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.

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1. 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 to the ISSS-PC front desk at Dunwoody or Clarkston campus for a travel signature.

Be Aware
• Allow 3-4 days for processing your request, and plan ahead. Get this done now, if needed.
• 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 with valid travel signature (no older than 6 months)
• Unexpired passport (valid for at least 6 months into the future)
• Valid F-1 visa
• Copy of your GSU enrollment verification for Spring 2017 (Print from your PAWS account)
• Copies of your financial documentation
• EAD card and employment letter if you are on approved OPT
2. **Deadline:** Spring 2018 Health Insurance Enrollment & Waiver

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 2018, the waiver request period is open **December 8, 2017 - January 16, 2018**. Spring/Summer coverage begins January 1, 2018 and ends July 31, 2018.

- **Note:** Waivers are not granted automatically, and you must renew your waiver each semester.
- For more information about waiving SHIP, please click [HERE](#).
- Perimeter College students may purchase [PGH Global Health Insurance](#) to waive SHIP.
- PGH Global meets minimum insurance coverage requirements, and you should answer the insurance waiver questions about PGH Global insurance coverage accordingly.
- Step by Step instructions to complete the SHIP waiver form available [HERE](#).
- If you’d like to keep your GSU Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), there is nothing you need to do.

3. **Staying in the U.S. over 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](#).

4. **Course Enrollment Minimums**

- Undergraduate Students: 12 hours in Fall and Spring
- Limit of 1 on-line course (3 credits) per semester may count toward full-time enrollment
- Enrollment details, click >> [here](#).

5. **2017 Tax Information: Coming Up in 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 17, 2018**. What you need to know now is:

- **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.
6. Campus Closing Dates

GSU will be closed from Tuesday, December 19, 5:15pm – Wed, January 3, 8:30 am. There will be no access to campus facilities, offices, or services during these times. ISSS staff will not be able to access email, voice mail or process any e-form requests. In case of emergency over break, please contact GSU Police at: 404-413-3333

7. Welcome New Staff and Special Thanks to IPA Team

We extend a very special welcome to Ms. Shumyala Haroon who joined the ISSS team at Perimeter College in October. Shumyala is the Customer Service Specialist at the Dunwoody ISSS office. We are very happy to have Shumyala with us.

ISSS-PC extends thanks to the Perimeter College International Peer Assistant (IPA) team for your volunteer service in fall 2017. We appreciate your assistance and leadership with our programs this semester. We also want to extend a special thanks to Wilfried Kabre for his very valuable contributions to the IPA program and best wishes as he transitions to the Atlanta Campus in spring 2018.

Clarkston Campus
Vui Ha
Hoang Huynh
Wilfried Kabre*
Tuyet Nguyen
Tam Vu

Dunwoody Campus
Carelis Zambrano Bellorin
Hannah Faissal
Mounika Kandagadda
Ousmane Diouf
Phumelele Ntombela
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Please follow us on Facebook to get updates regarding ISSS events, policies, and other important information. Like our page at https://www.facebook.com/issspc.gsu.edu/.

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

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On behalf of all of us at ISSS Perimeter College, we sincerely wish you a happy winter break, safe travels, and a prosperous 2018!