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FEBRUARY 5, 2021

IMMIGRATION POLICY UPDATES

President Biden’s administration has recently announced several changes to immigration policy. As more changes are expected, Rutgers Global will keep international students and scholars posted of any updates, and we remain steadfast in supporting our international community during this time of transition. Recent changes in immigration policy and travel guidance can be found on the Rutgers Global Alerts page.

For the latest updates and information, please review the Association of International Educators (NAFSA)’s Biden Administration Immigration Portal.

For a complete listing of executive actions by President Biden, go to the Presidential Actions listing on whitehouse.gov.

COMING SOON: FREE GLACIER TAX PREPARATION SOFTWARE

This year ISSS will once again offer international students and scholars FREE access to “GLACIER Tax Prep” -- a comprehensive nonresident tax software program. A detailed message about tax preparation and access to the Glacier Tax preparation software will be forthcoming. In the meantime, information about tax filing can be found by visiting any of the following websites:

- https://global.rutgers.edu/taxes
- https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2015/03/filing-taxes-101

REMINDER FROM RUTGERS GLOBAL – ISSS: BEWARE OF SCAMS

Recently, we have received several reports of scams targeting unsuspecting international students and scholars. These scams have become increasingly sophisticated, oftentimes with a government phone number appearing on your caller ID, or the caller knowing a lot of your
personal information. As is true anywhere in the world, there are people who attempt to take advantage of international students and scholars, but with a little knowledge you can learn how to identify a scam and avoid falling victim to the scheme.

In many cases, the caller ID shows a number that appears to be legitimate (Social Security Administration, Police Department, Department of Homeland Security, etc.). It is very easy to edit a caller ID to say one thing and the actual number calling is not really those offices. Remember, U.S. government agencies will usually reach out to students by mail, not by phone, and they will never, ever require payment over the phone.

Key tips to remember: If the caller sounds suspicious, hang up immediately. Do not wire/pay any money on the phone. No government agency will ever call someone to ask for any form of payment over the phone. Do not meet up with the person, and do not share any personal or financial information.

Please refer to the ISSS website for more tips to avoid scams, as well as a list of helpful resources regarding scams and fraud.

**COVID-19 RESOURCES AND UPDATES**

For the latest information and updates on the COVID-19 vaccine rollout please review the following resources from the university wide COVID-19 website.

Additional information for international students is available on the Rutgers Global - ISSS website:

- COVID-19 Related International Student FAQ
- Rutgers Global Alerts

**NEW CDC GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS**

According to a new CDC policy, effective January 26, 2021, all international travelers coming into the U.S. will be required to get tested for COVID-19 infection no more than 3 days before their flight departs and to provide proof of a negative result or documentation of having recovered from COVID-19 to the airline before boarding the flight. For more information on this testing requirement, see the CDC Frequently Asked Questions.

Review the CDC website for more information. Also check COVID-19 related rules and regulations in the country to which you are traveling.

Sincerely,

Rutgers Global – International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)
848-932-7015
isson-students@global.rutgers.edu
global.rutgers.edu

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 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.