



**International Student
& Scholar Services**
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2022

NEW STUDENT WELCOME SESSION

SESSION AGENDA

- Dr. Ortiz Welcome - Greetings
- Contacting ISSS
- Immigration regulations
- ISSS portal & Immigration Documents
- Departure & Withdrawal
- Enrollment
- Travel & re-entry
- Employment & Maintaining status
- Hurricanes, drivers' license & student groups
- Clubs, events, & WELCOME FEST!

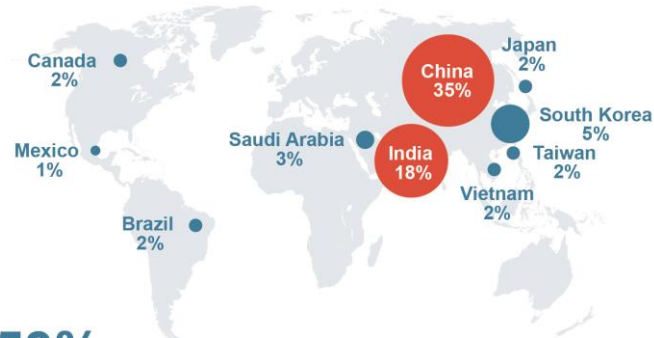


opendoors[®]

REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE

1,075,496 international students
studied in the U.S. in 2019/20, including those in academic
programs and on Optional Practical Training (OPT).

TOP 10 PLACES OF ORIGIN FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



53% of international students came from
China and India.

Source: The Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange is a comprehensive information resource on international students in the United States and U.S. students studying abroad. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and is published by IIE. For more information, visit www.opendoorsdata.org.

WHAT IS ISSS?

The Office of International Student and Scholar Services is the first point of contact for international students and scholars at the university.



01.

STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SPECIFIC

Advising services for F-1 and J-1 students and scholars on immigration, legal, personal, and cultural issues.

02.

CAMPUS WIDE RESOURCES

Referrals to other campus resources if ISSS is unable to help directly or when other services are needed

03.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our staff notifies students of changes in immigration regulations via email, social media, and the ISSS website

04.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Our office hosts information sessions and activities to keep our students connected and informed!

COMMUNICATING WITH ISSS



Connect with our
Virtual Office!

go.fiu.edu/virtualoffice



Send us an
email!

iss@fiu.edu



Schedule an appointment!

go.fiu.edu/appointment



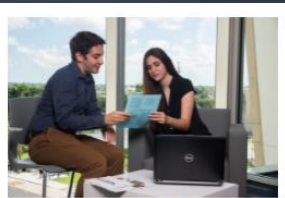
Call our office!

305-348-2421 (24/7)

REQUESTING APPOINTMENTS

ISSS uses a one-on-one appointment system, so advisors can give their full attention to students' questions and concerns.

To request an appointment, go to iss.fiu.edu and use the appointment request link to submit a form!



Appointment Request

Do you need to speak with an ISSS Advisor? You can schedule an appointment with one of our advisors using the ISSS Virtual Appointment Request Form.



FIU Forms

ISSS Virtual Appointment Request Form

Please complete the form to request an appointment with one of our ISSS Advisors. Once you complete the form, it will go to our system and you will receive an email within 24-48 hours with your appointment time, date and instructions to connect via ZOOM conferencing with your advisor and other details that you may need.

Please do not submit duplicate appointment requests because it will delay scheduling your appointment. Thank you.

Name *

First Last

Your Panther ID *

Phone *

- -

####

FIU Email *

For general questions, please visit our ISSS Virtual Office during hours of operation.
No appointment necessary.

ISSS WEBSITE



You can use our website to request appointments, talk to someone in the virtual office, access your student portal, get updates and information, and more!

IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS



Be proactive- do your due diligence!



Take ownership of your status



Do not assume- check in with us!



Stay informed- watch for emails and updates on social media



Use our virtual office as a resource



**FOR ALL DOCUMENT REQUESTS,
PLEASE USE OUR ISSS PORTAL**

Visit the
ISSS PORTAL
page on our website
iss.s.fiu.edu



FIU ISSS

[Secure Online Session](#)

FIU ISSS Services Home Page

Campus: Modesto A. Maidique
Campus
Network ID:

The Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) welcomes all international students at FIU!

At the ISSS Office we want to make sure you have a positive and productive experience as you become an integral part of our community and beyond. We are committed to your academic, professional, and personal success as you pursue your studies in the United States and are here to support you through out that endeavor.

FIU ISSS Home Page
Biographical Information
Document Request
F-1 Employment Authorization Request
F-1 Practical Training Applications
F-1 Practical Training Reporting
F-1 Reduced Course Load Request
F-1 Special Request
F-1 Special Student Relief (SSR)
F-1 Student Services
F-1 Transfer
F-2 Dependent(s)
New Panther
Logout of FIU ISSS

For New Students ONLY:

- If you are an **F-1 student**, please use the **New Panther** link to check- in.
- If you are a **J-1 exchange student**, please use the **J-1 Student Services** link to check -in.

All Students:

Please confirm that your **Biographical Information** from the menu on the left is correct.

SEVIS Status Information	Options
SEVIS ID: Status: Level: Program Start: Program End:	<input type="checkbox"/> View cases closed before today <input type="checkbox"/> View correspondence and notes older than 60 days


NEW STUDENT CHECK IN

Transfer, Change of Major, and New Students **must check in using the portal**


YOU WILL NEED:

- Virtual information Session certificate
- Passport
- F1 or J1 visa
- Electronic I-94
- I-10 or DS-2019
- Local address and phone number

- ACCESS THIS [LINK](#) TO CHECK IN



FIU ISSS

 [Secure Online Session](#)

Campus: Modesto A. Maidique
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Level:	
Program Start:	
Program End:	

IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS





Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-0038

SEVIS ID: N0022386820

YOUR SEVIS ID#

SURNAME/PREFERRED NAME	GIVEN NAME	Class of Admission F-1 ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE
PREFERRED NAME	PASSPORT NAME	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
CITY OF BIRTH	DATE OF BIRTH	
FORM ISSUE REASON CONTINUED ATTENDANCE	ADMISSION NUMBER	

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL NAME Florida International University Modesto A. Maidique Campus	SCHOOL ADDRESS 11200 SW 8 Street, MMC, SASC 230, Miami, FL 33199
SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL Alexandra Bruner Coordinator of Academic Support Services	SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE MIA214F00503000 29 JANUARY 2003

YOUR PROGRAM OR MAJOR

PROGRAM OF STUDY

EDUCATION LEVEL BACHELOR'S	MAJOR 1 International Relations and Affairs 45.0901	MAJOR 2 None 00.0000
PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY Required	ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES Student is proficient	EARLIEST ADMISSION DATE
START OF CLASSES 26 AUGUST 2019	PROGRAM START/END DATE 26 AUGUST 2019 - 30 JULY 2021	

YOUR END DATE

I-20

F-1 VISA

I-94

01

02

03



Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-0038

SEVIS ID: N0032018989 (F-1)

NAME:

EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

CHANGE OF STATUS/CAP-GAP EXTENSION

AUTHORIZED REDUCED COURSE LOAD

CURRENT SESSION DATES

CURRENT SESSION START DATE	CURRENT SESSION END DATE
----------------------------	--------------------------

TRAVEL ENDORSEMENT

This page, when properly endorsed, may be used for re-entry of the student to attend the same school after a temporary absence from the United States. Each endorsement is valid for one year.

Designated School Official	TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE ISSUED	PLACE ISSUED
		X		
		X		
		X		
		X		

DSO TRAVEL SIGNATURE

I-20

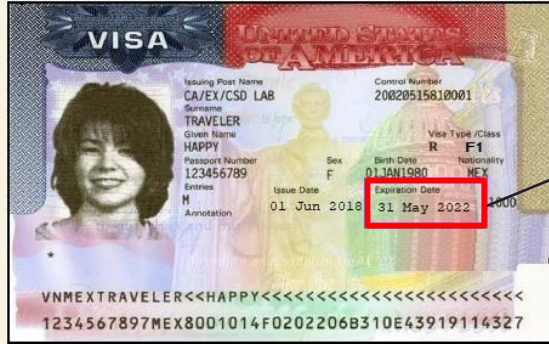


F-1 VISA &
PASSPORT



I-94






**KNOW YOUR
EXPIRATION DATE**

**YOU MUST ALWAYS
HAVE A VALID PASSPORT**





U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Securing America's Borders

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number : 51415565885
Most Recent Date of Entry: 2017 July 25
Class of Admission **F1**
Admit Until Date **D/S**
Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Last/Surname : [REDACTED]
First (Given) Name : [REDACTED]
Birth Date : [REDACTED]
Passport Number : [REDACTED]
Country of Issuance : China

www.cbp.gov/i94

**CONFIRM THAT YOU ENTERED AS
AN F-1 STUDENT**

**UPDATE YOUR I-94 EACH TIME
YOU TRAVEL INTERNATIONALLY**



END OF PROGRAM & DEPARTURE

J-1

30 DAY GRACE PERIOD

All J-1 students have 30 days after the end of their program to return home.

F-1

60 DAY GRACE PERIOD

All F-1 students have 60 days after the end of their program or OPT to change to a new status, transfer to a new school or program, or go home.

WITHDRAWAL FROM PROGRAM



When a student leaves the US before finishing their program of study, they have 15 days after dropping classes to depart the US.



You must have authorization from ISSS before dropping your classes.

ENROLLMENT GUIDELINES

TERMS	UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS	GRADUATE STUDENTS
FALL OR SPRING SEMESTERS	12 credits (Fall & Spring) Max 3 credits online	9 credits (Fall & Spring) Max 3 credits online
SUMMER A/C	12 Credits if first semester (Optional for continuing students)	6 credits if first semester (Optional for continuing students)
SUMMER B	6 credits if first semester (Optional for continuing students)	3 credits if first semester (Optional for continuing students)
EXCEPTIONS	RCL- completion of degree or medical RCL	PhD students advancing to thesis/dissertation, RCL- completion of degree

A large, light beige circle is positioned to the left of the main heading.

ONLINE COURSES

Only one online course (**3 credits**) will be counted toward the full-time course load requirement.
You may not take all courses online in your last term

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

9 credits on campus + 3 online = 12 credits

GRADUATE STUDENTS

6 credits on campus + 3 online = 9 credits

A large, light beige circle is positioned at the bottom right of the page.

REDUCED COURSE LOAD

All reduced course load requests require ISSS authorization before you drop a course with OneStop.

Reduced course loads will only be approved for:

- Medical condition
- Completion of study
- Academic Difficulties

Secure Online Session

Campus: Biscayne Bay
Campus
Network ID:

- [FIU ISSS Home Page](#)
- [Biographical Information](#)
- [Document Request](#)
- [F-1 Employment Authorization Request](#)
- [F-1 Practical Training Applications](#)
- [F-1 Practical Training Reporting](#)
- [F-1 Reduced Course Load Request](#)
 - Advancement to Thesis / Dissertation
 - Reduced Course Load for Completion of Degree
 - Academic Difficulties Reduced Course Load
 - Medical Reduced Course Load**
- [F-1 Special Request](#)

Medical Reduced Course Load

Pursuant to Immigration law 22 CFR 62.23(e): "A student must pursue a full course of study at a post-secondary accredited academic institution in the United States as defined in §62.2, except under the following circumstances:"

- **Medical Illness (22 CFR 62.23(e)(2))** You are required to submit a request and schedule an appointment with an ISSS advisor to discuss your case before the semester start date or before dropping courses.

If you experience any problems accessing this eform, please contact our ISSS Office MMC (305)348-2421 | BBC (305)919-5813

Our office hours are Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[Start a New Request](#)

= Incomplete = Submit Another = Follow-Up Required

= Optional = Not Yet Available = Awaiting Answer

= Complete = Pending Review = Denied

= Draft

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

You may take classes at other institutions that count toward the full-time enrollment requirement if:

- You are enrolled for at least 6 credits at FIU
- You get written permission from your Academic Advisor and ISSS

Secure Online Session

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- F-1 Special Request
- F-1 Special Student Relief (SSR)
- F-1 Student Services
 - Biographical Updates
 - Letters & Certifications
 - Immigration Documents Upload
 - Concurrent Enrollment**
- F-1 Transfer
- F-2 Dependent(s)
- New Panther
- Logout of FIU ISSS

Concurrent Enrollment

DHS regulations provide that **"An F-1 student may be enrolled in two different Service-approved schools at one time as long as the combined enrollment amounts to a full time course of study."** This is referred to as **"concurrent enrollment."**

[§ CFR 214.2\(f\)\(6\)\(iv\)](#)

(iv) *Concurrent enrollment.* An F-1 student may be enrolled in two different Service-approved schools at one time as long as the combined enrollment amounts to a full time course of study. In cases where a student is concurrently enrolled, the school from which the student will earn his or her degree or certification should issue the Form I-20, and conduct subsequent certifications and updates to the Form I-20. The DSO from this school is also responsible for all of the reporting requirements to the Service. In instances where a student is enrolled in programs with different full course of study requirements (e.g., clock hours vs. credit hours), the DSO is permitted to determine what constitutes a full time course of study.

[+ Start a New Request](#)

= Incomplete
 = Submit Another
 = Follow-Up Required
 = Optional
 = Not Yet Available
 = Awaiting Answer
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 = Draft

ACADEMIC DISMISSAL

When your cumulative GPA falls below requirements for multiple semesters (you will receive warnings before being officially dismissed)

You will be out of status if you cannot successfully appeal this decision (and therefore continue enrollment at FIU)

Only options to avoid falling out of status are to **IMMEDIATELY** transfer to another U.S. school or depart the U.S.

TRAVEL & RE-ENTRY



To enter the US in F-1 status, you will need:

- A valid passport- valid until 6 months into the future
- A valid F-1 visa stamp
- Your FIU I-20 with an up-to-date travel signature

IF YOUR DOCUMENTS ARE NOT CORRECT, CBP MAY ISSUE YOU AN I-515A FORM.

TRAVEL & RE-ENTRY

You must request an ISSS advisor's signature on PAGE TWO of your I -20 at least 1 week before your intended travel date.

If you need to renew your F-1 visa, you **MUST** re-verify funding and request an updated I-20 for visa renewal

Automatic Visa Revalidation: Mexico, Canada, Caribbean – visit ISSS before your trip

[Important travel information during the time of covid](#)

ON CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT



Student **MUST** be maintaining valid F-1 status



Student must be **ACTIVE IN PROGRAM AT FIU**



Work **LIMITED** to 20 hours/week in Fall & Spring semesters



May work 21 hours or more during Summer or school breaks

ON CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

OFF CAMPUS **EMPLOYMENT**

CPT



Practical training performed for academic credit that is required as part of the academic plan or program curriculum. Must be equal to your degree level.

One semester at a time, cannot be a regular job

CPT INFORMATION

OFF CAMPUS **EMPLOYMENT**

OPT



12 months (total) of employment authorization after graduation from each degree level

Authorization from USCIS in the form of an EAD (OPT card)

May use before or after graduation STEM students may apply for an extension

OPT INFORMATION

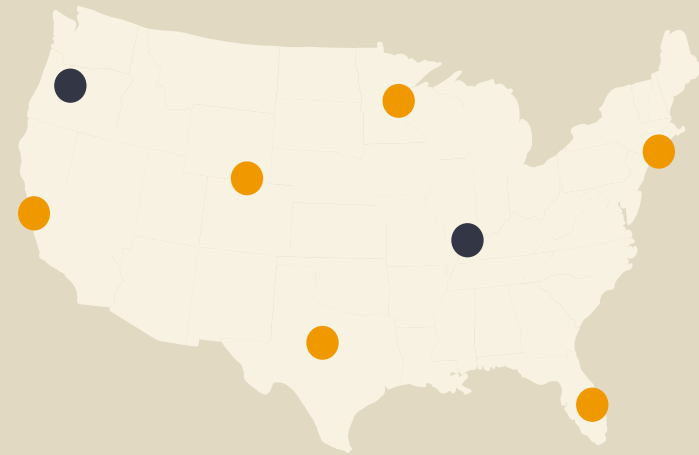


Top 5 international student rules to live by

- 1) Do not let your I-20 expire**
- 2) Do not work on or off campus without ISSS Authorization**
- 3) Always seek authorization from ISSS for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) when enrolling in an internship, Co-op or practicum whether it is paid or non-paid.**
- 4) Always enroll full time during Fall and Spring semesters:
12 credits undergraduate | 9 credits graduate**
- 5) Do not enroll in more than 3 credits online towards your full time enrollment**

FIU

**International Student
& Scholar Services**
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



ClaudiaB

FAILURE TO MAINTAIN STATUS

ACTION

- Remaining in the U.S. longer than authorized to do so
- Failing to meet requirements or violating the terms of F-1 status
- Studying part-time
- Taking too many online classes
- Engaging in unauthorized employment
- Failing to complete your program

CONSEQUENCE

- Denial of CPT and OPT
- Denial of employment on campus
- Termination of SEVIS record
- Difficulty obtaining new visas and/or reentering U.S.
- Possible deportation

REGAIN YOUR STATUS

01. REINSTATEMENT

Work with an immigration attorney to submit an application to USCIS while you continue taking classes and maintaining status

02. RESTART

Receive a new I-20 with a new SEVIS ID#. Requires travel and return to the US and repayment of SEVIS fee.

DRIVERS LICENSE & TAXES

Please keep in mind that your I-20 must be active for you to get your license.

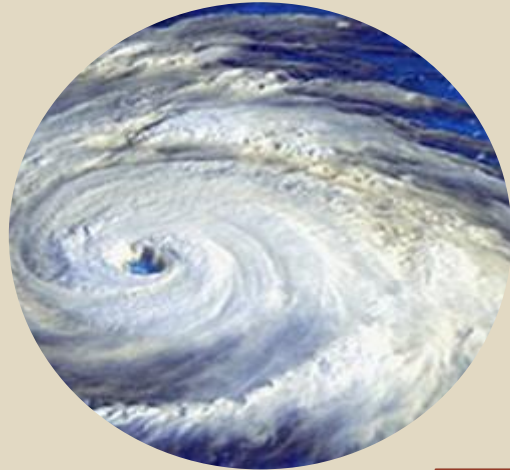
We appreciate your patience while we register all our new students!



All international students and scholars must file taxes every year.

ISSS will offer several information workshops before tax filing season to assist FIU students with the process

FLORIDA HURRICANES



Sign up for FIU Alerts! when you register for classes.

You will receive text messages with important updates during emergencies.

During emergencies you may also call the "FIU-HELP" line for information: (305)-348-4357

IMPORTANT:

All students are required to follow the instructions of University officials in the event of an emergency.

STUDENT GROUPS & **EVENTS**



Do you need some help navigating the campus and learning about FIU?

We have the solution! Peer Mentors can help you navigate FIU and make friends! Complete the International Peer Mentor Request Form to request a peer mentor through iss.fiu.edu.

[REQUEST A PEER MENTOR HERE](#)

STUDENT GROUPS & EVENTS

International Community Engagement Program (ICEP) is a semester commitment that starts every Fall and Spring. It is a great opportunity to learn about local and global issues and become an active citizen. ICEP program is designed in a hybrid mode that involves both virtual and in person activities. Virtual workshops will expand your knowledge in topics such as Sustainable Development Goals, Women's health, Social Justice, Homelessness, Human Rights, Environmental issues. In Person activities, involve service projects and team building activities for all ICEP members.





*Have a heart, lend a hand,
and make a difference.*

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

INTERESTED IN VOUNTEERING?

ICEP is a semester commitment hybrid program and a great opportunity to engage with your local community, learn about local and global issues and become an active citizen.

APPLICATIONS OPEN FROM JAN. 10TH TO JAN. 16TH, 2022



SPRING 2022 Apply Online
"Think globally & act locally"



STUDENT GROUPS & EVENTS

Applications will be open from Monday, January 10th, 2022 to Sunday, January 16th, 2022

How to Apply? Visit our website iss.fiu.edu

Click on Get Involved to access application OR scan the QR code in this flyer





ISSS EVENTS

- Welcome Session – 01/07/2022
- Welcome Treat – 01/14/2022
- Frost Museum Field Trip- 01/21/2022
- Tax Workshop- 01/25/2022
- Coffee Hour- 02/02/2022
- CPT/OPT Workshop – 02/07/2022
- Miami 101- 02/22/2022

BBC Spring Welcome Reception in the conference room at **WUC 363** on **January 11th** at **12:00pm**

[CHECK CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)





JOIN US!

You are invited to a session where you will learn about FIU Resources that will be useful while you are here with us!

Join us for the
FIU Resources Session
TODAY 3-4 pm

Access this link to join the session:

go.fiu.edu/FIUresources



**International Student
& Scholar Services**
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

THANKS!



FIUISSS



FIU ISSS



@FIUISSS