WELCOME TO COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION
2018
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES STAFF

Mark Hallett, Senior Director

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INTO-CSU Immigration Advisor
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES STAFF

Barbara Pretzer, Receptionist

Melaura Munn, Receptionist

Tyler Clayton, SEVIS Manager

Cindy Conlin, Business Analyst
TOP POPULATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS (SPRING 2018)

- China, 36%
- India, 22%
- Oman, 10%
- Saudi Arabia, 8%
- Taiwan, 5%
- Brazil, 5%
- Thailand, 4%
- Pakistan, 4%
- Vietnam, 3%
- Kuwait, 3%
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES

- Orientation and Arrival
- Advising
- Immigration Services
- Regulatory Compliance
- Sponsor Services
- Programming
- Questions
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Office Hours

• Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

• The office is closed 12-1pm daily for lunch, on Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays

Advising

Walk-in Advising

Monday through Friday from 9:30—11:30 a.m. and 1:00—3:00 p.m.

Appointments

Available by request (*no same-day appointments*)

General questions or appointment requests can be sent to isss@colostate.edu
NEED TO SEE AN ADVISOR?

Walk-in advising (less than 10 minutes)

- General information
- Quick questions
- Travel signatures
- Pick up documents
- Letter requests

Appointments (more than 10 minutes)

- Employment questions
- Immigration forms
- Academic concerns
- Adjustment concerns
- Complex HELP!
The Office of International Programs partners with various campus and community organizations to bring you a wide variety of programs designed especially for YOU!

**New Student Programs:**
- Home-stay program
- International Student Orientation
- President’s Welcome Reception
- Community Welcome Dinners
- International Women’s Welcome
- Weekend in the Mountains

**Regularly Occurring Events:**
- Friday Afternoon Club (FAC)
- International Tea
- Outdoor Trips
- International Night at the Library
- COISA (Council of International Student Affairs) Programming
- Cultural Mentor Programming

**Annual Events:**
- World Unity Fair
- Football 101
- Basketball 101
- International Children’s Carnival
IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS: YOUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
IMMIGRATION ISSUES

• International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) is here to help you understand your immigration status, rights, and responsibilities.

• It is vital that you understand your immigration status and know your rights and responsibilities.

• Make the most of your immigration benefits while in F-1 status!
FOUR PRIMARY IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS

- **Passport:** Issued by home country
- **U.S. Visa:** Permission to enter the U.S.
- **I-94:** Arrival and Departure record
- **I-20:** For F-1 students and their families
REMINDERS

- Be sure to keep all documents in a secure place
- You do not need to carry them with you at all times as long as you have a picture identification card
- Retain all I-20s for your records, but present the most recent one when travelling
1. **PASSPORT**

- Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months into the future. **DO NOT** let your passport expire while in the U.S.!

- You must renew your passport with your home country’s embassy or consulate a minimum of 6 months prior to its expiration date.

- Please check your passport’s expiration date now
PASSPORT ARRIVAL AND STATUS STAMP

Each time you enter the United States, Customs and Border Protection will stamp and notate your passport with:

Date of Entry

Status
- F1 (student) or F2 (dependent)

Expiration
- D/S = Duration of Status
2. U.S. VISA

• Think of your visa as your “ticket” to enter the country. Renewal is only permitted outside of the United States.

• Unlike your passport, your visa CAN expire while you are in the U.S. as long as your passport, I-94, and I-20 are valid.

• Length and number of entries varies by country.

• Let’s review the visa type, number of entries, and expiration listed on your U.S. visa now.
U.S. VISA

Should be marked F-1 or J-1

"M" means that you can seek entry into the U.S. multiple times. If there is a number here, you may apply for entry that many times.

" Annotation " may include additional information about your visa. For example, on a student visa, it will show your SEVIS number and name of your school.

"Expiration Date" is the last day you can use your visa to seek entry into the U.S. It has nothing to do with how long you may stay in the U.S. See "What is a Visa?"
3. I-94 NUMBER ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE RECORD

- Form I-94 is located by logging onto the Customs and Border Protection website at: https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home

- You will print it if you apply for a social security number, a driver’s license and/or employment authorization.

- When you log into your I-94 number, check to be sure it has the following notation: F-1 and D/S

If you cannot locate your I-94 number, contact our office for assistance.
Enter Your Traveler Info

Note: The info returned may not reflect applications submitted to or benefits received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

* First (Given) Name: 

* Last (Family) Name/Surname: 

* Birth Date: 

  Day  __  Month  __  Year  ___

* Passport Number: 

* Passport Country of Issuance: 

--- Select ---

Next

Get I-94 Number | I-94 FAQ

Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 0000000000

Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): D/S

Details provided on Admission(I-94) form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Name:</th>
<th>STUDENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First (Given) Name:</td>
<td>IMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY):</td>
<td>01/01/1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport Number:</td>
<td>P123123123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport Country of Issuance:</td>
<td>ANY COUNTRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY):</td>
<td>04/20/2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of Admission:</td>
<td>F-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proceed to your most recent I-94
• The immigration Form I-20 you received was issued by the Office of International Student & Scholar Services at CSU.

• A new I-20 will need to be issued any time you:
  - Change a level of education
  - Change status
  - Extend your academic program
  - Add or remove dependents
  - Apply for off-campus employment authorization

• A valid I-20 is necessary to enter and remain in the U.S.
I-20 (PAGE 1)
Always make sure you have a travel signature less than 6 months old before you travel outside the U.S.
You are responsible for reading and knowing these!
ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR 4 MAIN IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS?
MAINTAINING YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS
ACADEMICS
FULL TIME ENROLLMENT

• 12 credit hours per semester for undergraduates
• 9 credit hours per semester for graduates
• There is no requirement to be enrolled in the summer unless it is your first term
• No more than one online or distance education class (3 credits per semester) may count toward a full course load.

Always meet with an international student advisor before dropping below full time!
Academic Difficulty

• A student may be authorized to drop below full-time for one Academic Difficulty Reduced Course Load reason **once per degree level**

• The student must still be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credits for undergraduates or 5 credits for graduates

Reasons for Academic Difficulty

1. Initial Difficulty with English Language or Reading Requirements (*1st year only*)

2. Unfamiliarity with U.S. Teaching Methods (*1st year only*)

3. Improper Course Level Placement
EXCEPTIONS TO THE FULL TIME ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENT

**Medical**

- Not to exceed 12 months total
- Can be used for both physical and mental medical reasons
- Requires signed form from licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, or licensed clinical psychologist practicing in the United States
- No minimum enrollment requirement during medical reduced course load unless stated in letter from physician or psychologist
EXCEPTIONS TO THE FULL TIME ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENT

**Nearing Graduation:**

- In the final semester of required coursework and taking all available courses to graduate.
- Completed all required coursework and preparing for a comprehensive examination.
- Completed all required coursework and working on thesis/dissertation.
REDUCED CREDIT LOAD E-FORM (Academic)

http://isss.colostate.edu/immigration_forms/
REDUCED CREDIT LOAD / MEDICAL EXCEPTION

This form is used to request authorization to drop below a full course load due to a temporary illness or medical condition. Only a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, or a licensed clinical psychologist may substantiate the illness or medical condition by signing this form. The student must submit this completed form to ISSS and receive authorization from an international student advisor before dropping below full-time.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT:

Name:
Email Address:
CSU ID:
Phone Number:
Immigration Status: [ ] F-1 [ ] J-1
Degree Level: [ ] UG [ ] GR [ ] PhD
Semester of Request: [ ] Fall [ ] Spring [ ] Summer
Year:
STUDENT’S SIGNATURE: I have read and understand the additional information outlined on page 2 of this form.
Signature:
Date:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT’S PHYSICIAN OR LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

As a condition of remaining in the U.S. on a student visa at Colorado State University, the student named above is required to maintain a full-time load of classes. This student is seeking an exception to the full-time requirement for a medical condition and must provide documentation from a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, or licensed clinical psychologist who can substantiate the medical condition. The student can reduce enrollment below the full-time requirement, even down to zero credit hours, if doing so is deemed medically necessary. For HIPAA reasons, we do not ask for specific medical information. However, if the student requests that you provide a more detailed explanation, any additional documentation of the medical condition would also be welcome.

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL’S SIGNATURE: I have discussed the above circumstances with the student, reviewed the educational implications, and I recommend the student’s exception from a full course of study as noted below.
Signature:
Date:

Certification: I certify that I am a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, or licensed clinical psychologist. I confirm that the student named above is experiencing a medical condition that necessitates a reduction in credits from the normal full-time requirement (12 credits for undergraduates, 9 credits for graduate students).

The student is recommended to take ____________ credit hours for the semester indicated above.

Signature:
Date:

Name:
Title:
Practice or Business Entity’s Name:
Phone:

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISOR APPROVAL

Signature:
Date:

http://isss.colostate.edu/immigration_forms/
CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

• Registering for courses at another school
• Minimum of 6 credit hours must be taken at CSU
• Must be approved by ISSS before enrolling at another university/college
CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT FORM

http://isss.colostate.edu/immigration_forms/
OTHER IMMIGRATION RESPONSIBILITIES:
CONTACT INFORMATION

• If you make any changes to your current address, phone number, or email, you must update it on Ramweb within 10 days.

• It is crucial that you keep your mailing address on RamWeb up-to-date.

• Check your CSU email regularly for correspondence from our office.
OTHER IMMIGRATION RESPONSIBILITIES: ACADEMICS

• You must make “normal progress” toward completing your academic program

• **PROGRAM EXTENSION**: If you are nearing your I-20 program end date, you may be eligible to apply for a program extension. This must be done **30 days before** the document expires.

• **TRANSFER**: If you want to transfer to another university, you must contact an International Student Advisor at least **2 weeks** in advance.
OTHER IMMIGRATION RESPONSIBILITIES:
END OF PROGRAM

• F-1 students will receive a 60 day grace period at the end of their program.
• F-1 students may apply for OPT, or transfer to a new school, during their grace period.
• During this time, you are not permitted to work.
• If you travel outside of the U.S. during this time, your grace period automatically ends.
• There is no grace period if you do not complete your program/ withdraw early.
REQUIRED PROGRAMS

All students must complete **Haven: Understanding Sexual Assault**

Undergraduate students under age 23 must complete **AlcoholEdu**

**Holds will be placed on your student account preventing registration until you complete these**
You MUST be 21 years old for the possession, purchase and/or use of alcohol

You cannot have alcoholic beverages on campus, including residence halls
International Students are subject to Federal Law which overrides State Law

Colorado State Law:
Medical and recreational marijuana is legal; but

Federal Law:
It is illegal to:
Possess, use, buy, or sell marijuana
Transport marijuana from abroad or across U.S. state lines
FEDERAL LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

Inadmissibility
• While in the U.S.: Denied approval for adjustment of status
• While outside the U.S.: Denied visa stamp and entry into the U.S.

Removability (Deportability)
• Conviction of a drug offense is subject to removal from the U.S. Depending on the severity, it can be defined as an “aggravated felony” for drug trafficking which has additional immigration consequences
OTHER LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

University ≠ State ≠ Federal Laws

• Need to disclose even expunged arrests on visa application
• Social media is not private! Be careful what you disclose and who you are associated with, including photos and text messages

Customs and Border Protection:

• Do answer questions
• Don't volunteer information that isn't asked

Police: When interacting with law enforcement, you have the right to remain silent
F-2 DEPENDENTS

• The F-2 spouse and children of an F-1 student may not accept employment.
• The F-2 spouse of an F-1 student may not study full-time, and the F-2 child may only study full-time if the study is in elementary or secondary school.
• The status of the F-2 dependent is contingent upon the F-1 student’s status.
HEALTH INSURANCE

• All international students are required to maintain health insurance and are automatically enrolled in CSU’s Health Insurance Policy each semester.

• If you have a policy that meets or exceeds all of the requirements, you can submit a waiver through CSU Health Network’s Student Insurance office. *

  *This needs to be done no later than the 10th day of classes.*

• More information about this policy and waivers can be found on the CSU Health Network’s website: http://www.health.colostate.edu. Your CSU insurance will not be removed from your account until the waiver is approved.
If you plan on traveling outside of the U.S. and are re-entering the U.S., there are several questions to ask yourself:

- Is my passport expiring within the next 6 months?
- Do I have a valid visa to re-enter the U.S.?
- Do I need a travel signature on my I-20?
- Am I returning to CSU after my travels?
- Is my program end date approaching? Will it end while I am outside of the U.S.?
- Do I need a visitor’s visa to enter the country I am traveling to?
**EMPLOYMENT**

• You are permitted to work on campus.

• Off campus employment needs prior approval from USCIS or your International Student Advisor and is only permitted in certain circumstances.

• Working illegally is a serious violation of your immigration status.
EMPLOYMENT: ON CAMPUS

- During the Fall and Spring semesters, you may work up to **20 hours per week** on campus.
- During winter and summer break, you may work unlimited hours on campus.
- You must receive a written job offer from an on campus department in order to receive a Social Security authorization letter from ISSS.
- All students will need to apply for a Social Security Number (SSN) before starting to work.
EMPLOYMENT: OFF CAMPUS

- Off campus employment is very limited and requires authorization from an International Student Advisor or the U.S. government. There are only three (3) types of off campus employment an F-1 student may apply for (but authorization is never guaranteed):

  1. Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
  2. Optional Practical Training (OPT)
  3. Severe Economic Hardship

- Always meet with an International Student Advisor BEFORE considering an option to work off campus. The application process can take a few weeks to several months.

- There will be CPT/OPT information sessions each semester.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CAREER WEEK
Week of Feb. 5 - 9, 2018

Monday
CPT/OPT What to Plan For...
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Morgan Library, Rm. 173

Tuesday
Resume & Online Presence
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Morgan Library, Rm. 173

Wednesday
Job Search & Career Fair Best Practices
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Morgan Library, Rm. 173

Thursday
Acing the Interview
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Morgan Library, Rm. 173

Friday
Networking & 30 Second Commercial Practice
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
International House

For more Info:
www.colostate.edu

Sponsored by:
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
CAREER CENTER | OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
TAXES

• Earnings from employment, including income from assistantships and scholarships, are subject to federal, state, and local income taxes.

• OIP subscribes to a tax assistance software program every year. You will receive an email from OIP with more information by February or March.

• ISSS does not offer tax advice. You must talk with a tax professional for any and all tax questions.
TAXES

• Many countries have tax treaties with the United States that can lower the tax amount withheld from your paycheck, assistantship, or taxable scholarship.

• To find out if you are eligible for any tax treaty benefits, make an appointment with the Foreign National Tax Administrator in the Business and Financial Services Office prior to November.

  Address: 555 S. Howes St. Fort Collins, CO 80525
  Phone Number: 970-491-3538
  Email: bfs_foreigntax@mail.colostate.edu
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)

- You cannot qualify for a Social Security Number (SSN) unless you have a job
- Submit a SSN letter request to the ISSS office (wait at least 7-10 days after your immigration check-in)
- If you transferred to CSU from another U.S. institution, bring your “transfer pending” and “continued attendance” I-20 with you to the Social Security Administration

Keep your Social Security card in a safe location and never share your SSN with anyone other than employers and official government/financial institutions.
DMV CONSIDERATIONS

• If you plan to drive while you are here in F-1 status, you must apply for a Colorado driver’s license. You **cannot** use an international driver’s license if you will be here for longer than 90 days (wait 7-10 business days after your immigration check-in to apply)

• A Colorado driver’s license **cannot** be used for federal ID

• If you transferred to CSU from another U.S. institution, bring your “transfer pending” and your “continued attendance” I-20 with you to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

• If you don’t want to drive, try taking the bus or biking! Fort Collins is very bike friendly 😊
AVOIDING IMMIGRATION SCAMS

• Scams have gotten more sophisticated so be cautious
• USCIS will not call or email you to ask you for money
• If you are unsure, contact the ISSS office to ask about anything suspicious
• If it is outside business hours, wait to ask ISSS before you give out any personal information. Being told it can’t wait is an indication of a scam.
• AMBER alert is an emergency broadcast system used in the U.S. to locate missing children. Do not be alarmed if you receive these on your cell phone.
LOST PASSPORTS

• If you lose your passport on CSU campus, immediately report it to the CSU Police Department (CSUPD).
• It usually takes less than 15 minutes
• If you find it after you've reported it, just let them know. There will not be any negative consequences for this.

If you lose your passport off-campus, file a lost report at the nearest police department. Police in the U.S. take pride in helping people and keeping us safe.
ISSSS WEBSITE

http://issss.colostate.edu/
Follow us to stay up to date and share photos and information.

Colorado State University International Programs
Remember, we are available to assist you and are here to help make your time at CSU a memorable and beneficial experience!
ORIENTATION QUIZ

- On your computer or smartphone, log in to the orientation quiz: col.st/f1quiz
- Score at least 60% to get credit for attending orientation
WELCOME TO CSU!
Have a great semester!