

August 19, 2016

Published monthly by International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS), a division of Enrollment Services, to provide reminders about immigration regulations, services, programs, and opportunities for involvement. Previous editions of the ISSS Newsletter are posted on the ISSS website under the “About” tab.

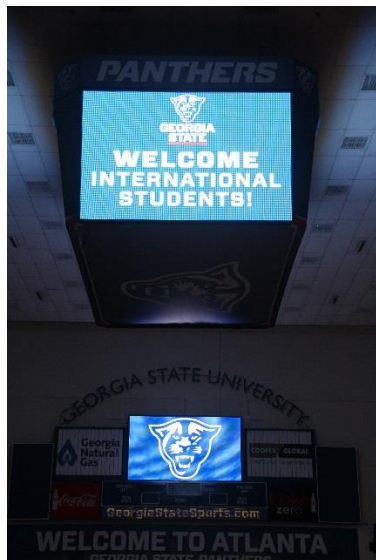
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1. Welcome New International Students

560 new international students from **52** countries join **GSU Downtown** Fall Semester!

Fall 2016 was the 1st time we held orientation in the GSU Sports Arena. Thank you GSU Athletics for letting us use your amazing space. We look forward to many victorious basketball games here also.



2. Global Grill-out Photos

15 photos are posted on the [ISSS FB](#). Despite the relocation due to the 60% threat of rain – that turned out to be just sunny and hot – we had 200+ new international students at the inside party. Thanks again to GSU Athletics for letting us re-use the Sports Arena practice court.



3. GSU Football Scrimmage

Scrimmage (noun): a practice game simulation played between 2 halves of the same team.

YOU are invited to the GSU Football pre-season scrimmage at the Athletics Practice Facility.

Saturday, August 20th, 11am



4. Transfer Student: I-20 Pick-up Days



International “Transfer Students”, who completed Orientation & Check-in may collect their new GSU I-20’s during special times the 1st week of class. With your new I-20, you can renew your Georgia DL.

When: Monday 8/22, 9:30 – 11:30 and Tuesday 8/23, 10:30 – 12:00

Where: Sparks Hall, Room 248 (Map Room, not the ISSS main entrance).

Bring: Panther ID card. You may only pick it up in person.

Other Times: From Wednesday, 8/24, you may collect it at the ISSS main office at your convenience.

5. Important Dates & Deadlines



- **Request Reduced Course Load (RCL): Friday, August 26th, 5:15pm**
For more information, please click >> [here](#).
- **Fall CPT: Friday, September 2nd, 5:15pm**
For more information, please click >> [here](#).
- **Fee Payment: Tuesday, August 30, 5pm**
After this deadline, any remaining balance, will cause your courses to be automatically dropped.
- **Drop for Non-Payment: Wednesday, August 31**
If your courses are dropped for non-payment, you will have to go through “**Course Reinstatement,**” to be re-enrolled after your full balance is paid.
- **Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) Waiver: Tuesday, August 30th, 5pm**
If you are waiting for your waiver to be approved, go ahead and pay your SHIP charge by the deadline. Then, if your waiver is approved, the SHIP charge will automatically be refunded. Otherwise, you will have a “balance due”, and your classes will be dropped.

NOTE:

1. SHIP Waivers are not automatic.
2. Approved waivers are only for 1 semester each. You must re-apply each semester.
3. Fall Coverage Dates: 8/1/2016 – 12/31/2016
4. For details about SHIP, see: <http://sfs.gsu.edu/tuition-fees/student-health-insurance/> “

- **Course Reinstatement: Thursday and Friday, September 1-2**
If your courses are dropped for non-payment, you will have to go through “Course Reinstatement,” to be re-enrolled after your full balance is paid.
- **Labor Day Holiday: Monday, September 5th.**
GSU will be closed, so this is not a “business day”. No classes, processing, or services available.
- **Registration Adjustment: Tuesday September 6 – Friday, September 23.**
If you were dropped for non-payment or otherwise, you can still try to get back in your classes during this period by visiting your individual professors. They will request that you be added back to their course if your balance is paid.
- **SEVIS Reporting Deadline: Tuesday, Sept. 20th.**



If you are not enrolled FT in classes by this deadline, your F1 or J1 status will be terminated. All processes and efforts to get back into dropped classes must be completed (*not in progress*) by this deadline. PAWS must reflect full-time enrollment regardless of circumstances.

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR ISSS ADVISOR IF YOU ARE UNCLEAR ABOUT THIS REQUIREMENT

6. Course Enrollment Minimums










- Graduate Students: 9 hours in Fall and Spring
- Undergraduate Students: 12 hours in Fall and Spring
- All students: limited to 1 online course per semester

7. CPT / OPT Employment Workshops



- Free, on-site Employment workshops are offered to prepare you for CPT or OPT. They are a mandatory part (pre-requisite) of the CPT / OPT application process.
- Upcoming Workshops: Aug. 30; Sept. 14, 17; Oct. 12; Nov. 1, 16; Dec. 7.
- All workshops are held in Sparks Hall, Room 248 (Map Room).
- At least 4 students must sign up in advance, or the session will be cancelled.
- For more information or to sign up via iStart, click >> [here](#).

8. Links to Events and Involvement Opportunities - All in One Place

	Georgia State Athletics. Go Panthers!
	International Student Associations Council (ISAC)
	Student Recreation Center (SRC)
	Multicultural Center
	Touch the Earth
	GSU's Rialto Center for the Performing Arts
	Office of International Initiatives (OII)

9. Follow ISSS on Facebook



Current Followers = 2,040

Just click the Facebook icon above, and like ISSS for helpful reminders about deadlines, workshops, events and campus jobs right on your phone!

For questions about any of the information mentioned above, contact ISSS:

252 Sparks Hall

Web: iss.gsu.edu

Phone: 404.413.2070

Email: iss@gsu.edu (please include Panther ID#)