110 KZT per ride.

MIGRATION & REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION RULES

YOUR FIRST DAYS



WHAT APPLIES TO YOU

ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

All international students must complete arrival and registration procedures, regardless of nationality or visa-free entry. Send your passport scan to the Department of International Cooperation immediately after arrival.
Bring your original passport. Registration is handled by the specialist in room 405.

NO NATIONALITY EXEMPTIONS

All international students must complete the arrival and registration procedure. This is mandatory for every student, regardless of nationality.

SPECIALIST · MIGRATION & REGISTRATION

Ms Dinara Makhmetova
Beibitshilik str., 49A · 4th floor · room 405
+7 (7172) 53 94 72 Makhmetova.d@amu.kz

All international students must report to the Department of International Cooperation on arrival, including EU citizens and visa-free entrants. Follow the Department's instructions for registration and arrival notification. Keep your passport and migration documents safe.

STUDENT RESIDENCE

ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION PRICE

35,000–40,000 KZT

Residences No. 1 & 2 (Zhenis Avenue, 35 and 35A) · Residence No. 3 (Abay Avenue, 47)



WHAT YOUR ROOM OFFERS

Bunk beds

Sturdy wooden bunk beds with high-grade mattresses.

In-room fridge

A mini refrigerator in the room for your food and drinks.

Study zone

Wooden writing desks and ergonomic chairs near natural light.

Personal storage

Wardrobe space, under-bed storage and bedside lockers.

Bright & airy

Large windows give plenty of daylight and ventilation.

Warm & quiet

A patterned carpet adds warmth and reduces noise.

Addresses & directions

No. 1 & 2: Zhenis Avenue, 35 and 35A (stop “Kazakh National University of Arts”). **No. 3:** Abay Avenue, 47 (stop “Halyk Bank”). Routes: pages 5–7.

STAY PROTECTED

HEALTH INSURANCE

International students must obtain a Kazakhstan-issued health insurance policy. Insurance from your home country does not replace the required local policy. Students arrange and pay for their own cover.
The University does not arrange insurance. Valid cover is needed for medical care under the policy.



1 Get local insurance

Purchase a Kazakhstan-issued policy for your full period of study.

2 Recommended: InterTeach

We recommend InterTeach for your health insurance in Kazakhstan.
https://www.interteach.kz/en

3 Keep your documents

Keep your policy number and a copy of your passport on your phone and on paper.

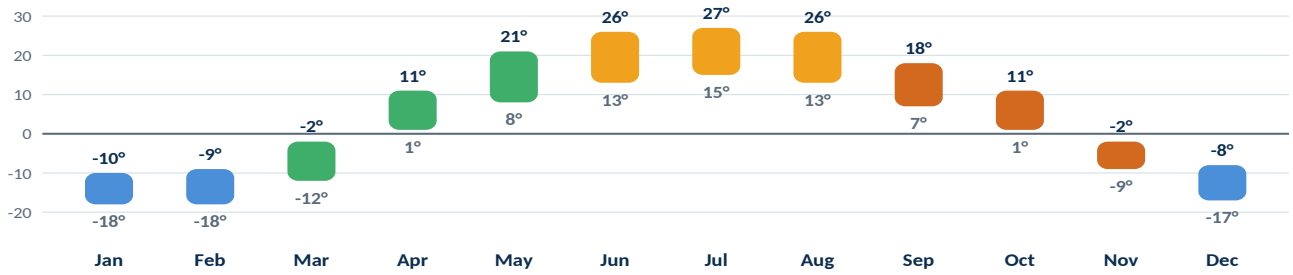
4 In an emergency

Call **112** (unified emergency) or **103** (ambulance). Give your address and speak slowly.

DRESS FOR ASTANA

CLIMATE & CLOTHING

AVERAGE DAILY HIGH AND LOW BY MONTH (°C)



WINTER — Dec–Feb



Highs −8 to −10 °C · lows −17 to −18 °C

Long and very cold, dry air, snow and ice. Wind makes it feel colder, and cold spells can bring far lower temperatures. Buildings and buses are heated.

Wear: Down-filled jacket with a hood, thermal underwear, wool sweater, insulated boots with good grip, hat covering the ears, scarf, gloves or mittens.

SPRING — Mar–May



March −2/−12 °C · April 11/1 °C · May 21/8 °C

Warms up quickly but unevenly: freezing nights in March and April, then melting snow, puddles and mud. Showers are possible.

Wear: Layers, mid-weight windproof jacket, waterproof shoes, light scarf, compact umbrella.

SUMMER — Jun–Aug



Highs 26–27 °C · lows 13–15 °C

Warm and mostly dry with occasional short thunderstorms. Hot spells above 35 °C are possible, evenings can be cool and the UV index is high.

Wear: Light breathable clothes, sun hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, a light jacket for the evening, comfortable walking shoes.

AUTUMN — Sep–Nov



Sep 18/7 °C · Oct 11/1 °C · Nov −2/−9 °C

Temperatures fall fast. Mild in September, near freezing by October; snow can begin in late October and winter conditions arrive in November.

Wear: Warm jacket from October, sweaters, scarf and gloves, waterproof shoes; have winter boots ready by November.

THE LAYERING RULE FOR WINTER

- **1 · Base** — thermal underwear
- **2 · Insulation** — wool or fleece
- **3 · Shell** — windproof down jacket
- **4 · Feet & head** — grip boots, hat, gloves

Climate averages 1991–2020, rounded. Individual days can be much warmer or colder.

EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS

PHONE, MONEY & SHOPPING

Stay connected

- **Check your phone on arrival.** You will need mobile data for maps, payments and emergency contacts.
- Local SIM cards are available at the airport and railway stations.
  You can buy one on arrival; prices vary by operator and package.
- A phone plan with mobile internet starts from about **5,000 KZT** a month (≈ $11 / €9).
- Operators: **Beeline, Tele2, Kcell, Altel** – 4G/5G coverage across Astana and the dormitory area.

Money & banking

- **Visa and MasterCard** are accepted in almost all shops, restaurants and public facilities.
- **Kaspi QR** contactless payment is used everywhere in daily life. Open your Kaspi account after you receive your IIN (page 3).
- Nearest bank branch to the university buildings: **Alatau Bank**. A **Kaspi Bank** branch is listed at Zhenis Avenue, 25.
- Tip: the tenge is the local currency. Carry a little cash for your first day, until your account works.

Shopping & groceries

- Most shopping centres and shops open daily from **08:00/10:00 to 20:00/22:00**.
- The **“SMALL” supermarket** is close to the dormitory: Bogenbai batyr ave., 26, open **09:00–24:00**, Monday to Sunday.
- Use the **2GIS** app to check opening hours and find the nearest shop.

Prices are indicative. Amounts in dollars and euros are rounded and change with the exchange rate. Shop hours and branch details can vary.

CITY TRANSPORT

GETTING AROUND ASTANA

City bus
110 KZT per ride

The cheapest way to travel. Most buses run from early morning until about 23:00–24:00.

LRT "Tarlan"
200 KZT per ride

Light rail from Nazarbayev Airport to Nurly Zhol station, open since May 2026. Day and multi-trip passes also exist.

Taxi apps
App price varies

Yandex Go and inDriver (English available) are common. Price rises at rush hour and at night.

HOW TO PAY

Bank card or phone

Tap a Visa/Mastercard, Apple Pay or Samsung Pay directly at the turnstile or validator.

QR code

Scan the QR code with the Kaspi.kz or Halyk app. A local bank account makes this seamless.

Transport card

A rechargeable CTS transport card can also be used on buses and the LRT.

TRAVEL SMART

Use 2GIS

Download the free offline map: it shows live bus routes, stops and building entrances in Astana.

Keep your ticket

Validate when you board and keep your receipt – inspectors may ask to see it.

Plan for winter

Allow extra time in snow and heavy cold. The LRT avoids road traffic between the airport and Nurly Zhol.

Live arrival times

Use 2GIS or Avtobys to see when your bus will arrive.

Fares in 2026: bus 110 KZT (≈ $0.23 / €0.20) · LRT 200 KZT (≈ $0.41 / €0.37)





LIVING IN KAZAKHSTAN

RULES, SAFETY & HOLIDAYS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS · FREE FROM ANY PHONE

112	**103**	**102**	**101**
Unified emergency	Ambulance	Police	Fire & rescue

HOUSE RULES OF DAILY LIFE

Carry ID
Keep your passport safe in the dormitory and carry a copy or photo when you go out.

Drinking in public
Drinking alcohol in public places is prohibited. Being drunk in public is not allowed.

Smoking
Smoking is not allowed in public places except in designated areas.

Be a good neighbour
Keep noise down at night. Respect dormitory rules and quiet hours.

Protect your money
Keep several payment options, guard card details and watch for scams.

Know the law
Rules can differ from your home country. If unsure, ask the Department of International Cooperation.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

1–2 Jan	New Year	1 May	Unity of the People Day	30 Aug	Constitution Day
7 Jan	Orthodox Christmas	7 May	Defenders' Day	25 Oct	Republic Day
8 Mar	International Women's Day	9 May	Victory Day	16 Dec	Independence Day
21–23 Mar	Nauryz	6 Jul	Capital Day	Varies	Kurban Ait (Islamic calendar)

Culture shock is normal. After the first excitement you may feel tired, irritable or homesick. Sleep well, eat regularly, exercise and talk to other students about what you notice. Days off can be moved by government decree, so check the calendar each year.

BEYOND THE CAMPUS

EXPLORE ASTANA & BEYOND

LANDMARKS OF ASTANA



Baiterek Tower

A monument inspired by the mythical Tree of Life. The 97-metre observation deck gives sweeping views of the capital; the golden sphere symbolises the sacred egg of Samruk.



National Museum

Central Asia's largest museum, with striking modern architecture. Its halls display priceless treasures, including the world-famous Golden Man.



Grand Mosque

An architectural landmark where oriental tradition meets contemporary design, with white domes and intricate decoration. Check visiting hours and dress code first.







Burabay National Park

THE PEARL OF KAZAKHSTAN

- **Prime location.** Akmola Region, about 250 km north of Astana.
- **Pine forests and clean air.** A protected national park with pure forest air, abundant sunshine and mineral springs.
- **Dramatic geography.** Granite peaks rising unexpectedly from the flat Kazakh steppe.
- **Must-see sights.** Lake Shchuchye, Okzhetpes Rock and the pine-covered hills around the lakes.

WEEKEND TRIP IDEA

ALZHIR Memorial Complex

MUSEUM OF POLITICAL REPRESSION & HUMAN RESILIENCE



ALZHIR stands for the "Akmola Camp for Wives of Traitors to the Motherland". It operated from 1938 to 1953 as the largest women's labour camp in the Soviet GULAG system, and is today a state memorial museum honouring the victims of political repression.

Historical insight

Central Asian Soviet history beyond textbooks.

Human rights awareness

Reflect on dignity, freedom and justice.

Kazakh hospitality

Local villagers risked their lives to help prisoners.

A FEW WORDS GO A LONG WAY

USEFUL PHRASES

KAZAKH · ҚАЗАҚША

Сәлеметсіз бе
Sälemetsiz be
Hello (formal / polite)

Рақмет
Rakhmet
Thank you

Иә / Жоқ
Iä / Zhoq
Yes / No

Кешіріңіз
Keshiriñiz
Excuse me / I'm sorry

Менің атым ...
Meniñ atym ...
My name is ...

Сау болыңыз
Sau bolyñyz
Goodbye

RUSSIAN · РУССКИЙ (WIDELY UNDERSTOOD IN ASTANA)

Спасибо
Spasibo
Thank you

Помогите!
Pomogite!
Help!

Вы говорите по-английски?
Vy govorite po-angliyski?
Do you speak English?

Tip: saying "Rakhmet" and "Sälemetsiz be" is always appreciated. Students who connect with the local community usually settle in faster – talk to your groupmates and ask senior students for advice.





Welcome to Sharmanov National Medical University!

We wish you a smooth transition and a successful academic journey in Astana.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Beibitshilik str., 49A · 4th floor, room 414

PHONE SUPPORT
+7 (7172) 53 94 42

E-MAIL
iro@amu.kz