

Important Dates for International Students

2015-2016

Fall Semester	
August 28 th , 2015	<i>New International Student Orientation:</i> All new international students must check-in with the ISSS Office prior to the mandatory orientation at 8:30am in DCC 308.
August 31 th , 2015	<i>First Day of Classes</i> -Are you living in a new residence hall or apartment? You are required to update our office of your new address within 10 days of moving. Please also update your address in SIS.
September 14 th , 2015	<i>Add Deadline</i> -All international students must be registered full-time (12 credit hours). *Graduate students on an assistantship must be registered at list 9 credit hours
September 28 th , 2015	Traveling Columbus Day weekend (10/12)? If your I-20 or DS-2019 hasn't been signed in the past year you must request a travel signature 2 weeks in advance
October 2 nd , 2015	OPT: Graduating in December? Today is the first day you can apply for OPT. USCIS can take 3 months to process your application. Apply now if you plan to start in January. <i>Special Note:</i> Graduate students may request to start OPT the day after their defense date if all other degree requirements have been completed. The defense deadline is 11/24/15. You may apply for OPT 90 days before (starting 8/26/15) and may request a start date within 60 days of the defense date.
October 23 rd , 2015	<i>Drop Deadline</i> All international students must be registered full-time (12 credit hours) *Graduate students on an assistantship must be registered at list 9 credit hours
November 11 th , 2015	Traveling Thanksgiving weekend (11/25-11/30)? If your I-20 or DS-2019 hasn't been signed in the past year you must request a travel signature 2 weeks in advance
November 26 th -27 th , 2015	<i>Staff Holiday (Thanksgiving)—Office closed</i>
December 1 st , 2015	Traveling for Winter Break? If your I-20 or DS-2019 hasn't been signed in the past year you must request a travel signature 2 weeks in advance. OPT: Graduating in December? We recommend submitting your OPT application no later than this date to allow ample time for processing. I-20 or DS-2019 Expiring on 12/31/2015? If you are <i>not</i> graduating and need an extension, please submit your extension request materials to our office by this date. This includes newly admitted co-terminal students. Transferring? All students continuing studies elsewhere, including graduate school, must submit a request to release their SEVIS record.
December 24 th , 2015- January 1 st , 2016	<i>Holiday Break- Office Closed</i>
December 31 st , 2015	<i>Official Graduation Date for Fall Graduates</i>
January 1 st , 2016	OPT: Graduating in December? This is the earliest OPT start date you can apply for. If you plan to start working in January please apply in October.

Spring Semester

January 18 th , 2016	Staff Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr Day)—Office closed
January 26 th , 2016	First Day of Classes CPT: Are you residing somewhere new while on CPT? You are required to update our office of your new address within 10 days of moving. Please also update your address in SIS.
February 5 th , 2016	Add Deadline All international students must be registered full-time (12 credit hours). *Graduate students on an assistantship must be registered at list 9 credit hours
February 29 th , 2016	OPT: Graduated in December? This is the last OPT start date you can apply for. If you plan to start working in February we recommend applying by 12/1/15. <i>If your program ends 12/31/2015, this is the last day USCIS can receive your application!</i>
March 1 st , 2016	Traveling for Spring Break? If your I-20 or DS-2019 hasn't been signed in the past year you must request a travel signature 2 weeks in advance
March 2 nd , 2016	OPT: Graduating in May? Today is the first day you can apply for OPT. USCIS can take 3 months to process your application. If you plan to start working in January apply now! <i>Special Note:</i> Graduate students may request to start OPT the day after their defense date if all other degree requirements have been completed. The defense deadline is 4/8/16. You may apply for OPT 90 days before (starting 1/9/16) and may request a start date within 60 days of the defense date. Undergraduates: Undergraduate students who want to do a summer internship but are ineligible for CO-OP may apply for pre-completion OPT. Please consult ISSS.
March 11 th , 2016	Drop Deadline -Remember, all international students must be registered full-time (12 credit hours) *Graduate students on an assistantship must be registered at list 9 credit hours
March 14 th - 18 th , 2016	Spring Break- Office will remain open
March 15 th , 2016	Graduating in May? If you plan to have family from overseas attend your convocation please request an invitation letter.
May 1 st , 2016	Traveling for Summer Break? If your I-20 or DS-2019 hasn't been signed in the past year you must request a travel signature 2 weeks in advance OPT: Graduating in May? We recommend submitting your OPT application no later than this date to allow ample time for processing. I-20 or DS-2019 Expiring on 05/31/2016? If you are <i>not</i> graduating and need an extension, please submit your extension request materials to our office by this date. This includes newly admitted co-terminal students. Transferring? All students continuing studies elsewhere, including graduate school, must submit a request to release their SEVIS record.
May 28 th , 2016	Spring 2016 Commencement Ceremony
May 30 th , 2016	Staff Holiday (Memorial Day)—Office closed
May 31 st , 2016	Program Completion Date for Spring Graduates (see I-20/DS-2019)
June 1 st , 2016	OPT: Graduating in May? This is the earliest OPT start date you can apply for. If you plan to start working in June please apply in March. CPT: Are you residing somewhere new while on CPT? Make sure you update our office of your new address within 10 days of moving!
July 30 th , 2016	OPT: Graduated in May 2015? This is the last OPT start date you can apply for. If you plan to start working in July we recommend applying by 5/1/16. <i>If your program ends 05/31/2016, this is the last day USCIS can receive your application!</i>