

November 7, 2025



NOVEMBER IS HERE!

Dear Students,

We hope all of you have settled in well in the new academic year. We look forward to meeting all of you through our events this quarter. We will have a range of cultural and social events along with workshops for F-1 and J-1 students. We advise you to keep checking your emails for updates on any of these or follow us @ucr.iss on instagram to stay updated!

Sincerely,
The ISS Team.

OFFICE CLOSURES

Dear Students,

We will be closed on Tuesday, November 11 for Veteran's Day and Thursday - Friday, November 27 - 28 for Thanksgiving and Native American Heritage Day. We hope you all have an amazing break and please send any important emails before or after these days.

IMMIGRATION UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Important Reminders

- **Address Updates.** If you have moved to a new address for this quarter or academic year, please do not forget to [update it via our ISSM portal](#) and in R'Web. F and J students are required to update their address within 10 days of every move.
- **Full Time Course Load.** Registration for Winter quarter begins soon. Check your appointment ticket on R'Web. When registering for courses, please remember that you need to be enrolled in **full time units (12 units)** per your F-1/J-1 status.
- **Online Classes.** F-1 students: only one online course can count towards your full time enrollment requirement of 12 units. J-1 students: you can only take one online course.
- F-2 students cannot be enrolled in a full course load per regulations and therefore need to be enrolled in under 12 units.
- **Travel - *If you have upcoming travel plans, we recommend that you carefully evaluate travel risks and reconsider any travel outside of the United States. Changes to U.S. government policies and regulations are unpredictable and could impact return travel to the United States.***

- Review our travel information on the ISS website:
https://international.ucr.edu/students/travel#travel_tips.
- Remember that there are [travel bans](#) in place for certain countries.
- Remember that the winter break is not long and there will not be a lot of time to apply for and receive a visa stamp to reenter the United States.
- Students with questions should email internationalstudents@ucr.edu to make an appointment to meet with an International Student Advisor.

FALL WORKSHOPS

Workshop	Date & Time (PST)
Optional Practical Training (OPT)	Thu. November 13, 1:30 - 3:00 pm (Click to Register)
STEM OPT	Mon. November 17, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm (Click to Register)

EVENTS

Kits & Kidness:

We are back again this academic year with our peer network socials. This time we have a mental health focused event so that you can get relaxed after a stressful midterm season and take some self-care kits



home for Thanksgiving. You will be able to paint your own kits and fill them up with exciting self care materials while enjoying some snacks on the side. We have limited material. Make sure to [RSVP here](#) quickly!

Date: November 19th, 2025

Time: 3:00pm to 5:00pm

Venue: Tartan & Tweed room, Student Services Building 1st floor

Downtown Riverside Farmers Market:

The farmers market provides a unique opportunity to shop for fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers, hummus, aged gouda cheese by Winchester Cheese Co., fresh baked bread from Old Town Baking Co. and other specialty food items.

Date: Every Saturday

Time: 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Venue: On Main Street between 5th and 6th Streets



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](#)
- [Employment and Taxes](#)

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

Kelly Eldridge Hinosawa, Associate Director: kelly.hinosawa@ucr.edu

Jen Gerardi, Senior International Student Advisor: jennifer.gerardi@ucr.edu

Brandon Chao, International Student Specialist: brandon.chao@ucr.edu

Lauren Bracamontes, Program Coordinator: lbracamo@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.