IMPORTANT INFORMATION for INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

MAY 10, 2024

ISSS MODIFIED OPERATIONS
I-20/DS-2019 EXPIRING IN MAY
APPLYING FOR CPT & OPT
SUMMER TRAVEL
SHOPPING SHUTTLE

ISSS MODIFIED OPERATIONS

Please note the following operational modifications will take effect Monday, May 13, 2024, through Friday, August 2, 2024:

ISSS Business hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30am – 5:00pm, and Fridays 8:30am-12:00pm (remote service only on Fridays). The office is closed on Wednesdays for processing and team meetings.

Remote Quick Question Advising (QQA) Summer Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays - 9:30AM - 11:30AM & 1:30PM-3:30PM; Fridays - 9:30AM – 11:30AM

Please refer to our Advising Services webpage to join QQA or to book an appointment.

I-20/DS-2019 EXPIRING IN MAY

If your I-20 or DS-2019 document expires on May 31 and if you are not completing your academic program by May 31, please review our Extension of Program page for information and instructions on how to request an extension. Please note that your request must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the end date listed on your I-20/DS-2019, as our office must have time to extend your end date before May 31.
If you are graduating this May, congratulations! Please be sure to review our Graduating Students page for information on your options following your F-1 degree program.

APPLYING FOR CPT & OPT

All students applying for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) or OPT must complete the Off-Campus Employment Workshop on the RGlobal portal (under Workshops on the left-hand menu). F-1 students who plan to engage in CPT during the summer break should plan to submit a CPT application as soon as possible. F-1 students graduating in May planning to apply for post-completion OPT should submit an OPT application as soon as possible.

Please note that summer CPT must begin after the end of the spring semester, and summer CPT must end before the start of the fall semester. Please refer to the Academic Calendar for details.

CPT Application and OPT I-20 requests will be processed within approximately 7 business days after the successful and complete submission of an application.

As F-1/J-1 students, it is your responsibility to know the rules and laws governing your legal status, including the regulations regarding off-campus internships or any off-campus employment. You do not need to wait until you have a job interview to find out what those rules are. For questions about CPT and OPT, please refer to our Practical Training page.

SUMMER TRAVEL

As the spring semester ends, we understand some of you may be considering domestic or international travel. As always, we would like to advise all our students to exercise caution and review the Travel and Visa Information webpage for further detailed international travel guidance, resources, and tips. The travel signature on the I-20 or DS-2019 is valid for 12 months (6 months for students on OPT) and confirms that the student is in valid legal status and eligible to return to the United States to resume their programs. For more information and recommendations for international travel, visit the ISSS website page on Preparing for International Travel.

Students graduating in May 2024 should also be aware that you must be physically present in the U.S. to apply for work authorization after graduation, called Optional Practical Training. If you are not in the U.S. at the time of submitting your application, you cannot apply for OPT.

If you have any questions or concerns about traveling during the summer recess, please contact an ISSS adviser.

SHOPPING SHUTTLE
ISSS will continue to offer the shopping shuttle service to local stores during Summer 2024, so students who are on-campus can purchase groceries and other living essentials. The shopping shuttle schedule is now available on our Shopping Shuttle page.

Please note the updated pickup locations:
- Bevier Road on Busch Campus – Thursdays 5:30-5:40PM & Saturdays 10:30-10:45AM
- Nichols Apartments on Busch Campus – Thursdays 5:30-5:40PM & Saturdays 10:30-10:45AM
- College Ave. Student Center on CAC – Saturdays only 10:30-10:45AM

Have a safe and happy summer!

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 must know the information provided in these notices and 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
issss-students@global.rutgers.edu

RBHS
973-972-6138
issss-rbhs@global.rutgers.edu