
From: On Behalf Of Urmi Otiv

Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 11:18 AM

To: NB_INTERNATIONAL_STUDENTS@rams.rutgers.edu

Subject: [Global_gaia] Travel Advisory and Getting a Travel Signature



Dear Rutgers–New Brunswick International Students:

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.

These notices are automatically sent to all nonimmigrant students enrolled at Rutgers–New Brunswick. 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 update includes:

- [University Office Closures during Thanksgiving and Winter Recess](#)
- [F-1 and J-1 Students: Obtain a Travel Validation Signature on an I-20 or DS-2019 before International Travel](#)
- [Recommendations for Travel](#)
- [Presidential Executive Orders and Travel Advisory](#)

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 Susan Maldonado at susanmal@global.rutgers.edu.

Sincerely,

Rutgers Global – International Student and Scholar Services
848-932-7015
globalservices@global.rutgers.edu

UNIVERSITY OFFICE CLOSURES DURING THANKSGIVING AND WINTER RECESS

Please note that all university offices including the International Student and Scholar Services Office (ISSS) will remain closed during Thanksgiving and Winter recess.

Thanksgiving Recess – Thursday, November 23 - Sunday, November 26

Winter Recess – Saturday, December 23 – Monday, January 1

In case of emergency during these dates, please write to the center at globalservices@global.rutgers.edu with “Emergency” in the subject line and provide a contact phone number in the email. Rutgers Global - ISSS staff will be checking this email periodically and will get back to any urgent messages as expeditiously as possible.

F-1 AND J-1 STUDENTS: OBTAIN A TRAVEL VALIDATION SIGNATURE ON AN I-20 OR DS-2019 BEFORE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

If you are planning to travel internationally during the Thanksgiving or winter break, please exercise caution and follow the travel recommendations provided below. F-1 and J-1 students and scholars (and their F-2 and J-2 dependents) should not make trips abroad without first obtaining a travel verification signature on their I-20 or DS-2019 form. The signature confirms that the I-20 or DS-2019 owner is in valid legal status and eligible to return to the United States to resume their programs. For your convenience, the International Student and Scholar Services office is offering dedicated days to get your travel signatures. You can obtain the signature by just stopping by the ISSS office on one of the following days:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 8:30AM-5PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 8:30AM-5PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 8:30AM-5PM

@180 College Avenue

In case of any emergency while abroad, please write to Rutgers Global - ISSS at globalservices@global.rutgers.edu with “Emergency” in the subject line and provide a contact phone number in the email. A staff member will get back to any urgent messages as expeditiously as possible.

If you are not able to make it during one of the above times, you can still get a travel signature by following the instructions on our website at our [Travel and Visa Information](#) page.

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday season!!

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAVEL

We would like to advise all our students to be careful and alert during any travel – domestic and international, and be prepared to face extra scrutiny at visa issuing posts and at ports of entry. And always, follow all rules and regulations to [maintain your legal status in the US](#). Visit our [Travel and Visa Information](#) page for information and recommendations for travel.

Traveling outside the US

When traveling outside the United States, F-1 and J-1 visa holders must have in their possession the following documentation to ensure their ability to re-enter the U.S. and resume their activities:

- Passport valid at least six months beyond re-entry date
- Valid U.S. visa in the appropriate classification, e.g., F-1, J-1, H-1B, etc.
- Valid immigration document for the status being sought: I-20 or DS-2019 with travel endorsement from Rutgers Global - ISSS.

While not specifically required by regulations, the following additional documents are very strongly recommended when traveling abroad. These documents provide information about your legal status, academic and immigration history in the U.S. They need not be presented unless asked.

- Your complete [unofficial transcript](#) and [Enrollment Verification](#) to prove good academic standing
- Current [proof of funding](#)
- All previously-issued I-20 or DS-2019 forms
- If on OPT or Academic Training (AT), your OPT or AT authorization
- If needing to apply for a new F-1 or J-1 visa before returning to the U.S., a recently-updated I-20 or DS-2019 issued to you within the 6 months prior to your application for a new visa
- If your field of study or research is technology or science-related, we recommend you get a letter (on letterhead) from your supervisor, department chair, center director or graduate program director. The letter should explain as much about your program of study and research as possible with the goal of demonstrating that your research does not threaten national security.

Travel within the US

We advise all international students to carry all original identification and travel documents (I-20/DS-2019, passport) with you even if you are traveling within the United States.

Useful travel resources for international students:

- Department of Homeland Security's [Study in the States](#) Website
- [FAQ for F-Nonimmigrants](#) from ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement)
- [I-94 Related Information](#) from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- NAFSA's (Association of International Educators) [10 Points to Remember When Applying for a Student Visa](#)
- Travel Guidance from [ICE](#) (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement)

PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND TRAVEL ADVISORY

- For latest updates on the US Presidential Executive Orders as they affect Rutgers international students, faculty, and staff, please check the [Rutgers Global – International Student and Scholar Services website](#) on a regular basis. Check back frequently for the most recent guidance.
- Important updates will also be communicated by email so make sure you check your university email regularly.
- [NAFSA](#) (the Association of International Educators) provides the most current information through their website.
- If you are a citizen of one of the countries listed on the order, and are considering international travel, we strongly advise that you consult with [an adviser at Rutgers Global – ISSS](#). You must also take the responsibility to fully read and understand the implications the order might have on you before you make any international travel plans.
- If you are an international student from a country that is not on the banned list, you should continue to follow our recommendations on travel.
- If you are planning to or have traveled to one of the countries on the ban list, be prepared for additional questioning by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) about the nature of your visit when you attempt to enter or exit the United States in the future.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. Enjoy the holiday season, safe travels!

*Traveling over the
Break? Come for*



TRAVEL SIGNATURE DAYS

Bring your **I-20** or **DS-2019** for an
immediate travel signature on
Friday 12/8, Friday 12/15, or Friday 12/22
between 8:30am-5pm

Rutgers Global- International Student and Scholar Services

180 College Avenue

New Brunswick, NJ 08901



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