DEADLINE: SPRING 2018 HEALTH INSURANCE WAIVER REQUEST  

If you have adequate health and accident insurance from your country or another qualified provider, and you wish to waive the GSU insurance for Spring + Summer semester 2017, the waiver request period is open December 8, 2017 - January 16, 2018. Coverage begins January 1, 2018 and ends July 31, 2018.

- **Note:** Waivers are not granted automatically, and you must renew your waiver each semester.
- If you’d like to keep your GSU Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), there is nothing you need to do.
- For more information, please click [HERE](#).

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**DEADLINE: SPRING 2018 HEALTH INSURANCE WAIVER REQUEST**

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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IMPORTANT ENROLLMENT REMINDER

- 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.
- Enrollment details, click >HERE<.

IMPORTANT TRAVEL REMINDERS

Are you departing the U.S. over winter break? It’s your responsibility to update your travel signature if needed. It must be less than 6 months old on the date you re-enter the U.S.

To Request an Updated Travel Signature:
- Log into iStart > “Student Services” tab > “Travel Signature Request”, and Submit the e-form.
- You will receive an email once your request has been approved. Then bring your I-20/DS-2019 to the ISSS front desk for a travel signature.

Be Aware!
- Allow 3-4 days for processing your request, and plan ahead. Get this done now, if needed.
- You may experience additional wait times during the afternoon. Come in before lunch if possible.
- Last minute requests could result in no travel signature update and then problems at the border at re-entry.

When Re-entering the U.S, be sure to have the following with you:
- Your I-20 or DS-2019 with valid travel signature (no older than 6 months)
- Unexpired passport (valid for at least 6 months into the future)
- Valid F-1 or J-1 visa and copies of your financial documentation
- Copy of your GSU enrollment verification for Spring 2017 (Print from your PAWS account)
- EAD card and employment letter if you are on approved OPT or AT.

STAYING IN THE U.S. DURING WINTER BREAK?

Would you like to connect with a local family, or do you need a place to stay over Winter Break? Consider this invitation for a unique, cross-cultural, international opportunity that you’ll never forget with the AMIS Christmas International House, Dec. 16, 2017 – Jan. 1, 2018. It’s open to everyone, regardless of religion. For all the info, click >>HERE<<.
2017 TAX YEAR INFORMATION: COMING UP EARLY 2018

ISSS will provide more info about filing your U.S. Federal and State of Georgia Tax Returns in February 2018. The tax-filing deadline is April 17th, 2018. What you need to know:

• **DON'T BUY** Tax Prep Software: like TurboTax, H&R Block or any others!
• Those products were NOT designed for “Non-Resident Alien” Tax forms.
• ISSS will provide free access to special software called “Sprintax” in February for your Federal Return.

PLAN AHEAD: 2018 GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**What:** GILC happens each spring. It’s a weekend college student conference for international students and study abroad students from across Georgia. Participants share ideas, network and above all, develop their leadership qualities and have fun!

**Dates and Location:** April 13th – 15th, 2018
**Location:** Rock Eagle, 4-H Center (Eatonton, GA)
**Cost:** FREE (funded by ISAC). However, a $90 deposit is required and refunded upon completion.
**Website:** For more details, please click [HERE](#).
**To Apply:** Details will be available in January. Stay connected!

CAMPUS CLOSING DATES

GSU will be CLOSED from **Tuesday, December 19th at 5:15pm** until **Wednesday, January 3rd at 8:30am**. There will be no access to campus facilities, offices, or services during these times, including postal mail. ISSS staff will not have access email, voice mail or process any e-form requests. In case of emergency over the break, please contact GSU Police at: 404-413-3333.

INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM FOR DEPENDENTS

Does your dependent spouse want or need to improve their English? They should enroll in GSU's accredited and highly reputable Intensive English Program at the downtown campus. Application fee is waived before Dec. 4, 2017.

See: [http://iep.gsu.edu](http://iep.gsu.edu) for more information.
ISSS FACEBOOK LIKES = 2,531

Just click the Facebook icon to the left to get helpful reminders about deadlines, workshops, events and campus jobs right on our Facebook page.

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

International Student & Scholar Services
Georgia State University
252 Sparks Hall
404.413.2070 (phone)
isss.gsu.edu

On behalf of all of us here in ISSS, we sincerely wish you
a safe and happy break,
safe travels, rest, and
a prosperous
2018!