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**Syracuse University**  
**May 2016 Edition**  
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## Important Issues

### **Be Aware of Scams** **Have you had this happen? Want to discuss it?**

Recently, we have had reports of two new types of 'scams.' There have been increased accounts of students facing pressure to give strangers rides or money. There have been incidents of people simply entering a student's car and insisting that the students drive him/her somewhere. In these cases, you can say no. Giving a stranger a ride or money may seem nice, but it is often the start of a robbery. Do not put yourself in danger. If you feel uncomfortable, do not hesitate to call the police (911).

If you have been involved in this type of a situation, we would like to know. Please email [lescis@syr.edu](mailto:lescis@syr.edu) with the information or come in to meet with an advisor. Always lock your apartment and car doors. Be aware of your surroundings.

\*Some students have reported receiving mysterious emails claiming to be offering a job. The emails state that the Career Center sent out the student's email, and that the company (which is not named in the email) is interested in hiring the student. If the emails does not give information about the company, it is probably a scam.

There are a number of scams which target students and especially international students. When we find out about new forms of scams, we attempt to notify you through the SCIS News. However, scams are constantly changing and becoming more unique and sophisticated. If someone is demanding money from you, we recommend that you seek advice from our office or DPS before paying them or giving them any personal information.

## Commencement Information

If you are graduating this semester and or plan to attend the Commencement Ceremony in May, make sure to visit [commencement.syr.edu](http://commencement.syr.edu) for more information. This website has everything you need to know to prepare for graduation and Commencement Weekend for you and your family. This website also provides a [form letter](#), which you may send to your family members if they plan to attend the Commencement Ceremony.



## Slutzker Center News and Events

### Extended Practical Training Processing Times

The Slutzker Center will have additional processing times for OPT applications until May 26, 2016:

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 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.

### No Seminars or Practical Training Processing Limited Services Tuesday, May 31 – Friday, June 3, 2016

Syracuse University, including the Slutzker Center, will be closed on Monday, May 30, for the Memorial Day Holiday. For the remainder of that week, Tuesday, May 31 to Friday, June 3, there will be no seminars (Practical Training, On-Campus Employment, or Travel) and **no practical training processing**. Many members of our staff will be away at a conference, so there will be **limited services** that week. Please note these limited functions when making plans.

### Slutzker Center Undergoing Renovations

The second floor of the Slutzker Center is being painted and re-carpeted this summer. Therefore, staff from the second floor is moving to the first and third floors, and the Slutzker Center will be in an unsettled state for the next two months. We ask for your patience as you come in for services.

### 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](#)



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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](mailto:ejvoigt@syr.edu) with subject line as "Article for SCIS Newsletter"

