



**International Student Forum Responses
From Winter Quarter 2013**

Number of responses: 14

1. Did you stay in Chicago over the Winter Break? If so, what did you do? Was it hard to find things to do?

Only three people answered “yes.” One of them had parents over for a visit, another one was studying, and the last one did not mention what they did.

It is difficult to say which of the questions the “no-s” referred to but I understood it that people were out of Chicago over the winter break.

One suggestion that appeared on the responses was to create a listserv of people who stay.

2. What is your favourite neighbourhood to visit in Chicago? When did you go? How did you get there?

Definitely the most visited neighbourhood is the Loop (9), followed by Wicker Park (5). Every other neighbourhood – Chinatown, Lakeview, Lincoln Park, Points, Oldtown – were mentioned only by one participant respectively.

Students get to these places, especially the Loop, regularly, and all of them use public transportation: busses or the green line.

3. What has been the most difficult of most frustrating document or application you’ve had to fill out or submit as an international student?

There does not seem to be a consensus on a document. Taxes and Visa application were mentioned by three participants respectively, and ITIN by two. But the rest of the participants each had their own least favourite document: green card app, temporary driving license, scholarship, DS-2019, documentation for unpaid internship, OPT.

Two participants specifically mentioned “none.”

4. What is one suggestion you would give to make this forum better?

Overall, participants did not have suggestions; the vast majority left the space blank. Here are four suggestions that were mentioned: regular sessions on immigration updates, information on documents required for travel abroad, drinks and beer.

Other suggestions that were mentioned on the forms:

Mentoring (u-u, g-g)

Trip to IKEA and Aurora Mall

Mixers for graduate students

Dinner parties

More social events