



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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On behalf of everyone in ISSS, we sincerely wish you a successful and productive semester!

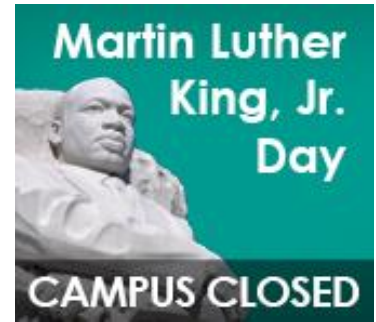
CAMPUS CLOSED FOR NATIONAL HOLIDAY

Georgia State University will be closed: **Monday, January 21th** 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 are 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.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT REQUIRED:** Undergraduate - 12 credit hours. Graduates - 9 credit hours. No exceptions without approved RCL. See below. Deadline for enrollment changes **January 17th, 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 17th, 5pm.**
- **FEE PAYMENT DEADLINE:** The payment deadline for tuition and fees is **January 21st, 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.)
- **CURRICULAR PRACTICAL TRAINING (CPT) APPLICATIONS:** CPT is a temporary work authorization for practical training directly related to your field of study. The deadline to apply for Spring 2020 CPT is **Friday, January 17th at 5pm,** no exceptions. For more information click [HERE](#).
- **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 to 4 pm.**

DEADLINE: SPRING 2020 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 2020, the waiver request period is open until [January 21, 2020](#). Coverage by the GSU plan began January 1, 2020 and ends July 31, 2020.

- Insurance waivers are not granted automatically, and you must renew your waiver each semester.
- ISSS cannot advise on the waiver process or guarantee coverage and benefits since that is your choice.
- If you'd like to keep your GSU Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), there is nothing you need to do.
- For more information click [HERE](#).

TAX INFORMATION 2020 (FOR TAX YEAR 2019)



ISSS starts providing information about U.S. Federal and State of Georgia Tax Returns each Spring ahead of the tax-filing deadline: [April 15th, 2020](#). 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 2019 must file a tax return.
- If your 1st arrival in the US was any time in 2020, there is nothing to file this year.
- For more info on this process, click [HERE](#).

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 5-8, 2020. 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 Meng Sun at msun13@gsu.edu.

more details will be out soon



PLAN AHEAD: 2020 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:** February 21-23, 2020
- **Location:** Georgia FFA-FCCLA Center (Covington, GA)
- **Cost:** *FREE* (funded by ISAC). However, a \$110 deposit is required and refunded upon completion of the trip.
- **Website:** For more details, please click [HERE](#).
- **To Apply:** Contact ISAC advisor at msun13@gsu.edu.

SAVE THE DATES!

GILC 2020



FEBRUARY 21-23, 2020
 GEORGIA FFA-FCCLA CENTER, COVINGTON GA

GILC 2020 THEME: UNITY IN DIVERSITY

WHAT IS GILC?
 The Georgia International Leadership Conference (GILC) is a weekend-long leadership retreat that brings students with an international focus together to share their experiences, all while learning valuable leadership skills along the way! In partnership with our 2020 theme, Unity in Diversity, we will be participating in the Unity Project while at the conference.

GILC WILL HELP YOU...

- Expand your resume
- Enhance your leadership expertise
- Practice teamwork and project management with our Peer Leader Program
- Build your presentation skills
- Network with students and staff from all over the state, region (and the world)
- Make lifelong friendships

REGISTRATION INFO

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| REGISTRATION DEADLINES | | REGISTRATION FEES | |
| Early Bird: January 15, 2020 | In-State Students Early Bird: \$110 Regular: \$120 | In-State Staff and Advisers First Staff Member: \$110 Additional Staff: \$120 | Out-of-State Students: \$120 Advisers: \$120 |
| Final: February 5, 2020 | | | |

For more information, please visit <https://gilc.weebly.com/>
 or email us galeadershipconference@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS

**TAKE
THE
NEXT
STEP...**



Thinking about your next paid internship or your first job in the US after graduation?

You'll need to apply for CPT or OPT. Part of the process is to complete an employment workshop. Sign up via iStart is required. ISSS is offering many workshops this semester. Learn all about it >> [HERE](#).

ISSS FACEBOOK LIKES = 3,119



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:

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iss.gsu.edu