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Important Issues

Changes to University Health Insurance Policy

Beginning August 1, 2015, Syracuse University is making changes to the University Health Insurance Policy. All full-time, matriculated international students will be automatically enrolled in the new Health Insurance Plan on August 1, 2015. For more information about the new Health Insurance policy, please see the information [here](#).



Deadlines

Graduate Students: Certificate of Full Time Status
September 21, 2015

Note: Effective this year, the Graduate School has implemented a deadline for submission of the Certificate of Full Time Status to the Registrar's Office. The deadline to submit this certification is the financial deadline to drop a class for each Fall and Spring semester. In Fall 2015, the financial drop deadline is September 21.

To be considered full-time for immigration purposes, a graduate student must be registered for 9 credit hours per semester except in the last semester (if fewer credits are needed to graduate), OR you file a [Certificate of Full Time Status](#). Therefore, for immigration purposes graduate students must file the Certificate of Full Time Status with the Registrar's Office by September 21, 2015.

All Students: Last Semester Memo
September 21, 2015

If Fall 2015 will be your last semester, and you are registered less than full-time (Graduate students: 9 credit hours, Undergraduate students: 12 credit hours) you must file a [Last Semester Memo](#) with the Slutzker Center no later than September 21.

Note: you can only have one last semester. Please discuss any concerns you have about not being able to graduate with your academic department before you submit this form. Once you submit a Last Semester Memo, we will adjust the expected completion date on your I-20 accordingly.

Both forms are available on our website, under [forms](#).

Slutzker Center News and Events

Address Update

Remember to update your MYSlice record with your current address in Syracuse.

Follow the format of the example to the left.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Address 1: 123 Main St.
Address 2: Apt. 1 (room 1, Idg., 1, etc.)
City: Syracuse State: NY Postal: 13210
County: Onondaga

Reduced Advisor on Call (AOC) hours and No Travel, On-Campus Employment or CPT or OPT Seminars in August

As we prepare for the arrival of new international students for the Fall semester, there will be no Travel, On-Campus Employment, CPT or OPT Seminars conducted between August 10th and August 28th.

During these three weeks of August (August 10th – August 28th), **travel signatures** may be obtained during the

Advisor on Call hours ONLY from **1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**, Monday – Friday or you can **SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT**.

During these three weeks of August (August 10th – August 28th), **CPT and OPT applications** can be **processed ONLY BY SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT**.

Please call 315-443-2457. The waiting time for an appointment in the month of August can be up to one week.

The normal Seminar Schedule will resume beginning Monday, August 31, 2015 and Advisor on Call (AOC) hours will return to a normal 11:00 am-3:00 pm schedule beginning August 31, 2015.

I-20 Form Redesign

On June 26, 2015, the Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) released a newly designed I-20 Form and requires that all active I-20s be replaced by July 1, 2016. You may continue to use your current I-20 Form for travel and as documentation for driver's licenses, Social Security Number applications, and I-9 verifications, until you receive the new I-20 Form.

The Slutzker Center is creating a plan to replace your I-20 during the Fall semester. Please watch the SCIS News for further information about this process.

Peer Assistant Volunteer Opportunity

The Slutzker Center for International Service is recruiting Peer Assistants to join us this July 27th until the end of August. Remember how welcomed the peer assistants made you feel when you first arrived at the Slutzker Center?

Peer Assistants are unpaid volunteers who support the Slutzker Center in its mission to support and to serve Syracuse University's international student population.

You will welcome and assist students during the arrival, check-in and throughout the undergraduate orientation process.

This is a great opportunity to meet new international students, to form new friendships, build your resume and give back to the University community.

To be considered, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Enrolled at Syracuse University for at least one academic semester,
- Attend training prior to beginning the Peer Assistant work before August 1.

Peer Assistant volunteers **will be required to work a minimum of 14 hours per week** during the term(s) for which they applied.

If interested please send your completed peer assistant application to Fariba Rahmzadeh at farahman@syr.edu.

To download the application, please [click here](#).



Syracuse University Events

Use Western Union to pay international tuition fees

The Bursar's Office is excited to announce a better payment option for international students!

The University has partnered with Western Union Business Solutions to offer a robust, convenient and cost saving (competitive exchange rates and lower bank fees) method for you to make your Bursar bill payment to Syracuse University. More information, including a video can be found here:

<http://comptroller.syr.edu/html/payments.htm>.

If you have any questions, please email us at bursar@syr.edu.



Syracuse University introduces Tobacco Ban to take effect July 1, 2015

Please keep in mind, Syracuse University implemented a campus wide [tobacco ban](#) on Wednesday, July 1. Considering the harmful effects that second hand smoke can have on health, Syracuse University aims to create a smoke free, healthy environment. SU has banned tobacco on all university properties.

For more information about the decision to implement this policy, see the [Daily Orange](#). Maps of areas where smoking is and is not permitted are available for the [Main Campus](#) and [South Campus](#).

Movie on the Quad Pitch Perfect II August 7, 8:30 PM Quad

Summer@Syracuse presents "Pitch Perfect II," the final Movie on the Quad event for summer 2015. All students, faculty and staff (and family members) are welcome.

For more information, [click here](#).

Important Reminders

[Full-Time Course of Study](#)

[Meeting Your Health Requirements](#)

[HR notice for on-campus employees](#)

[Is it your last semester of study?](#)

[Transferring from SU to a new U.S. school](#)

[Optional Practical Training EAD cards](#)

[Address Change Reporting Requirements](#)

[Keeping Good Rental Records](#)

[Protecting Your Property](#)

[US Embassy Announcements](#)

[E-Verify Employers & Federal Contractors List](#)

[Copycat 'Immigration Help' Sites](#)

[CPT/OPT Seminars](#)

[Studying Abroad](#)

[International Student Arrests & Public Safety](#)

[Bursar Payment Options](#)

"Everyone should be respected as an individual, but no one idolized." - **Albert Einstein**

Stay informed about the latest news, important reminders and updates



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If you would like to submit news or events for the SCIS Newsletter, please send your information and any related graphics to ejvoigt@syr.edu with subject line as "Article for SCIS Newsletter"