



**October 16, 2023**

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**TOMORROW! ISSS IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: ISSS 101**

**Tuesday, October 17**

**1:30pm-3pm**

**Academic Building 2400**

Come learn about how to navigate our website, the RGlobal portal, and how to make the most of our services. Will include Q&A, prizes, and social time to meet other international students.

In case you missed the International Student Orientation program, this is a great opportunity to meet members of the ISSS team and learn about our services.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: BEWARE OF SCAMS**

While you are at Rutgers, please use the available resources and take steps to protect yourself from scams targeting international students. Unfortunately, there are a number of scams targeting unsuspecting international students. These scams can be very sophisticated, oftentimes the caller knows a lot of your personal information and it appears that they are calling from a government phone number. As you pursue your program of study in the U.S. and as you search for valuable employment/internship opportunities, please be aware that these fraudulent activities exist and that you need to protect yourself from them. Exercise caution in your activities – such as paying your term bill, accepting any offer of employment, making payments over the phone, sharing your personal information, etc.

- If you feel unsafe, call the [Rutgers University Police Department](#) at 732-932-7211.
- If upset/anxious/need to talk to someone, walk-in to meet with a counselor during our [Let's Talk](#) hours or contact [Counseling, ADAP, and Psychological Services](#) (CAPS).
- Always contact the Rutgers Global–International Student and Scholar Services at [iss-students@global.rutgers.edu](mailto:iss-students@global.rutgers.edu) or reach out to an International Student Adviser through our [advising services](#) if you think you have been contacted by someone trying to commit fraud. ISSS can help you determine if the situation is a scam and alert the international student and scholar community about the scam.

## SCAM SCENARIOS

We have also heard from students and colleagues who have been contacted by a few common scams, so we wanted to provide a warning to you about the following scam scenarios:

- Call from an individual claiming to be from a finance or law group and attempting to collect unpaid tuition
- Call from an individual claiming they are from the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS), or local police department, indicating that the student did not pay all required taxes and needs to pay right away or be deported
- Call from an individual claiming to be from the Social Security Administration, and that due to suspicious activity their Social Security Number would be blocked and that they needed to provide some personal information over the phone
- Call from a masked phone number that shows the call is originating from government agencies, including immigration offices and the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China. The caller speaks in Mandarin, claims problems with the student's visa, and attempts to convince the student to wire money and give personal information

In many cases, the caller ID will display a number that appears to be legitimate (e.g. Social Security Administration or Police Department). It is very easy for scammers to edit caller ID to show a specific phone number, when the actual number calling is not from those offices. Remember: the IRS will not contact anyone about tax issues by phone (and local police will never contact anyone about tax issues). Also, no government agency will ever call someone to ask for any form of payment over the phone.

## TIPS TO AVOID SCAMS

Keep the following recommendations in mind to help protect yourself against scam and fraud attempts.

- If the caller sounds suspicious - You have the right to hang up or call the person back if you feel uncomfortable on the call. Give yourself time to research the caller or consult with other resources before further engaging with the caller.

- Do not wire/pay any money on the phone. No government agency, including the Department of Homeland Security, will ever ask for any form of payment over the phone.
- Do not meet up with the person.
- Do not share any personal or financial information, such as banking information or your SSN, to unknown persons over the phone or internet.
- Scammers may know basic information about you and use that as 'proof', however this information is easily searchable online. It is a good idea to check how much of your information is public, such as your phone number and address.
- Verify the identity of anyone who asks for your personal information over the phone. Ask for a caller's name, ID badge, and phone number, and request that you call them back or respond through the entity's customer service channels.
- Do not cash checks that arrive in the mail unexpectedly.
- Do not sign contracts without reading them and fully understanding the content.
- Monitor/Change information—bank account, credit card, online accounts, passwords, etc. depending on the nature of the call/email.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO AVOID SCAMS AND FRAUD**

Please continue to refer to our [Scams and Fraud](#) webpage for the following detailed information:

- Secure Your Information
- Report Anything Suspicious to ISSS
- Notify Authorities and Next Steps
- Message from the Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD)
- Message from the Office of Student Legal Services
- Message from the Office of Student Accounting, Billing, and Cashier Services

Finally, take note of the following external resources:

- [Federal Trade Commission](#) pamphlets in several languages
- Federal Trade Commission's [listing of common scams](#)
- USCIS webpages on [how to avoid scams](#) and where to [report a scam](#)
- [Internal Revenue Service on Tax Scams / Consumer Alerts](#)
- [Study in the States: Tips to Avoid Scams](#)
- [Red Flags: Identify and Filter Out Job Scams](#) (Rutgers Career Exploration and Success)

By exercising caution and knowing the signs of scams and fraud, you can protect yourself. Remember, always contact the Rutgers Global – International Student and Scholar Services at [iss-students@global.rutgers.edu](mailto:iss-students@global.rutgers.edu) or reach out to an International Student Adviser through our [advising services](#) if you think you have been contacted by someone trying to commit fraud. ISSS

can help you determine if the situation is a scam and alert the international student and scholar community about the scam.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS & RESOURCES**

#### **ISSS IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: WORKING OFF-CAMPUS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

**Thursday, November 16**

**3:30pm-5pm**

**Academic Building 2400**

Learn about the CPT and OPT process, eligibility, what forms to fill out with RGlobal, procedures, important dates, and filing your OPT application with the USCIS.

#### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUP**

Rutgers IWG, a volunteer organization founded in 1988, aims to help international women adapt through weekly conversation groups and other programs. For more information, email [iwgmembers@gmail.com](mailto:iwgmembers@gmail.com).

#### **NATIONAL TRANSFER STUDENT WEEK**

**October 16-21**

National Transfer Student Week is a celebration of transfer students and the professionals who support their journeys. Join us during the third week in October to help celebrate our Transfer Knights! Please refer to the [full calendar of events](#) for more information.

## **US GREEN CARD PROCESS INFORMATIONAL VIRTUAL SEMINAR | FREE EVENT**

**Thursday, October 26**

**5pm**

[BDV Solutions, LLC \("BDV"\)](#), the largest independent third-party provider of EB-3 employee sponsor consulting and case management services in the U.S., focusing on unskilled (entry level) labor solutions for U.S. businesses, is offering a free virtual seminar discussing the EB-3 Green Card program. This seminar is a partnership between [BDV Solutions, LLC \("BDV"\)](#) and the Consulate of Mexico in New Brunswick, NJ. There will be Spanish and English speakers presenting during this session.

Register Here: <https://streamyard.com/watch/NgyngXHYSn3U>

## **CAPS' INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WELLNESS GROUP**

**Fridays, 1pm-2:30pm**

**Zoom**

CAPS' International Student Wellness Group is here to support you by providing a safe and confidential virtual space to discuss various concerns and to help you connect with each other. Discussion topics include culture shock, family or parental pressure, microaggression/discrimination, and more. A brief screening appointment or CAPS referral is required. If you are interested in joining, please call the CAPS main line at; 848-932-7884.

## **SIGNATURE CAREER EVENT – HOSTED BY THE OFFICE OF CAREER EXPLORATION AND SUCCESS**

**Monday, November 6**

**5pm-8:30pm**

**Busch Campus Center**

**Cost: \$8**

Learn how CES and Rutgers Global support you, the resources available, and employment options on F1 or J1 student visas. In an interactive session, you will have the opportunity to learn networking etiquette and personal branding, or if you are already comfortable with networking, attend a session that will equip you with strategies and language to tackle questions about visa statuses & employment. You pick the session you would like to attend! During the catered dinner, you will hear from Rutgers International Student alumni from various disciplines who secured positions in the United States and how they did it! Not only will attendance give you the competitive edge, but it also earns you FOUR stamps toward the [#Rutgersworks Free Tuition Challenge](#). Register [here](#).

## **GRADUATE WORKSHOP SERIES – OFFERED BY RUTGERS LEARNING CENTERS**

**Various dates and times**

**Zoom**

Graduate students are invited to participate in several online workshops related to academic success. For details and registration links, please visit [LearningCenters.Rutgers.edu/Register-workshops](https://LearningCenters.Rutgers.edu/Register-workshops)

## **FRIENDSHIP FRIDAYS**

**November 3 – Coffee & Conversation**

**4pm-5pm**

**Location: Grad Student Lounge, College Avenue Student Center**

This week, join us to meet other students, relax and enjoy a cup of coffee and some snacks!

**November 10 – Game Night**

**4pm-6pm**

**Location: 30 College Avenue**

Join us for some fun and games. Feel free to bring your favorite game to share with others or play one of the many games that we will have on hand.

## **GLOBAL JAMBOREE**

**Tuesday, November 14**

**6pm-8pm**

**Location: College Avenue Student Center Multipurpose Room**

Meet other students interested in global topics, get help with your Study Abroad questions, and learn about resources for international students. Enjoy fall crafts, trivia, pizza, and pie!

## **CALL FOR FACILITATORS**

### **GRADUATE AFFINITY GROUPS**

The Office of Graduate Student Life and the School of Graduate Students are pleased to partner to establish affinity groups designed and facilitated by and for graduate students. This initiative emerged from the research and advocacy of graduate students, and we are excited to launch the call for facilitators. Learn more and attend an info session at [go.rutgers.edu/gradaffinity](http://go.rutgers.edu/gradaffinity). Submit your proposal by October 29.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT-CENTERED COURSES**

### **CAREER EXPLORATIONS IN ARTS & SCIENCES**

01:090:210:MD

Fall 2023 - 7 Week Mini Course Starts October 24

Register now for the international student section of this course that offers customized, in-depth, globally focused support for your specific career needs, strengths, and challenges. This 1.5 credit course is graded, asynchronous, and open to all upper-class students (2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> year) of any school of enrollment.

For more information, visit <http://go.rutgers.edu/4epaoe7u>

Best wishes,

## Rutgers Global - ISSS

This periodic update from the Rutgers Global – International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office provides you with important information regarding your legal status, upcoming programs, and useful resources. Previous updates can be found on our [Email Notices page](#).

These notices are automatically sent to all nonimmigrant students enrolled at Rutgers–New Brunswick and Rutgers–Biomedical and Health Sciences. Most messages, however, apply only to F-1 and J-1 students. We label most messages to facilitate your identification of which messages may apply to you personally. All F-1 and J-1 students on Rutgers' visa sponsorships are required to know the information that is provided in these notices and to follow reminders and instructions that apply to their own situations.

This is NOT a subscription email list. These notices are sent periodically to an automatically generated list. If you are a permanent resident or citizen of the U.S and should not be receiving these notices, please contact ISSS:

**New Brunswick**

848-932-7015

[iss-students@global.rutgers.edu](mailto:iss-students@global.rutgers.edu)

**RBHS**

973-972-6138

[iss-rbhs@global.rutgers.edu](mailto:iss-rbhs@global.rutgers.edu)