

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: September Notice

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To:NB_INTERNATIONAL_STUDENTS@rams.rutgers.edu <nb_international_students@rams.rutgers.edu>



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MESSAGE FOR NEW AND CONTINUING STUDENTS

Welcome and Welcome Back to Rutgers! The Rutgers Global – International Student and Scholar Services office (ISSS) is thrilled to work with all new and continuing international students. Please engage with our office through our [advising services](#), or reach out to us via email at iss-students@global.rutgers.edu. Best wishes for a successful Fall 2024 semester and remember that we are here to help and support!

CHECK-IN ON YOUR RGLOBAL ACCOUNT

All new students must complete the mandatory check-in as a legal requirement of your F-1 or J-1 status. Log into your [RGlobal account](#) to get started.

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

As a reminder, F-1 and J-1 students are not permitted to count more than one online class or 3 credits toward a full course of study requirement. For more information, please refer to the [Full Course of Study Requirement](#) page.

APPLYING FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

F-1 and J-1 students must have a job offer letter and/or work authorization to be eligible to apply for a Social Security Number (SSN). Eligible students must follow the detailed instructions on our [Social Security](#) webpage, under How to Apply for a Social Security number.

REDUCED CREDIT/COURSE LOAD – FALL 2024 DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

To maintain legal status, all F-1 and J-1 students must pursue a [full course of study](#). This means being registered for a full credit load (12 credits for undergraduates and 9 credits for graduate students). In specific circumstances, students may be eligible for a

[Reduced Credit/Course Load](#). Please review the website for information about eligibility, and instructions to submit a “Reduced Credit/Course Load” form to ISSS using the [RGlobal portal](#). You will need approval from our office for less than full-time enrollment in any semester. The form can be completed online and will require your graduate program director/academic dean’s approval. The deadline for submitting the form is **Wednesday, September 25, 2024**. Remember that it takes 3-4 days to process the form after receipt, and we cannot guarantee timely processing of forms received after the deadline. This could mean loss of legal status. Please review our [Maintaining Legal Status](#) page for more information.

Please check the University’s academic calendar for the appropriate add/drop dates, for the last date to drop classes without a “W” grade:

[Undergraduate Registration Calendar](#)

[Graduate Registration Calendar](#)

FALL 2024 INSURANCE WAIVER DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Students with full TA/GA appointments enrolled in benefits through University Human Resources DO NOT need to contact our office to request a student health insurance premium waiver. You only need to submit your enrollment paperwork through Human Resources at the start of your appointment and do not need to submit waiver documentation to our office. Once Human Resources processes your insurance enrollment paperwork, we will receive your coverage information, and we will process your waiver.

All other F-1 and J-1 students must either enroll in The Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) or Waive coverage. Full instructions for enrolling in SHIP or submitting a waiver can be found on our [health insurance webpage](#).

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

ISSS hosts virtual Off-Campus Employment Chat Sessions via Zoom, which are an opportunity for students to drop in and discuss their CPT/OPT questions with an International Student Advisor and connect with other students who are also interested in off-campus employment. These sessions will begin Thursday, September 19, and will continue throughout the Fall. Please view the full schedule on our website [here](#).

ISSS hosts in-person CPT/OPT 101 workshops each semester for students to learn about the CPT and OPT process, eligibility, which forms to fill out with RGlobal, procedures, important dates, and filing your OPT application with USCIS. This semester, these workshops will be held on October 22 and November 21. More information can be found on our website [here](#).

AVOIDING SCAMS

We have been made aware of financial scams targeting unsuspecting international students and scholars. Please refer to the ISSS website for resources and tips to [protect yourself from scams and fraud](#).

SHOPPING SHUTTLE

Our [Shopping Trips](#) webpage has the schedule of shopping shuttle trips for Fall 2024. The shuttle is a free service for international students and scholars, and it is scheduled on many Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings throughout the semester. Please refer to the posted schedules for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Rutgers has many events for new and continuing students to enjoy. Please refer to the links below for information about a variety of programs and activities.

Rutgers Global Calendar of Events

View all upcoming events [here](#)!

CAPS/ISSS Student Support Space – Fall 2024 Wellness Workshop Series

U Ready for Wellness? Studying abroad and adapting to a new culture, while also trying to pursue your academic goals presents several challenges. CAPS/ISSS wellness workshops are here to support you, help you make friends, and make the most of Rutgers resources to adapt to your new student life. Please join us for these FREE in-person Interactive workshops! Find out more information and register [here](#). Workshop #1: Adapting and Thriving at Rutgers will be held at 180 College Avenue on 9/26 from 5:00 – 6:30pm.

2024 – Rutgers New Brunswick Fall Career & Internship Mega Fair

Join us September 17-20 at one of the nation’s largest and most diverse recruiting opportunities. An anticipated group of 120 employers each day will be available to network with candidates to discuss full-time, part-time, and internship opportunities from various fields. This event is open to Rutgers University (New Brunswick, Camden, Newark, and RBHS) students, alumni, and the public from all academic disciplines. Learn more at <http://careers.rutgers.edu/fairs>

LGBTQIA+ International Brunch

Rutgers Global is co-sponsoring a special event on Friday, September 13th: LGBTQIA+ International Brunch. Pride is worldwide! All LGBTQIA+ international students are invited to a welcome brunch to build community here at Rutgers. Please RSVP [here](#)! This event is part of a [series of welcome events](#) by The Center for Social Justice Education and LGBT Communities (SJE).

Monthly Latinx/Hispanic Postdoc Happy Hours

Calling all Latinx and/or Hispanic Postdocs! Campus partners at Rutgers have created a group to help international Latinx/Hispanic postdocs create social networks and help ease the transition to Rutgers. If you are interested in joining the growing community, or are looking for support, the group has happy hours in both Newark and New Brunswick on either the 1st or 3rd Friday each month. For more information, please contact Postdoc fellow [Clara Berdasco](#), or if on WhatsApp, you may contact the group using the link [here](#).

The Office of Graduate Student Life Staff Drop-In Hours Starting This Week!

Do you have a non-academic problem and are not sure who to talk to? The Office of Graduate Student Life staff will be offering in-person and virtual drop-in office hours during the Fall 2024 semester! Click [here](#) to view scheduled office hours and instructions for scheduling an appointment outside of these times.

Check Out First Weeks at Rutgers Events!

All incoming and continuing graduate students are invited to various welcome and community-building programs in September to kick off the Fall 2024 semester. Programs are designed to introduce you to essential resources, provide opportunities to connect with other graduate students, learn about graduate student organizations and participate in campus-wide events. Click [here](#) to view the full fall 2024 program of events!

International Student Guidebook

For those of you who have just joined us this semester, we hope you're settling in well! To assist you, our orientation leaders put together a wonderful resource that we hope will help you further at getting comfortable in your new home here at Rutgers University. Please check out the International Student Guidebook [here](#). The international student guidebook contains information about all the different campuses at Rutgers, places to find your favorite foods from home, and ways to get involved outside the classroom.

We wish you all a safe and successful Fall semester!

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 the [Email Notices page](#).

These notices are automatically sent to all nonimmigrant students enrolled at Rutgers–New Brunswick and Rutgers Health. 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

isss-students@global.rutgers.edu

Rutgers Health

973-972-6138

isss-rbhs@global.rutgers.edu