Resources For International Students
ISSS: Student Advising Services

ISSS Front Desk
• Open from 8am – 5pm
• Front Desk staff can assist with general questions and document pick-up.

Student Advising Services
• By appointment:
  ❖ Monday 9am – 11:30am
  ❖ Tuesday 1:30pm – 4pm
  ❖ Wednesday 1:30pm – 4pm
  ❖ Thursday 9am – 11:30am
  ❖ Friday 1:30pm – 4pm
• Advisors will see everyone; no assigned advisors
• Some services do not require appointment

Website
ISSS Blog
General inquiries email: hotline@austin.utexas.edu
Pursue a full course of study, make progress towards educational objective

Maintain valid passport and I-20/DS-2019

For initial admission to the U.S., report to the university specified on visa

Process an extensions and transfers prior to reaching program end date listed on immigration document

Work only when properly authorized

Update mailing address in timely manner
Consequences for Violating Status

- Results in termination of status
- No eligible for any F-1 or J-1 benefits

Options for regaining status
- Travel to regain status
- Reinstatement
How we can assist

• Updating I-20 (extensions; change of major/level transfer out; adding dependents; I-20 signatures)
• Less then Full Course advising and authorization
• Employment advising and authorization
• Graduation/post graduation planning
• Changing status
• Regaining Status
Employment

• On Campus
• CPT (F-1)
• OPT (F-1)
• Academic Training (J-1)

UT 102 – Employment today @ 3PM (POB) Avaya Auditorium
Employment Seminar September 26th at 6 PM (POB) Avaya Auditorium
International Student Advisors & Immigration Attorney
On-campus employment is defined as work done on the school’s premises including work with commercial firms that provide services to students on campus.

F-1 and J-1 students who are maintaining their status may engage in on-campus employment.
On Campus Employment

Examples include:
• Cafeterias: Jester Dorm, Business School
• Fast Food Restaurants in the TX Union and SAC
• School Bookstores: University Co-op, Co-op East

Does Not Include:
• Work at a construction site for a new campus building
• Work with a company installing a computer systems upgrade
On Campus Employment

Salary - no restrictions

Hours - 20 hrs./week max during Fall/Spring semesters. 20+ hours allowed during vacation periods.

Dates - New F-1/J-1 students, allowed to work 30 days before classes begin

Authorization
• F-1: None required
• J-1: Must report employment to the IO before starting
Off Campus Employment

• Curricular Practical Training
• Optional Practical Training
• Academic Training
Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

- F-1 students who are maintaining status and have completed one academic year (unless academic program requires immediate participation)

- Work must be temporary and necessary to fulfill a course or degree requirement in student’s major field of study

- Employer specific

- Can be on or off campus
Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

To apply for CPT, the student will need to bring the following to an international student advising appointment or can drop off CPT application:

• Passport and Form I-94

• CPT Recommendation Form

• Letter from the employer (on letterhead paper and signed by employer) which mentions:
  ✓ Brief job description
  ✓ Starting and ending dates of employment
  ✓ Salary & hours to be worked (ex: 40 hrs. per week)
  ✓ Employer's address (where work will be conducted)
Optional Practical Training (OPT)

F-1 students who are maintaining status and have completed one academic year

Work must be in the student’s major field of study but does not have to fulfill a course or degree requirement

Not employer specific, primarily for off-campus work
Optional Practical Training (OPT)

Eligible students may apply for:
- Part-time OPT during the long semesters (fall and spring)
- Part/full-time OPT during vacation periods
- Part/full-time OPT after they have completed all course requirements and are registered in thesis or dissertation
- Full-time OPT based on graduation (most common), must be applied for within 60 days of official graduation date.
Optional Practical Training

Students are recommended for OPT by an International Student Advisor at ISSS, but the actual work authorization (EAD work card) comes from the USCIS and takes 3 months to process.

A recommendation for OPT is printed on p. 2 of the I-20, but student must have the EAD (work card) with valid dates to begin working.

12 months of OPT per degree level; part-time OPT counts at half rate. Student may apply for an additional 12 months of OPT upon completion of a higher degree level.
Academic Training

• J-1 students who are maintaining status and will complete studies equivalent to the length of employment being requested

• Employment must be related to the program objective listed on the DS-2019

• Students may work part time or full time during their studies or after their program

• Employer specific, can be on or off campus
• Students are authorized by the program sponsor listed on the DS-2019.

• Once authorized, students will possess a work authorization letter and DS-2019 with authorization noted.

• Authorization can not exceed length of degree program or 18 months, whichever is shorter. 36 months given to doctoral level graduates only.

• Full-time and part-time authorization are equivalent.
All F-1/J-1 students are automatically enrolled

Waivers are available
https://world.utexas.edu/isss/insurance/students/waivers

Insurance Enrollment for family members

Emergency Insurance Cards (beginning of semester)

Assistance with bills/understanding US insurance system

With inquiries email: insuranceadvisor@austin.utexas.edu
All international students are responsible for filing taxes

The International office provides:

• Tax Software available -- Glacier Tax Prep
• Resources on website -- https://world.utexas.edu/isss/ssn-tax
• ITIN appointments - https://world.utexas.edu/isss/ssn-tax/ssn
• Tax Assistance during tax season
  • Individual Appointments
  • Tax Lab
Social Programs

• Orientation Events
• International Education Week
• PALS/Language Circles - International and English speakers get together for cultural exchange and to practice English

• Field Trips - San Antonio, Texas Hill Country, Houston, etc.
• Friendship with an American Family - Become part of a “host family” to engage in cultural exchange
ESL

- ESL 389T: Communication and Teaching Culture
- ESL 388S: Oral Communication for International Students
- ESL 388W: Academic Writing for International Students
- ESL 389S: Advanced Oral Communication for International Students
- ESL 389W: Advanced Academic Writing for International Students
Other Resources Around Campus
Resources

University Writing Center
- Consultations; Writing groups; resources; workshops
- http://uwc.utexas.edu/
- UT Learning Commons at Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL 2.330)

Libraries
- Ask a Librarian
- Workshops
- Study Rooms
- Research Assistance

Ombuds office
- Call to schedule appointment 512-471-3825

CMHC
- Monthly lunches in partnership with International Office
- International Student Support Group
- Mind/Body Lab
- Resources on website: https://cmhc.utexas.edu/cultureadjustment.html

Graduate Student Assembly – International Student Agency
Questions?
Connect with us!

world.utexas.edu

UTInternationalOffice @worldandut @worldandut @worldandut