

February 2, 2024



WE HAVE MOVED!

The International Students and Scholars Office (ISS) has moved to the second floor of the Student Services Building (SSB). To get to our office, take the stairs or the elevator to the second floor. You do not need to check in on the first floor. Once you reach the second level, you will first encounter the Undergraduate Education reception desk. Please let them know you are there to see us and you will be redirected. Keep in mind that the building and our office will be closed during the lunch hour (12:00 - 1:00 pm)

CAMPUS CLOSURE

Due to the Presidents Day Holiday, all offices will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2024. The International Students and Scholars Office will reopen again on Tuesday, February 20th.

TAX INFORMATION

All students in F and J status and their dependents who were in the United States in the 2023 tax year are required to file tax forms. **Important: Tax Deadline - April 15, 2024**

In the coming weeks, many of you will be receiving instructions for accessing **GLACIER Tax Prep (GTP)**. **GTP** will walk you through the steps required to file any federal tax forms or required informational forms.

We will send out an email once this is released and when we are ready to provide access codes.

Upcoming Tax Workshops:

These workshops will be very useful for:

- International students and scholars considered nonresidents for tax purposes
- If this is your first-time filing taxes in the United States, we recommend that you attend one of these workshops.

During these workshops, we will cover general information on:

- **Glacier Tax Prep (GTP)** software
- Filing federal taxes in the U.S. as a nonresident for tax purposes
- Filing state taxes in the U.S. as a nonresident for tax purposes

Tax Workshop	Fri. February 16, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Click to Register)
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Tax Workshop	Mon. March 4, 2:00 - 3:30 pm (Click to Register)
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CA State Tax Franchise Board	Thurs. March 7, 12:00 - 1:30 pm (Click to Register)
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Tax Workshop	Thurs. April 4, 3:00 - 4:30 pm (Click to Register)
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UPDATING PERSONAL INFORMATION IN R'WEB

Update your Addresses & U.S. Phone Number in R'Web

Please take a minute to go into [R'Web](#) to update your addresses & phone numbers, it is important to make sure it's entered correctly (sample below) as these details are then uploaded to your SEVIS government record.

- Permanent address MUST be a non-U.S. Address
- Avoid using apartment complex names in address line 1
- U.S. Phone numbers, enter first 3 digits in "Area Code" (e.g. 951), then enter the last 7 digits in "Phone Number" (e.g. 5731234)

Local mailing address				
Valid From This Date:MM/DD/YYYY	01/31/2024  Enter Today's Date & No End Date			
Until This Date:MM/DD/YYYY				
Address Line 1:	375 Central Ave Unit 99  Enter Street Address & APT / UNIT in Line 1			
Address Line 2:				
Address Line 3:				
City:	Riverside			
State or Province:	California			
ZIP or Postal Code:	92507  Enter your Zip Code, can vary			
County:	Not Applicable			
Nation:	Not Applicable			
Delete this Address:	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Primary Phone Number For This Address:				
Area Code	Phone Number	Extension	International Access Code and Phone Number	Unlisted
+1	9515731234		OR	<input type="checkbox"/>

USCIS PROCESSING FEES

USCIS | Premium Processing Fees to Increase February 26, 2024

In December 2023 a rule was published by USCIS that will increase Premium Processing fees for requests postmarked on or after February 26, 2024. The new USCIS Premium Processing Fees will increase for the following forms:

Form Type	Current Fee	New Fee (2/26/2024)
I-129	\$2,500	\$2,805
I-140	\$2,500	\$2,805
I-539	\$1,750	\$1,965
I-765	\$1,500	\$1,685

USCIS has noted that any I-907 (Request for Premium Processing) received on or after February 26, 2024 will be rejected and the submitted filing fee returned. The [USCIS News Release](#) contains additional details and rationale for the increases.

OTHER WORKSHOPS

Workshop	Date & Time (PST)
Optional Practical Training (OPT)	Fri. February 9, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Click to Register)
Academic Training (AT)	Wed. February 21, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Click to Register)
Consular and Customs and Border Protection Hosted By WR Immigration Firm	Fri. February 23, 10:30 - 11:30 am (Click to Register)

UPCOMING ISS EVENTS

Peer Network Social: Lunar New Year

ISS will be hosting a Peer Network Social to celebrate the Lunar New Year on February 9th, 2024!

Join us for a fun night filled with cultural activities and delicious food to celebrate Lunar New Year ❤️. Feel free to come in any traditional clothing if you would like 🥰.

Date: Friday, February 9th

Time: 3:30 - 5:00 PM

Location: HUB 269

RSVP [here](#)



Language Circles

Learn or practice a variety of languages through informal conversations led by our Language Circle Moderators. All moderators are volunteers and native speakers of the specific language.

Official Language Circle Schedule for Winter 2024 (weeks 2 - 8):

Wednesdays in HUB 379	
11:00 - 11:50 am	Spanish
11:10 am - 12:00 pm	Mandarin
12:00 - 12:50 pm	Russian/English
2:00 - 2:50 pm	Italian

R'Time

A fun and safe space for International Student Women Free lunch and massages!

Meeting Times for Winter Quarter:

- **11:00 am - 12:00 pm in HUB 260**
 - Friday, February 16th
 - Tuesday, March 5th

Hosted by the International [Students and Scholars](#), [The Well](#), & the [Women's Resource Center](#).

For questions, please contact [Jacqueline Hernandez](#)



Cultivating Mental Wellness



Join UCR Mental Health Allies for an engaging panel event where the community can participate in a discussion centered on how students can take a holistic approach to mental wellness across different aspects of life.

Date: February 8th, 2024
Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Location: HUB 302
RSVP [here](#)



Mindful Art For Stress Relief

No experience needed! This workshop led by artist Jennifer will guide you to perform simple color painting. Or you may just come to the art exhibition to have a relaxed afternoon with your own little world.

The activity brings your focused attention to a peaceful present moment. In addition to enjoying the piece of artwork you are creating, expression through simple painting allows people to release pent-up emotions and feelings. This art activity also helps you to be mindful and temporarily shift the focus away from stressors to relaxation and calmness.

No need to RSVP but space is limited; first come first serve.

Location: HUB 265

Date: Sunday, Feb 4th, 2:00-3:30 pm



ISS FORMS AND GUIDES

Did you know that you can find essential forms, guides, and information about maintaining your status, travel, and employment on our website? international.ucr.edu/students

- [Need a Form?](#)
- Learn about [F and J requirements](#)
- [Travel and Dependents](#)

Please note that we do not recommend travel at this time since things are difficult to predict with changing governmental regulations and travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please consult with an advisor before making travel plans.

- [Employment and Taxes](#)
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Contact Us

There are several ways you can reach our team. Our staff works Monday-Friday, from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM (closed from 12:00 - 1:00 PM for lunch).

General Email: internationalstudents@ucr.edu

General Phone: (951) 827 - 4113

Michael Schmelzle, Director: michael.schmelzle@ucr.edu

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Jacqueline Hernandez, Program Coordinator: jacqueline.hernandez@ucr.edu

Thank you from all of us in International Affairs!

As a reminder, the International Student News is an email for international students sent monthly. You will find important information from our office, such as:

- notices from the U.S. government
- reminders to ensure that you stay in status
- UCR campus updates and cultural event information

Please read the newsletter carefully. If you have any questions, please email our office at internationalstudents@ucr.edu.