

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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Summer Non-Resident Tuition Waiver Applications Opens Soon



- This non-resident tuition waiver is based on financial hardship
- Applications for the Non-resident Tuition Waivers for summer 2018 will open on Monday, March 5, 2018 and close on Monday, April 2, 2018 at 5:00 PM.
- Deadline to apply: **Monday, April 2, 2018 (application closes at 5:00 PM)**
- There are restrictions and eligibility requirements; please read them carefully
- Applications must be complete and meet requirements to be considered
- For more information or to apply, please click [here](#)

U.S. Tax Season is Here (For Tax Year 2017)



Spring is tax season in the U.S. based on tax year 2017 (January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017). If you initially arrived in the US in 2018, there are no IRS requirements for you this year. All others have at least 1 tax form to complete.

IRS Deadline to submit tax form(s): April 17, 2018

ISSS offers **FREE** tax preparation software called Sprintax. It is a safe, secure, online software designed specifically for international students and scholars. ISSS advises you to **ONLY** use Sprintax. Please start by reviewing the ISSS Tax Information page on our website >>

[HERE](#) <<

Sprintax Assistance:

ISSS at Perimeter College will offer walk-in assistance for students needing help navigating Sprintax only:

Clarkston: March 23, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., CE 1100

Dunwoody: April 6, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., NA 1160

ALERT: Tax Season is also Fraud Season



- ISSS has received reports of unknown individuals pretending to be IRS agents who try to collect tax payments via calls or emails. **THIS IS A SCAM!**
- If you receive such contact, ignore it or ask ISSS first. For more details, please watch this short [VIDEO](#) about tax fraud and let your friends know.

International Coffee Hour



International Women's Day

* Tuesday, March 7, 2018

Clarkston Campus

CN 2220

12 – 1 p.m.

* Wednesday, March 6, 2018

Dunwoody Campus

NB 2100/2101

12 – 1 p.m.

Celebrating the economic, political, and social achievements of women in the past, present, and future. Refreshments will be provided.

Optional Practical Training (OPT) Workshops

Are you graduating this semester and thinking about applying for Optional Practical Training (OPT) to work for one year to gain experience in your field of study? Before you can apply for OPT you will need to complete an OPT workshop on-line or on-campus (listed below). On-campus workshops will also include a short overview of on-campus employment, employment based on economic hardship, and transfer out at the beginning. **Please note** that PC students are not eligible for CPT or STEM OPT.

Date	Time	Location	Campus
Tuesday, February 20, 2018	12:00 P.M.	NB 2102	Dunwoody Campus
Wednesday, February 21, 2018	12:00 P.M.	CN 2240	Clarkston Campus
Tuesday, March 20, 2018	12:00 P.M.	CN 2240	Clarkston Campus
Wednesday, March 21, 2018	12:00 P.M.	NB 2102	Dunwoody Campus

International Peer Assistant (IPA) Program is currently accepting applications for the 2018-2019 program



Would you like to make new friends while welcoming new international students to Perimeter College? Would you like to help plan International Coffee Hours and other cultural events to provide opportunities for culture sharing at Perimeter College? If this sounds like you and you would like to join the IPA team, please email us at isspc@gsu.edu to request an application.

Applications due: **Friday, March 30, 2018 at 5 p.m.**

This is a volunteer position, but the rewards include gaining experience you can put on your resume, meeting new people, practicing valuable leadership skills, and more...

Visit the U.S. Capital – Washington, D.C.

ISSS will sponsor an exciting, low-cost day trip to Washington, D.C this spring. Participants will visit all the major sites of the U.S. Capital and have plenty of free time.



Dates: May 1-4, 2018. Departure after spring semester finals and return in time for May-mester classes.

Estimated Cost: \$325. Includes round-trip flight and 3 nights shared hotel rooms. All the details are >> [HERE](#).

Upcoming Cultural Festivals

Culture Fest 2018

April 5, 2018 | Student Center | 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Dunwoody Campus |

Food, music, cultural artifact displays, cultural attire, dance, musical performances, refreshments, and more...

Hosted by the Department of ESL and World Languages and the International Peer Assistant Program, with funding from Student Fees.



International Festival

April 3, 2018 | Student Center | 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Clarkston Campus |

International Student's Club will host its annual exciting International featuring international food tasting, music, cultural displays, talent, etc. Stay tuned for more information coming soon....



Flu Season



The flu season has been very severe this year. For tips to help protect yourself this season, please click << [HERE](#) >> for important information from the Dean of Students office at GSU.



USCIS UPDATE: Credit Cards Now Accepted

On Feb. 14, 2018, USCIS announced it will now accept credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, AMX, Discover) for over 40 fee-based forms, including form I-765 for OPT and form I-539 for Change of Status and Reinstatement applications. To use this option, you will need to submit Form G-1450 (Authorization for Credit Card Transaction) with your application. For more information, please click [here](#).

Important Spring Break Travel Reminders



Are you departing the U.S. over spring break in March? 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 2018 (Print from your PAWS account)
- Copies of your financial documentation
- EAD card and employment letter if you are on approved OPT

Updating Telephone's and Address

F-1 students are required to have a correct local US address and US telephone number on record in PAWS. Address and phone number updates should be made in PAWS within 10 days of making a change to be in compliance with SEVIS regulations. To update your address and phone number log into [PAWS](#), click "Enrollment", then click "Change Address (es) and Phone number(s)".



Please follow us on Facebook to get updates regarding ISSS events, policies, and other important information. Like our page at <https://www.facebook.com/PerimeterCollegeISSS/>.

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

International Student & Scholar Services

Georgia State University Perimeter College

Clarkston Campus: 678-891-3235 Dunwoody Campus: 770-274-5570

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