



UMBC International Student and Scholar Services

Spring 2022 International Student Orientation

Session 1: January 26, 2022



UMBC

CENTER FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Welcome to UMBC from:

**Dr. Antonio R.
Moreira**

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs



Welcome to UMBC from:

Dr. David L. Di Maria

Senior International Officer and
Associate Vice Provost for
International Education



Welcome to UMBC from:

Dr. Nancy Young

Vice President for Student Affairs



Session 1: International Student Orientation

Center for Global Engagement Staff

Arthur Brown - Program Management Specialist

Alicyn Curtis- Advisor, Education Abroad

Sarita Foutz - Program Coordinator

Adam Holden - General Associate for Internationalization and Graduate Assistant for International Partnerships

Kazumi Hasegawa - Director of International Marketing

Wanda Meinschein - Business Financial Specialist

Caylie Middleton - Associate Director of Education Abroad

Josie Penn - Program Management Specialist

Ryan Sheldon - Director of English Language Institute

Brian Souders - Ph.D.- Associate Director, Global Engagement Opportunities



Meet the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) Team



Adam Julian - Director, ISSS



Dave Anguish - Assistant Director



Adwoa Hanson-Hall - International Student Advisor



Natalie Lobb - Graduate International Student Support Specialist



About ISSS

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), a branch of UMBC's Center for Global Engagement, is dedicated to supporting UMBC's international student and scholar community and helping them achieve their academic, personal, and professional goals. ISSS offers a variety of programs and services to aide students in these endeavors:

- **Immigration Advising** - ISSS helps international students and scholars navigate the U.S. visa process and maintain valid immigration status by providing the guidance, knowledge, and necessary resources.
- **Community Building** - ISSS offers programming designed to help students make important connections within the UMBC community. These opportunities for intercultural exchange and mutual understanding enhance the UMBC international student experience.
- **Work and Internships** - ISSS works with current students and alumni to help them access the many employment and internship opportunities available to them by facilitating the use of benefits such as Curricular Practical Training (CPT), Optional Practical Training (OPT), and other employment authorizations.



Questions? Need assistance?



Contact Us

Before you schedule an appointment or contact us, the answers to most F-1 student questions can be found here:



CPT: Off-Campus
Work Authorization



Social Security Numbers
(SSN)



Travel Outside the US



Request a Letter



OPT: Post-Graduation
Work Authorization



STEM OPT Extension



Extend Your F-1 Program
(I-20)



Change of Immigration
Status



New Students!

Fall 2021 International Student Arrival Guide



Something else?

See below to contact us!

Appointment required
iss.umbc.edu/contact/
University Center, 207



📌 Agenda 📌

Session 1 - Wednesday, January 26th. 9:00 AM EST

- COVID-19 Protocols
- F-1/J-1 International Student Immigration Requirements
- Employment options for F-1 International Students
- Student Business Services Office
- Unibuddy and myUMBC
- Scams, Single Sign on Safety etc..
- ISSS Portal



Reminder: Attendance at both sessions is mandatory.

Session 1: International Student Orientation

📌 Agenda 📌

Session 2 - Friday, January 28th. 9:00 AM EST

- Review of F-1 International Student Immigration Requirements
- U.S. Culture In and Out of the Classroom
- Health Insurance and Waiver Process
- U.S. Healthcare System
- Career Center



Reminder: Attendance at both sessions is mandatory.

Session 1: International Student Orientation

Attendance Time!

Please now complete the Google Form we have shared in the chat.

The form will stop accepting submissions in **20 minutes**.
You must be present for the **entire** duration of session!

Reminder: Attendance at both sessions is mandatory.



COVID -19 Protocols

- COVID-19 vaccination is **required** for all students, faculty, and staff on campus
 - Proof of vaccination with an approved vaccine BEFORE traveling to the U.S. is required.
 - Vaccination status and how to comply found in COVID Compliance Card on myUMBC profile
 - Students will be able to receive (and required) booster when eligible
- PCR tests are **required** for all returning to campus
- KN95 or equivalent masks must be worn in **all spaces where masking is required**
- UMBC is following CDC's guidelines for international travel and quarantine
 - Not required to quarantine but self-isolation for a few days are recommended, especially after international travel
- Please refer to the FAQ for International Students on www.covid-19.umbc.edu site

Direct all COVID-19 Questions to covid19@umbc.edu



≡ Agenda ≡

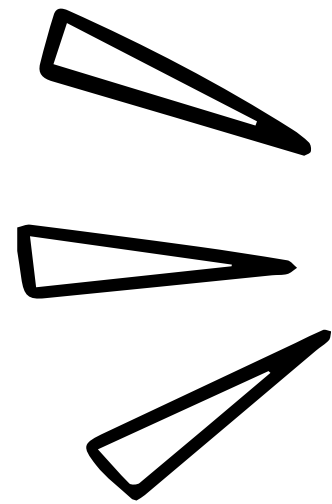
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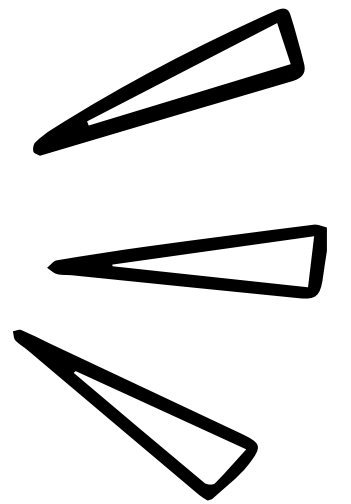


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Session 1: International Student Orientation



Immigration Information Breakouts!



**New F-1
Students**

**Stay here! No
links to click**

**F-1 Transfer
Students**

**Click link in chat
to join Transfer
session with
Adwoa**

**J-1 Student &
Scholars**

**Click link in chat
to join J-1 session
with Adam**



Welcome International Students!

**New F-1 Student
Immigration Information**



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Stay connected with ISSS



ISSS email list:
Read your email!



ISSS Portal:
iss-portal.umbc.edu



myUMBC Group:
ISSS Marketplace



Live Chat & Appointments
iss.umbc.edu/contact/



ISSS website:
iss.umbc.edu

Answers to most
of your questions
can be found here!



Follow us on social media!

We're online! Follow us to learn about ISSS activities.



Facebook:
umbcisss



Twitter:
@umbc_iss



Instagram:
@umbc_iss

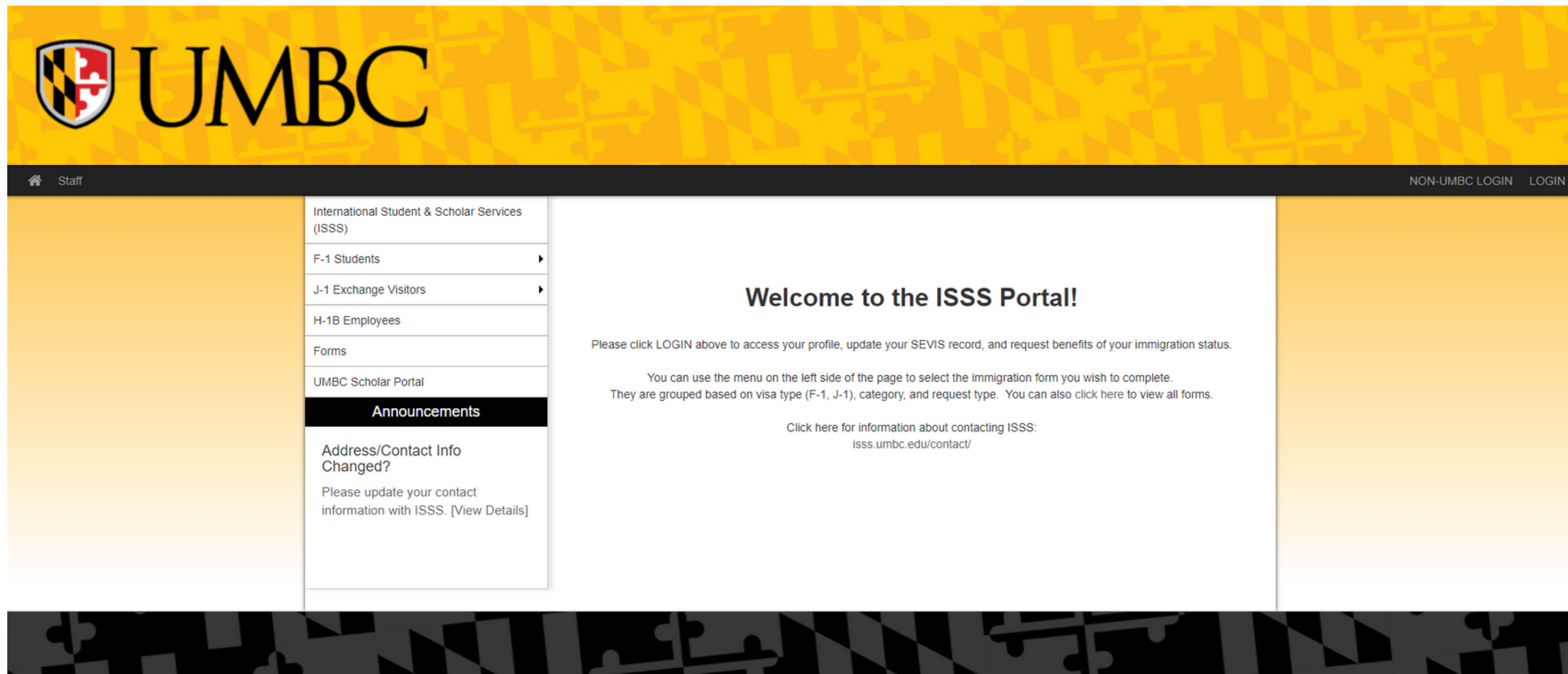
✧ **Tag us** in your ✧
adventures on ✧
campus and the U.S.



ISSS Portal

ISSS has gone paperless!

Complete all electronic applications via the ISSS Portal



Session 1: International Student Orientation



About the ISSS Portal

- Centralized system for all immigration applications and requests for documents
- Personal account to upload and manage all secure documents
- Personalized reminders for deadlines, electronic advisor signatures on applications, and much more!





Let's Talk Immigration



F-1 Status

VS.

F-1 Visa



- It is very important to clarify these two legal terms in order to understand how to maintain your immigration status in the U.S.
- The terms "visa" and "status" can be easily confused, but they are different things!



Visa

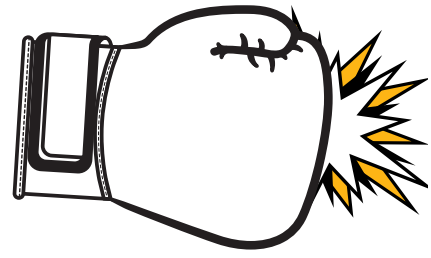
- Functions as a key, or pass, to enter the U.S.
- Defines why you are coming (F-1 = student)
- Page in your passport
- The visa is only for entering the US, and in F-1 status, does not have a role beyond that purpose



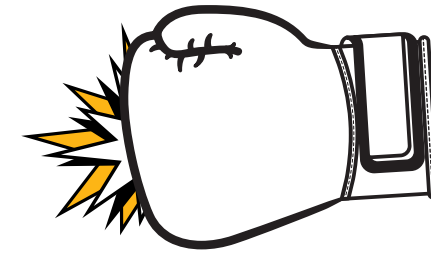
Status

- Ability to remain legally in the US
- At the Port of Entry you are granted a specific kind of immigration status (ex, F-1)
- Recorded on I-94 record
- Your status determines the rules you have to follow, and the options you have, while in the US





Visa vs. Status



- Example Time – Let's Go To The Movies!
- Movie ticket = visa
- Your movie = status (can only stay for the duration of the reason you entered)



Immigration Documents

- Passport
- Visa
- I-94 Record
- I-20



Your Passport

- Note Expiration Dates -- must be valid at all times!
- Renewal process
- Request exit/entry stamps
- Try not to carry passport around – carry a copy



F-1 Visa Page

- Indicates you are entering the U.S. as a student
- Number of entries -- 1, 2, or 'M' entry
- Length of visa – Reciprocity Rule
- Expiration only affects re-entry to US
- Renewal Process (transcript)
- Almost any US Embassy outside the US



I-94 Record

- Entry/ Exit Record, Received upon entry to U.S.
- Grants specific status in US – should be “F-1 Status” (if not let us know). Different statuses have different rules.
- Also grants length of time you can stay in the U.S. – Should indicate D/S – “Duration of Status”
- Check your I-94 each time you return to the U.S., online



I-94 Record

- <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/>
- Or Google “I-94”

Enter Your Traveler Info

Note: The info returned may not reflect applications submitted to or benefits received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

* First (Given) Name :

* Last (Family) Name/Surname :

?

* Birth Date :

-- --

Day

Month

Year

* Passport Number :

?

* Passport Country of Issuance :

-- Select --

?

[Cancel](#)

NEXT >

Proceed to your most recent I-94



I-94 Record

Most Recent I-94 Results

 For: [REDACTED]

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number : [REDACTED]
Most Recent Date of Entry: 2017 December 26
Class of Admission : F1
Admit Until Date : D/S
Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Last/Surname : [REDACTED]
First (Given) Name : [REDACTED]
Birth Date : [REDACTED]
Passport Number : [REDACTED]
Country of Issuance : [REDACTED]

 GET THIS TRAVELER'S TRAVEL HISTORY

< PREVIOUS

PRINT



I-20

- Confirms funding, student status, major, and specific school.
- Has your **SEVIS ID** on top left side
- **Program Dates must be valid**
- Be aware of your program End Date!
- For international travel, your I-20 must have a valid travel signature on the third page
 - This signature is valid for one year



Interactive Question Time!

Which document assigns your immigration status when you arrive in the US?

- I-20 *or* I-94?



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What document must not expire while you are in the US?

- I-20 *or* passport *or* visa?



Interactive Question Time!

Which document assigns your immigration status when you arrive in the US?

- I-20 *or* I-94?

What document must not expire while you are in the US?

- I-20 *or* passport *or* visa?

What document cannot be renewed in the US?

- visa *or* I-20 *or* passport?



What documents should I carry?

- **Carry the following with you AT ALL TIMES:**
 - COPIES of passport, visa, I-94, and I-20
- **Carry if you have them:**
 - Maryland Driver's License
 - Maryland State ID
 - International Driver's
 - License and translation



Maintaining Status - Loss of Status

- **“Loss of status”** or **“out of status”** means you no longer have a legal immigration status in the US
- Results from breaking F-1 rules
- No F-1 benefits (employment)
- Reinstatement
- Bars to returning to the US



How can you lose your status?

- If you do not register for a full course load
- If you let your I-20 end date expire
- If you work off-campus without authorization
- If you break the law and are arrested for more than a minor offense



Maintaining your F-1 Status:

Course Registration

- You have to be registered at UMBC!
- Optional to register during Summer and
- Winter breaks - not required
- Must be registered “full time” during Fall and Spring semesters – ✨ we check! ✨
- May take a class at another campus also (must speak with academic advisor first)



Online Courses

- Generally F-1 students can take only **one** online class per semester
- Hybrid classes are considered “in-person,” not “online.”
- In your final semester, you cannot take only an online class to complete degree requirements
- Exceptions to this rule due to COVID-19 don't apply to NEW students entering the US for their first semester



Definition of “Full-Time Enrollment” at UMBC

- **Undergraduate students:**

- 12 credit hours minimum Fall and Spring semester

- **Graduate Students:**

- 9 credits per semester in fall and spring semester.
- Full-Time graduate assistants should register for at least 4 academic credits
- Part-Time graduate assistants should register for at least 6 academic credits



"Reduced Course Load"

- Few exceptions to the full-time enrollment requirement:
 - Medical (physical or mental health challenges)
 - Academic (can only be approved once):
 - First Semester Academic Difficulty (English language, reading requirements, adjustment challenges)
 - “Improper Course Placement”
- **MUST be approved by ISSS before dropping below full-time**





Brief Overview of Work Options

Employment is limited under F-1 status

**The employment rules are very strict
and must be followed carefully**

Types of Employment

- On-Campus Employment
- Practical Training (off-campus)
 - Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
 - Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- Need-based employment (off-campus)
 - Severe, Unexpected, Documented Economic Hardship (USCIS processing fee of \$410)



On-Campus Employment

- Must be on UMBC's campus **ONLY** – BW Tech Park, for example, is NOT on campus
- Must be paid by UMBC
- May work **no more than 20 hours per week** during semesters
- May hold more than one job on campus so long as total hours are no more than 20
- May work full-time (More than 20 hours per week) outside of semesters



On-Campus Employment

Find an on-campus job:

- The Career Center website – UMBCWorks
- Career Center guidance on documents (CV, cover letter); best practices
- Apply in person
- Network!



Off-Campus Employment: CPT

CPT: Curricular Practical Training

- Paid internships while a current student
- Eligible after 2 academic semesters in US
- Must be authorized by ISSS, noted on I-20
- Must be related to your degree program, and noted on transcript



Off-Campus Employment: CPT

Find an internship:

- Career Center!!
 - Review their communications
 - UMBCWorks
 - Events
 - Guidance
- Academic Department
- Network with other students



Off-Campus Employment: OPT

OPT: Optional Practical Training

- Usually after graduation
- 1 Year of work authorization
- Can work for any employer/change employer, work has to be related to academic field studied at UMBC
- Requires application to USCIS, plan for 3-4 months processing time



Off-Campus Employment: STEM OPT Extension

- STEM Extension – possibility of 24 months additional OPT
- STEM-eligible degree completed
- Requires E-Verified employer, I-983 Training Plan
- Can change employers



Off-Campus Employment: Economic Hardship

- For students in unexpected financial hardship
- Have to prove source of unexpected difficulties
- Not often approved, have to make a very strong case
- Application to USCIS costs \$410
- Don't rely on this option!



📢 Employment Quiz Time! 📢

1. You've graduated with a PhD in Biology, and got a job offer in a bio lab.
2. You are offered a position to shelve books in the UMBC library.
3. You are an Engineering major and want to work as an Uber Driver.
4. You are a 2nd semester Computer Science major and get an offer for a summer internship in California to work for Google!



...but where can I find a job?!

- Again, the Career Center is a great place to start
 - Career Center events
 - Career Center Services
 - UMBCWorks
- ALL available at careers.umbc.edu



...but where can I find a job?!

- The Career Center provides additional resources for preparing for interviews/the workplace



UMBC SUITS YOU

PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING CLOSET



Select one dry-cleaned or new professional outfit for FREE!

Susquehanna
Community Room

9/16, 10AM-6PM

9/17, 9AM-12PM

For more information visit careers.umbc.edu/suits

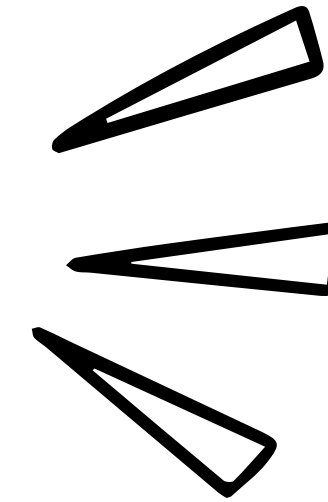
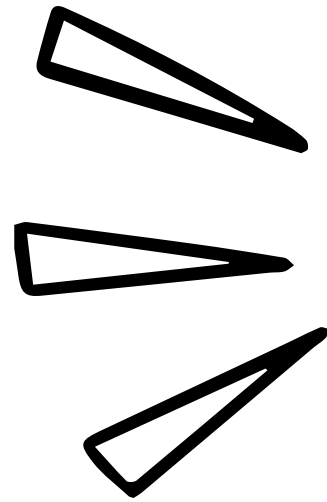


Work Options Summary

- On-campus work (immediate)
- Off-campus work:
 - CPT (after 2 semesters)
 - OPT (after graduation)
 - STEM OPT Extension
- Career Center



Other ISSS Services



Social Security Number (SSN)

Purpose

- Required to get paid
- Tracks income for tax purposes

Application Process

- Receive job offer
- Complete New Student Arrival Documentation Check-In in ISSS Portal
- Submit SSN Letter Request via ISSS Portal
- Allow 3 business days for processing
- See the ISSS website for instructions: iss.s.umbc.edu/ssn/



Annual Income Tax Filing

Tax returns are filed every year to summarize how much tax money you have paid on your income, and if you owe more or are due a refund back.

- Annual Tax Returns are due each year around April 15 - we provide free software (Sprintax)

ALL students are required to file income tax forms
whether you earn any income or not



Driving License/State ID

- Foreign license valid only for **THREE MONTHS** before you are required to obtain a U.S. license.
- ISSS office has Drivers Handbook copies; more information is on our website
- MVA (Motor Vehicle Administration) also offers State ID Cards



IMPORTANT!

**Maintain Your
Status**



Maintain Your Status!

- Register full-time
- Keep I-20 current
- Follow employment guidelines closely
- Don't break U.S. laws
- Keep in touch with the ISSS Office



Remember...

**Your immigration status is
your responsibility!**

We are here to assist you in maintaining it so your
experience in the US is enjoyable and fruitful.



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