

## Wise – pay tuition fees/housing & meal plan

We have found a great way of saving a lot of money when paying for tuition fees, and/or housing & meal plan while you are a student in the US.

For international students, schools often charge a number of extra fees when paying from a non-US account (or from a currency other than USD). The amounts you pay for tuition, housing, and meal plan can be quite large per transaction and that means higher fees.

If you pay by credit card, it is common that you must pay 2-3% extra of the total amount to the credit card company. If you pay with a bank transfer from your home country to the USA, you get a very bad exchange rate from the bank + other extra fees.

The way to avoid unnecessary big fees is to use Wise. At CSUSA we use their service daily.

With Wise you can transfer money across borders with the actual market currency exchange rate – not the rate the bank will give you (that they make a lot of money on). The fee to use Wise is very small compared to the bank and there are no “hidden fees”. [HERE](#) you can see a short 90 second video on how Wise works.

During your time as a student, you will make many transactions between your home country and the US, so by using Wise you will start saving a lot of money.

We recommend setting up this account now so that you are ready to pay the bill to your school when you receive the invoice before the semester starts. Below is how to set up the account and how to make a transfer to a US bank account. It is important to note that getting verified at the start is important to save time down the line when you need to make a transfer.

### How to set up a Wise account

Setting up an account is simple and free to do and we recommend you use [THIS LINK](#) that our CEO, has set up for you so that you will get the first transaction, up to £500, for free.

- Complete the required fields for a personal account and hit the Claim Your Free Transfer button once all fields have been completed.
- Next, you will be asked to verify your email address so will need to log into your email and hit the 'Confirm my email address' button.
- As soon as you hit the blue button it will automatically direct you back to the internet and will confirm your email address has been verified. Here you will hit continue once more. It will then ask you to log into your account using the username and password you created.
- You are now all set up to use Wise to send and receive money. You can do this by following the additional steps included below in the next section.

## How to get verified

Typically, when you open a bank account you usually need to get verified by the bank by providing some identification. Wise is the same and will accept the info page of your passport or driving license to verify you. It will usually take around 2 days to become verified.

- To become verified first start by logging into your account as per your registration details you created. Then head to your account dashboard to get verified. There will be a link you can select to start the process. You need to select the blue button 'Upload ID'.
- Follow the steps as per the requirements needed to make sure the ID that is uploaded is correct. It needs to be a clear photo of your ID which shows all the relevant information they require. Once you have uploaded the photos you need to then select 'send document'. You will then have submitted everything needed for your ID and will hear back from Wise whether it has been accepted, or if not, what you need to include to become accepted.
- When sending money to a college in the United States for tuition, room, board, or any fees; this will be considered a 'business'. Therefore, any big transfers will require you to get verified as soon as possible.
- When you're verified you can make the transfers you want.

## What bank details do I need to make a wire transfer to the US?

To make a wire transfer to a US bank account you will need the recipient's Routing number, Account number and address. You can find these details on the invoice from the school, by asking your coach or school employee for the details to make a wire transfer, or by searching on the university website.

## How to transfer money to a US bank account with Wise

Now your account is set up, it is simple, easy and much cheaper to send money through Wise than your regular bank. Below shows you a step by step guide of how you can do this.

1. Log into your account and select Send Money.
2. Select the amount of money to send in your local currency and set the recipient currency as USD (you must select USD to pay to a US bank account!). You can change the currency using the drop-down arrow. The choose the fee option (either from your bank account or from your debit/credit card) in the drop down. Once you are happy with the USD-amount for the recipient, so it corresponds with what you have to pay, simply hit the green button 'continue'.
3. Select who you will be sending the money to. A US college/university for instance will be deemed a 'business' so if you pay any tuition or fees directly to the school, you will select this option.
4. Fill in the details making sure to complete all fields correctly.
5. If you have the email of the person sending you the invoice/bill then add this here. If not leave blank. Name of the business is the name of the school, and then add the full address of the school.

6. Be sure to tick the box 'I know their bank details'. Then add the Routing number, Account number and choose "Checking" on account type.
7. On the next page, on the Account Purpose, choose the correct option.
  - a. If paying for tuition fees, choose "Paying for goods or services abroad"
  - b. If paying for housing, choose "Paying for rent, utilities or property charges"
8. The next step will either take you to a 'verification' page or 'review' page. If you have completed the verification already, then skip this step and proceed to the next step. With the verification step, you will need to upload proof of identity if you have not done so already.
9. You will then be asked to review all the information is correct that you have completed so far. Check everything carefully to be sure it is accurate. Double-checking the amount and recipient's bank account information is critical! Be sure to add in a reference (your full name or student ID number) as this is important so the recipient knows who the payment has come from. Once you are happy, hit 'Confirm and continue' again and you will be taken to the final page to pay.
10. A screen will appear where you need to select your method or most convenient way to make the payment. You have the option of paying by credit card, debit card, manually transfer the money from your account, authorize the payment from your bank account shown in the advanced options. Each of the options come with different fee structure and how fast the money will be transferred. Choose the option you prefer and is most convenient for you.
  - a. If you choose to pay using the credit card or debit card option: Here you need to fill in your card number, expiry date, and CVV/ CVC located on the back of the card. You will need hit the green button underneath to make the payment.
  - b. If you choose the low cost transfer option to 'Authorise the payment from your bank account' or 'Manually transfer the money from your bank' then you need to select your bank account from the list. After this, you will need to select whether this is your own account or your joint account.
11. The next step is for you to select how you will make the bank transfer. You have the options of online banking, telephone banking, or bank branch. Select the best option for you.
12. The final step is then to review everything to date (pending on the option you select in the previous question). If you have selected the online option, then it will require you to go to your bank's online account information to make the payment. Once you have done this, you can select from the options at the bottom of the page which states, 'I've made my bank transfer'.

## Need help?

Visit the Help Center [HERE](#). Or contact Wise here via a ticket or the chat function [HERE](#).