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Important Issues

Tax Information

GLACIER Tax Prep is now available for Syracuse University students. You can request an access code by going to our [website](#). Please allow 3 – 5 business days for processing. Make sure that you type the correct information in each field on the form. Wrong information could delay getting an access code. If you have a scholarship or fellowship that is not taxable or a tax treaty you should wait until you receive the Form 1042-S from the Payroll Office. If you're not sure if you should receive this form, you can contact Payroll Office at payroll@syr.edu. By law, the Payroll Office must send out these forms by March 15.

Form 1095-B

Students who are enrolled in the AETNA Gallagher Syracuse University health insurance program may have received a Form 1095-B in the mail recently. This form confirms that you are maintaining ACA compliant health insurance. For many of you who do not have social security numbers, there is a place holder number in Box 2, "Social Security number." Disregard that piece of information.

F-1 students who have been here fewer than 5 years, or J-1 students who have been here fewer than 2 years, do not need this form because the U.S. federal government does not require you to prove compliance with the ACA health insurance requirement. You may keep the Form 1095-B for your records, but you do not need to report it on your tax return unless you have been here over 5 years (F-1) or 2 years (J-1).

The image shows a sample Form 1095-B, Health Coverage, for the year 2015. The form is titled "1095-B Health Coverage" and includes a "CORRECTED" checkbox. It contains several sections:

- Section 1: Taxpayer's Information** - Includes fields for name, address, and contact information.
- Section 2: Health Coverage** - Includes fields for the type of coverage (e.g., employer, individual, other) and the start and end dates.
- Section 3: Covered Individuals** - A table with columns for the individual's name, SSN, and months of coverage for each month of the year (JAN to DEC).

STEM OPT Update

On February 5, 2016, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), sent the final STEM OPT rule to OMB for review. This is the last phase of review before the rule is published in the Federal Register. The final rule must be published by mid-March, 2016 to accommodate the May 10, 2016 vacatur date of the current rule.

Slutzker Center News and Events

Curricular/ Optional Practical Training Seminar

In order to apply for CPT or OPT you should attend a CPT/OPT Seminar before you apply. CPT/OPT seminars are held on the first and third Wednesday, and second Friday, of each month at the Slutzker Center. The CPT seminar begins at 3 PM and the OPT seminar begins at 3:45 PM.

From Wednesday, February 3 to Wednesday, March 30 CPT/OPT seminars will be held in other locations on campus. The seminar information is also available on our [website](#). Be sure to arrive early. If the seminar is full, you will have to wait to attend the next session.

Wednesdays 3/2, 3/16, 3/30 – 500 Hall of Languages
Fridays 3/11, 3/25 – Kittredge Auditorium, Huntington Beard Crouse (HBC)

We process CPT/OPT on Mondays from 3PM – 5PM and Thursdays from 10AM – Noon. If you cannot attend the seminar, you must review the information on our website before you can apply or CPT/OPT. In order to apply for CPT/OPT you must have all necessary documents prepared when you arrive at the Slutzker Center for CPT/OPT processing.

Extended Practical Training Processing Times

The Slutzker Center will have additional processing times for OPT applications in the months of February and March 2015:

Mondays: 3 – 5 PM
Tuesdays: 3 – 5 PM
Wednesdays: 3 – 5 PM
Thursdays: 10 AM – 12 Noon

To ensure the fastest processing time we recommend that you attend an OPT Seminar, follow the application process on our website and make sure you have all your documents completed with the appropriate copies together before coming in to process your OPT/CPT.

You may apply for OPT up to 90 days before your program completion date and up to 30 days following your completion date. Immigration can take 60-90 days (and is currently processing applications filed in November 2015) to process your application, so apply early! If you are graduating on May 11, 2016, you are now within the 90 day period.

Tax Seminar

March 4, 9 – 11 AM
Gifford Auditorium, HBC

The Slutzker Center will hold a tax seminar for international students and scholars who are considered non-residents for tax filing purposes.

At this time there will only be a representative from the Federal giving the seminar and he will address any questions you may have after the presentation. We are trying to get a representative from the State but at this time not sure they will be able to come.

Documents to bring with you to the seminar:

1. W-2 form from your MySlice.
2. W-2 form received from any other employer if you worked elsewhere in 2015 (i.e. curricular practical training)
3. Form 1040NR-EZ or 1040NR
4. Form IT-203 and IT-203B (state forms)
5. Or bring your laptop with electronic versions of the above forms

If you have not already, you should [request access](#) (please link to the link on our website) to GLACIER tax prep for completing your federal return. **Access requests completed by noon on Thursday, March 4, should be processed in time for the seminar on Friday.**

If you earned a scholarship or fellowship with a stipend, tax was withheld from a non-payroll payment, or you claimed benefits of a tax treaty you should wait until you receive the 1042s form from the Payroll Office before you request an access code. If you're not sure if you should receive this form, you can contact Payroll Office at payroll@syr.edu. By law, the Payroll Office must send out these forms by March 15.

*If you have worked on campus, your W-2 from Syracuse University is available through your MySlice.

Upcoming Events to Keep in Mind

If you plan to stay in Syracuse over Spring Break, let us know if you are interested in joining either or both of the following events.

St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 12 in downtown Syracuse. Plan to meet on campus and ride the Connective Corridor Bus downtown.

Niagara Falls, March 19. Plan for it to be cold, windy, wet and snowy, but if we receive enough interest, we would plan to take a bus to Niagara Falls for the day. The bus would leave the Slutzker Center early in the morning and return late at night. You would be responsible for your meals during the day and any activities you plan to do at Niagara Falls.

Cost to participate in Niagara Falls trip: \$25.

If you are interested in joining these events, please email LESCIS@syr.edu.

Watch the SCIS News and our Facebook page in the coming weeks for more information.

Syracuse University Events

Mix It Up February 19, 5 - 7PM Schine 304

This week is our last scheduled Mix It Up of Spring 2016. Join us for dinner, conversation and a chance to meet people from around the world. All are welcome!

Please email ejvoigt@syr.edu if you plan to attend tomorrow's event.

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

Orange After Dark presents: Snow Tubing February 19, 10 PM Greek Peak Mountain Resort

Orange After Dark is hosting a snow tubing event at Greek Peak Mountain Resort in Cortland, NY. Dress appropriately for the cold, wet weather.

Buses will leave from the Schine Student Center and Goldstein Student Center at 10 PM. Tickets are \$3—covering the event costs and transportation.

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



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Pierre Miller
 516-884-3017
 chaimill58@gmail

 1315 MADISON AVENUE, SYRACUSE, NY 13210

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](#)

[Check your VISA Application Status in India](#)

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

[Copycat "Immigration Help" Sites](#)

[CPT/OPT Seminars](#)

[Studying Abroad](#)

[International Student Arrests & Public Safety](#)

"Laugh as much as you choose, but you will not laugh me out of my opinion." - **Jane Austen**

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a dark blue rectangular background.The Twitter logo, featuring the word "twitter" in a light blue, lowercase, sans-serif font, with a blue bird icon to its right.

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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"