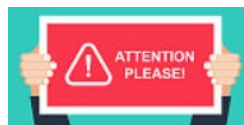


Published monthly by International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS), a division of Enrollment Services, to provide reminders about immigration regulations, services, programs, and opportunities for involvement. Previous editions of the ISSS Newsletter are posted on the ISSS website under the “About”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

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IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT REQUIRED:** Undergraduate - 12 credit hours. Only 1 online course (3 credit hours) per semester count toward full-time enrollment. No exceptions without approved RCL. See below. Deadline for enrollment changes [January 18th, 5pm](#).
- **REDUCED COURSE LOAD (RCL):** If this is your final semester, or you have a valid medical reason to be under-enrolled, the deadline to request an RCL via iStart is: [January 18th, 5pm](#).
- **FEE PAYMENT DEADLINE:** The payment deadline for tuition and fees is [January 22nd, 5pm](#). After this date, your enrollment will be automatically dropped if not paid in full.
- **IN CASE OF LATE PAYMENT OR COURSE DROP:** You can go through the “Registration Adjustment” process to attempt to get back into classes once all tuition and fees are paid. Visit the Enrollment Services Center, or visit each faculty member individually and request this process. The process takes 3-4 days but does not stop the SEVIS reporting deadline. Failure to complete registration adjustment by the SEVIS deadline will result in termination of status. (SEVIS reporting is done by ISSS.)
- **ISSS WALK-IN ADVISING HOURS:** Need immigration advising? Meet with your ISSS advisor during Walk-In Advising (no appointment necessary):

Monday - Wednesday from 9 to 11:30 am and Monday – Friday from 1:30 to 4 pm.

DEADLINE: SPRING 2019 HEALTH INSURANCE ENROLLMENT & WAIVER

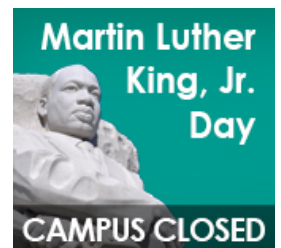


If you have adequate health and accident insurance from your country or another qualified provider, and you wish to waive the GSU insurance for Spring & Summer semester 2019, the waiver request period is open **December 5, 2018 - January 22, 2019**. Spring/Summer coverage begins January 1, 2019 and ends July 31, 2019.

- **Note:** Insurance 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.
- If you will keep your GSU Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), you must activate your SHIP coverage by the January 22, 2019 deadline. For sample enrollment instructions, click [HERE](#).

CAMPUS CLOSED FOR NATIONAL HOLIDAY

Georgia State University will be closed: **Monday, January 21st** in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. There will be no access to campus facilities, offices, or services. Click [HERE](#) for more information on the legacy of MLK Jr.



*You may notice streets and buildings in Atlanta named after him.

*Atlanta hosts one of the biggest MLK Day Parades in the country

*The MLK National Historic Park is just 1 mile from GSU. Just take the Streetcar to the MLK stop.

TAX INFORMATION 2019 (FOR TAX YEAR 2018)















ISSS starts providing information about U.S. Federal and State of Georgia Tax Returns each Spring ahead of the tax-filing deadline: **April 15th, 2019**. 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 payers.
- ISSS will provide free access to special software called "Sprintax" in February for Federal Tax Returns.
- Only those who earned income in 2018 must file a tax return.
- If your 1st arrival in the US was any time in 2019, there is nothing to file this year.
- For more info on this process, click [HERE](#).



INTERNATIONAL COFFEE HOURS

Join us for International Coffee Hour and enjoy learning about the topics we are featuring this spring. This is a great opportunity to socialize and share your culture with International and American students, talk with International Student & Scholar Services staff, meet PC faculty and staff, and take a break from studying. Snacks and cultural activities provided.

Date:	Featuring:	Time:	Campus:
Monday, Feb. 11, 2019 		12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Alpharetta AA 1140
Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019 		12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Clarkston CN 2220
Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019 		12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Dunwoody NB 1601/1602
Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019 		12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Newton 2N 2260
Thursday, Feb. 14, 2019 		12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Decatur SF 2100
Tuesday, March 5, 2019 		12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Dunwoody NB 2100/2101
Wednesday, March 6, 2019 		12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Clarkston LRC 4190

Employment Workshop

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).

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, February 20, 2019	12:00 PM	Clarkston Campus, Room CN 2220 TBA
Thursday, February 21, 2019	12:00 PM	Dunwoody Campus, Room NB 2100/2101
Wednesday, March 20, 201	12:00 PM	Clarkston Campus, Room LRC 4190 TBA
Thursday, March 21, 2018	12:00 PM	Dunwoody Campus, Room NB 2102 TBA

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 7-10, 2019. Departure after Spring semester finals and return in time for Maymester classes.

Estimated Cost: \$350. Includes round-trip flight and 3 nights shared hostel rooms.

To Apply: If you are interested in attending this trip, please contact Dawn Edwards at kedwards65@gsu.edu.

For more details about the trip, please click [HERE](#).





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

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
issnpc@gsu.edu (email)
iss.gsu.edu (website)

On behalf of the PC ISSS Staff, Deborah, Natasha, Tacoma, and Veronique, we wish you a successful semester!