



TALON'S
GALACTIC
TRIP

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



How High Can You Fly?

Congratulations! We are excited to welcome you to Illinois Tech! You've already taken the first steps by applying, being admitted, and submitting your deposit. Now it's time to complete the rest of your journey. **This user guide is your instruction manual for *Talon's Galactic Trip*, an online game outlining the next steps you need to take before you arrive on campus. Complete each step to help Talon, our mascot, reach his destination.**

You can track your progress, along with your incoming classmates who are playing *Talon's Galactic Trip* and compete against them. Using the app, you'll complete each step and see how high you can fly as you work toward the final level: Welcome Week at Illinois Tech, where the next leg of your journey toward a future with infinite possibilities begins!

We can't wait to see you this fall.

Scan the QR code to download the Suitable app and begin the game—and to earn your first 10 points!



IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Make sure you complete each portal level on time!

LEVEL 1

Complete ASAP!

LEVEL 2

Complete in May

LEVEL 3

Complete by June 1

LEVEL 4

Complete in July–August

LEVEL 5

See you on August 12–16!



P.S. Don't forget to review the **final arrival checklist** inside this guide when you land! Be sure to finish the full game and the bonus round for special prizes!



LEVEL 1



Prepare for Liftoff

Before jumping in the cockpit, you need to access your personal Illinois Tech Hawk email account through [access.iit.edu](#). Check your Hawk email regularly for updates, and sign up for IIT Alert. After accessing your Hawk email, make sure to schedule a meeting with a peer mentor and complete the online pre-arrival module.

Next, prepare for a two-day introduction to Mies Campus by signing up for SOAR: New Student Orientation. Time slots are available throughout May, June, and August.

FINISH ASAP!

**ACTION
STEPS**



- Log into your Hawk email
- Sign up for IIT Alert
- Complete the online pre-arrival module
- Register for in-person SOAR
- Submit your financial documents and pay SEVIS fee
- Submit course credits*

**For international transfer students only.*

BONUS



ROUND

Schedule a meeting with a peer mentor.

LEVEL 2



Ignition Sequence

Elevate is a one-of-a-kind program just for Illinois Tech students that guarantees access to real-world experiences, personalized academic and career mentorship, and job readiness. Visit go.iit.edu/tgt-peermentors to connect with your peer mentor and to learn about the experiences that you can take part in (such as internships, research, and study away) beginning your first year on campus.

You'll also need to finish academic placement assessments (depending on your major and transfer credits) before going further. Make sure you get in touch with your academic adviser so you can select your first courses, and don't forget to upload a HawkCard ID photo before attending SOAR: New Student Orientation.

COMPLETE IN MAY



- Meet with your academic adviser to register for courses
- Upload HawkCard ID photo before attending SOAR and Attend SOAR
- Schedule your Visa interview

BONUS



ROUND

Meet with your peer mentor.



LEVEL 3



Racing Through the Sky

The bright lights of Chicago flicker below as you rocket along on your Illinois Tech adventure. Now is the time to find your new home away from home. Find the housing and meal plan selection in the Access Illinois Tech portal, and pick which residence is right for you. Make sure to attend a virtual academic advising session as well.

FINISH BY JUNE 1

**ACTION
STEPS**



- Select your housing and meal plan preferences
- Complete writing and ALEKS PPL math placement assessments
- Book your flight

BONUS



ROUND

Follow us on our social media channels.

LEVEL 4



Nearing the Edge of Space

Only a few tasks remain as you near the edge of space. Did you get any scholarship funds? What are your tuition payments? Access your student bill through the Access Illinois Tech portal to set up a payment plan and to set up direct deposit for a tuition refund. Also, prepare to show proof of immunizations by the first week of courses. All students are required to have health insurance and are automatically opted in to Illinois Tech's student health insurance. If you have health insurance, don't forget to submit a waiver to the Student Health and Wellness Center to avoid being charged for student health insurance!

COMPLETE BY JULY–AUGUST

ACTION
STEPS



- Access your student bill
- Submit immunization documentation
- If already insured, waive health insurance
- Submit final transcripts and AP/IB/A-Level exam scores for course credit

LEVEL 5



Safe Landing

Welcome to Illinois Tech, where you'll receive a world-class, comprehensive tech-focused education and the twenty-first century skills that employers seek, preparing you for an infinite number of career possibilities. Be on the lookout for your itinerary for Welcome Week, when you'll meet your classmates, settle into your new home, and prepare to begin your next great adventure!

ACTION STEP



- See you at Welcome Week on August 12–16!
First day of classes are on August 19!

WHAT YOU'LL WIN

You'll earn more than bragging rights if you're victorious at *Talon's Galactic Trip*. You'll arrive at Illinois Tech ready to hit the ground running—and you can pick up some more spoils while you're at it!



All participants who play *Talon's Galactic Trip* online will receive a free T-shirt.



► *Design is a surprise!*

The **first 50 participants to complete all levels** will win a \$50 gift certificate to the Illinois Tech Visitor Center.



YOUR TOOLKIT

CAMPUS CONTACTS



Want more guidance on what to do next and who can help? Learn more below:



Peer student mentors provide personalized guidance and will connect you with a team of people who will help you on your journey: academic advisers, career coaches, and alumni mentors (www.iit.edu/elm).



Learn more about Illinois Tech's **Elevate program** and the opportunities awaiting you now and when you arrive on campus (elevate.iit.edu).



Illinois Tech staff are available to help answer any questions and provide you and your family with assistance. Here are a few offices that could be of help during your journey:

Undergraduate Admission

(www.iit.edu/admissions-aid/undergraduate-admission)

Questions about SOAR and the admission process

Residence Life (www.iit.edu/housing)

Questions about housing and meal plans

Student Accounting (www.iit.edu/student-accounting)

Questions about your bill

Student Health and Wellness Center (www.iit.edu/shwc)

Questions about immunizations, health services, and accommodations

Student Life (www.iit.edu/student-life)

Questions about activities on campus



FINAL ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

As you bask in your glorious landing at the end of *Talon's Galactic Trip*, take a minute to complete a final check of all the steps along your journey. **Here is the rundown of everything you need to do by August 19 (Fall 24 classes begin on this date):**

- Check out the Access Illinois Tech portal and your Hawk email
- Sign up for IIT Alert
- Submit your Room and Board Contract or Housing Waiver Application
- Submit final transcripts and AP/IB/A-Level exam scores for course credit
- Complete online pre-arrival module
- Register for SOAR: New Student Orientation and upload your HawkCard ID photo
- Complete the necessary academic assessments, schedule your initial advising appointment with your adviser, and register for courses
- Financial aid requirements**
 - Begin completing your financial aid checklist, if necessary
- Attend SOAR: New Student Orientation
- Submit health and immunization documents
- Waive Illinois Tech health insurance, if applicable
- Pick up HawkCard ID and U-Pass when you arrive on campus



Prefer Analog?

Don't want to play *Talon's Galactic Trip*? Rather stay offline and keep track of your to-do's using pen and paper? That's OK! **Make sure to complete the final arrival checklist on page 10.** To learn more about what you need to do before arriving on campus, visit go.iit.edu/intl-tgt24 to view a full list including links to useful resources.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

PG

Make sure to share this checklist with your parents and family members, so they know what needs to be completed before you arrive on campus in August. They can also visit go.iit.edu/intl-tgt24 to view a full checklist at any time.

ILLINOIS TECH

Office of Undergraduate Admission

Visitors Center

3201 South State Street

The McCormick Tribune Campus Center

Chicago, IL 60616

Phone: 312.567.3025 | 800.448.2329 (toll free)

Text/SMS: 312.300.2645

Email: admission@iit.edu | intl@iit.edu (international students)



[@illinoistech](https://www.instagram.com/illinoistech)