

ISSS Weekly Newsletter



CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
AND GLOBAL STRATEGY
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Friday, January 26

This is your ISSS weekly newsletter. Please read this newsletter every Friday for important reminders, updates, and upcoming events you may be interested in.

ISSS Announcements:

- ISSS Advising Hours- Spring 2024
- Maintaining Status: Reminders for F and J students
- Arrival Reporting EForm & Orientation Make Up (for New Students)
- Sprintax Tax Filing Information for 2024
- Library Workshops for International Students (February 23)

Upcoming Events:

- Tunnel Tours (1/29)
- Demystifying Peer Review (1/31)
- Text Student Auto

Check out the [Virtual Resource Table](#) for helpful information on many topics, like opening a bank account, getting a driver's license, applying for a SSN (if eligible), paying your bill, and more.

ISSS Advising Hours- Spring 2024

Walk In Advising Hours, In-Person or by Phone (518-591-8172)

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 1:00-3:30pm
- No appointment needed, just visit Science Library G-40 or call 518-591-8172

Student and scholars can also email ISSS@albany.edu for assistance. The email inbox is monitored Monday-Friday during business hours

Maintaining Status: Reminders for F and J students

As we begin a new semester we want to remind students of some of the requirements for maintaining F-1 status. Detailed requirements can be found on the [Current Students](#) page of our website.

1.) Check your demographic information in MyUALbany to make sure your addresses, email, and phone number are up to date. The SEVIS USA address must show where you are currently physically living in the United States. [Click here for further instruction.](#)

2.) F-1 and J-1 students must enroll full-time or seek approval for a DHS/ISSS [authorized reduced course load](#) in order to maintain F-1 and J-1 status while enrolled less than full-time. For undergraduate students 12 or more credits is fulltime. For graduate students 9 or more credits is full-time.

Students may only drop below full-time enrollment after they are approved for an authorized reduced course load by the ISSS office (review the [reasons for a DHS reduced course load](#)).

On January 30th a registration hold will prevent F-1 or J-1 students from dropping below full-time enrollment. Students will not be allowed to drop a course after that time without permission from ISSS. If you qualify for a reduced course load but have not yet submitted a [reduced course load authorization EForm](#) please do so as soon as possible. Processing times can take up to 7-9 business days, and if you submit the request late you may accrue tuition liability as a result. If you have already been approved for a reduced course load for Spring 2024 and need to make changes to your course registration after next week you must contact ISSS to seek this permission to make the change.

If you are trying to swap classes while maintaining full-time registration please add the new course you want first and then drop the course you no longer need.

0% tuition liability for dropped semester length courses ends on January 23, 2024.

3.) Review the on and off-campus employment rules for F-1 and J-1 students, especially if you are interested in working on campus and/or applying for CPT, OPT, or Academic Training to work off campus. It is very important to follow the employment rules and limitations in order to not violate your status. [Click here for more information.](#)

[Read More](#)

Arrival Reporting EForm & Orientation Make Up (for New Students)

Welcome, new students!

All new students must submit the [New Student Arrival Reporting EForm](#)

For any students who missed all or part of Orientation, you must:

1. Review all information on the ISSS website, particularly the pages related to [Maintaining Immigration Status.](#)
2. [Review all information](#) from Online Orientation
3. [Complete your New Student Arrival Checklist](#), including submitting your [New Student Arrival Reporting EForm](#)

[Read More](#)

Sprintax Tax Filing Information for 2024



ISSS has purchased Sprintax tax software to help international students and scholars to file their 2023 federal tax return. There is no personal exemption for 2023. All non-residents must file a tax return if income was earned in 2023.

Codes for Sprintax will be available on **Monday, January 29, 2024**. To obtain a Sprintax tax code, please complete the google form at this link: <https://forms.gle/fLCS214CqwR8wu1u6>. ***If you were not employed***, please go to: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf> to obtain form 8843. For questions, please contact ISSS.

It is important to be aware that, if you were a nonresident present in the US during 2023, you're legally required to file a tax return if you received US income during 2023 by the 15 April 2024 deadline.

And even if you didn't work or receive income in the US, you're still obliged to file a Form 8843 with the IRS.

The US 2023 tax season will not start until January 2024, and we will be sharing information regarding how you can use the Sprintax software when the tax season begins.

Until then, there are many resources that you can access to learn more about your tax filing obligations to make the process of tax time even easier and less stressful for you. Below you can find some of the Sprintax resources to help explain the US tax system for nonresident international students and scholars:

- **Sprintax International Student US Tax Guide and Blog:** <https://blog.sprintax.com/f1-visa-tax-return-guide-international-students/>
- **Sprintax YouTube channel:** <https://www.youtube.com/user/Sprintax>
- **Sprintax Free Educational Tax Webinars:**

You will find below, a list of the free, educational tax webinars that Sprintax will be making available to nonresidents prior to and during the US tax filing season. You may register using the registration links below for a session that works well for you:

- Wednesday, February 7th @ 1pm EST – [Register here](#)
- Wednesday, February 28th @ 12pm EST – [Register here](#)
- Monday, March 11th @ 4pm EST – [Register here](#)
- Thursday, March 28th @ 3pm EST – [Register here](#)
- Wednesday, April 3rd @ 2pm EST – [Register here](#)
- Thursday, April 11th @ 1pm EST – [Register here](#)
- Monday, April 15th @ 11am EST – [Register here](#)

Please be sure to keep an eye out for additional communication around your specific access to the Sprintax software when tax season 2023 begins in early 2024.

[**Read More**](#)

Library Workshops for International Students (February 23)

Introduction to Research Process

Topics: what is a research paper, steps in the research process, choosing a research topic, finding background information and articles, using research databases, evaluating research materials, and hands-on exercises.

Friday, February 23

10:00am-12:00pm

Minerva Room (University Library Basement)

What is “plagiarism” all about? How to avoid it?

Topics: in-text citations and bibliography; why acknowledge sources; when to cite; differences among quoting, summarizing, and paraphrasing; types of plagiarism; how to cite; tips for avoiding plagiarism; academic integrity; and hands-on exercises.

Friday, February 23

1:00pm-3:00pm

Minerva Room (University Library Basement)

Citation Practice

Topics: DOI (digital object identifier), ways of providing in-text citations, formulating citations, and hands-on paraphrasing practice. Strongly encouraged to attend 1pm-3pm workshop first.

Friday, February 23

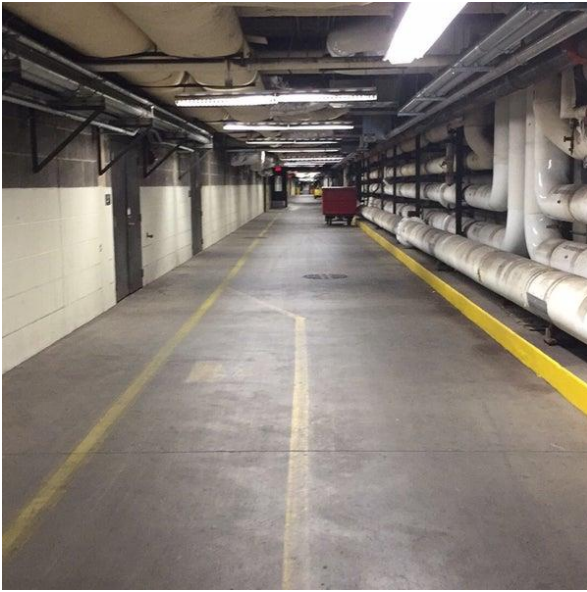
4:00pm-6:00pm

Minerva Room (University Library Basement)

Upcoming Events

Tunnel Tours (1/29)

Demystifying Peer Review (1/31)



Winter is in full force but don't let that stop you from exploring with the TTLs! Join us for a tunnel tour to figure out how to get around but underground! We can't wait to explore with you on Monday (1/29) at 7pm in the Transfer and Commuter Lounge!

[Read More](#)



Wednesday January 31
10am-11am online

Ready to become a peer reviewer or up your review game? This presentation will walk you through some recommended steps for getting started as a reviewer, how to write a review that's useful for both authors and journal editors, and what happens to a review once it's submitted. You'll also hear about how generative AI is starting to affect the review process as authors begin to utilize these tools to help create their manuscripts and reviewers use them to help generate their reviews. Register now!

[Read More](#)

Text Student Auto



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