



February 2024 NEWS

Downloadable I-20s

To provide additional security, we will stop sending I-20s to students via email and transition to a downloadable process within iStart. All eforms and processes will transition to the download model by March 1. When the eform or process is approved, an automatic email with instructions on accessing the downloadable I-20 will be sent to the student. Students can click on the download icon (it looks like a piece of paper with a down arrow) to access the document section and download their I-20. NOTE: If you haven't recently submitted an eform that requires an updated I-20, you will not have a download available.

Tax Time!

As a reminder, all F and J visa holders physically present in the United States for even one calendar day in the year 2023 are required to file a tax form in 2024, regardless of whether they worked or received income. This includes F-2 and J-2 dependents.

Learn more about filing taxes, using the nonresident tax prep tool Sprintax, and accessing educational resources in the tax section of our website at <https://www.usf.edu/world/international-services/immigration/taxes.aspx>.

The OIS Tax Intern will conduct bi-weekly software assistance sessions in our offices in BEH 255 on Tuesdays and Fridays, February through April. There is no need to sign up to attend. The sessions will be offered on the following days and times:

- Tuesdays 2pm to 4pm
- Fridays 10am to 12 pm

In the next few days, you will receive an email with a link to Sprintax. Please wait for the email to begin your filing. NOTE: The direct link in the email is the only way to receive the USF discount!

Also, wait until you have ALL of your documents to file. If you were employed, you will have a W-2 from each employer. If you received a taxable scholarship from USF, you will receive a 1042-S. Students with other forms of reportable income, such as interest from a bank account, will receive 1099 forms. If you receive a 1098-T form, please ignore it. This form applies to tax residents only! For questions about the assistance sessions or the web resources email oistaxquestions@usf.edu.

OPT and CPT News & Workshops

Graduating in Spring or Summer 2024 and want to work in the U.S.? Join our OPT team of advisors for a virtual Question and Answer session via Teams. Students must review the [OPT information on the OIS website](#) prior to attending. **Friday Feb 9: 10am-11am** - Register via BullsConnect at <https://cmlink.me/2k5/r1947785>

Note: OPT applications open March 4, 2024 which is 90 days prior to the official May 31, 2024 program end date for Spring. For students who already have a job offer that starts right after commencement, applications can be accepted in iStart as early as February 4, 2024.

Planning to do an internship in Summer 2024? Join our CPT team of advisors for a Virtual Question and Answer session via Teams. Students must review the [CPT information on the OIS website](#) prior to attending. **Tuesday Feb 20: CPT Q&A Session 10am-11am** - Register via BullsConnect at <https://cmlink.me/2k5/r1947790>

Note: If you are planning to do an internship in the summer, it is best to start the iStart process by mid-March [after reviewing the CPT info on the OIS website](#)

Spring Break Planning

Students planning to travel outside the US for Spring Break (March 11-17) should check their I-20 for a valid travel signature. Signatures are valid for one year from the date of the signature. If you need a new one, please complete the Travel Signature eform in iStart.

USF Academic Reminders

Spring 2024 Semester Important Dates

- February 19 - March 5 – Midterm grading
- March 11-17 – Spring Break
- March 25 – Registration for summer and fall
- April 26 – Last day of classes
- April 27- May 2 – Exam week
- May 4 – Official end of the semester for immigration purposes

Join our BullsConnect Group - <https://bullsconnect.usf.edu/INTLSVCS/clu>



Office of International Services
4202 E Fowler Ave BEH 255 - Tampa, FL 33620
<https://www.usf.edu/world/international-services/>

Virtual Drop-In via Teams ([E-Form](#) in [iStart](#)) - Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 11am-1pm & Thurs 1pm-2pm
Walk-in Hours Tampa Campus ([BEH Map](#)) - Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 1pm-2pm & Thurs 2pm-4pm
Visit Schedule to USF St Pete & Sarasota - <https://www.usf.edu/world/international-services/about-us/contact-us.aspx>