

September 24, 2025

International Student News

Important Updates from



International Students
and Scholars

FALL 2025 BEGINS!!

Dear Students,

Happy end of summer! We hope that you are all doing well and have enjoyed your summer months. We are getting ready to start the Fall 2025 school year and will be welcoming new students to UCR. It will be a busy time and we encourage you to submit any processing requests well in advance of the school year, so that we can take care of them now, before the Fall busy season. For those of you who have graduated or are completing your studies this summer, congratulations and keep in touch. It has been an honor to share your UCR journey. For those of you continuing with us in the Fall, we look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

The ISS Team.

IMMIGRATION UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Proposed Rule Change

On August 28, the Department of Homeland Security proposed rule changes [for F and J students and scholars](#). Currently, those in F or J status are admitted to the U.S. for “duration of status,” meaning they may remain in the country as long as they continue to meet the requirements of their academic or exchange program. The proposed rule would replace this with fixed end dates of admission. Other changes are also included in the proposed rule, including shortening the F-1 grace period at the end of a program to 30 days. At this stage, the rule is only a proposal. No changes have taken effect, and the current regulations remain in place. ISS will continue to monitor developments and share updates with you.

On September 5, 2025, the Department of State [updated instructions for all non-immigrants applying for visas](#), stating that applicants should apply at their home country embassy/consulate. Individuals from countries that do not have a U.S. embassy or consulate should apply in [designated locations](#).

Full Time Course Load

If you have not yet registered for the Fall quarter, 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.

If you are an Undergraduate student, this is your last quarter, and you require less than 12 units to complete your academic program, you must submit a [Reduced Course Load Form](#) to our office by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 8th, 2025. This will give us time to initiate a reduced tuition fee request on your behalf in My Forms.

F-2 students cannot be enrolled in a full course load per regulations and therefore need to be enrolled in under 12 units.

Program Extension

Don't forget to check your I-20/DS-2019 end date. If you need more time to complete your degree, you need to [apply for a program extension before your current I-20 or DS-2019 form expires](#).

Maintaining F and J status

It is very important to follow the regulations. Take the time to review information on maintaining your [F and J status](#).

If you will be working on campus in the Fall and need an [SSN](#), take the time now to complete the required [SSN letter](#). Thinking about an internship this Fall quarter? Please review our [employment information](#) for [F-1](#) and [J-1 students](#). As an F or J student, please remember that you cannot work off campus without authorization.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to internationalstudents@ucr.edu to ask your questions or set up an appointment with an international advisor.

IMPORTANT DATES

FALL QUARTER STARTS ON - SEPTEMBER 22, 2025



The first day of the fall quarter begins on Monday, September 22nd. Between the first day of the fall quarter and the first day of instruction, there are a variety of welcome-back events hosted by on-campus clubs and organizations. Please see the [UCR Events Calendar](#) for more information.

FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION - SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

The first day of instruction begins on Thursday, September 25th. Please check your email for any updates about your first day of instruction from professors.

UPDATE RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

U.S. Address | Have You Moved?

The U.S. government requires that F-1 & J-1 students report any residential address change within 10 days of moving. If you've changed your residence address, it is time to update your [ISS Portal](#) with your U.S. Local Address. Please take a moment to log in

- Click on 'Personal Information'
- Click on 'U.S. Address (Update within 10 Days of Any Changes)'
 - Make any updates to your Local Address

Click "Save" at the bottom of the page.

EVENTS

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

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Lauren Bracamontes, Program Coordinator: ibracamo@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.