



## May 2024 NEWS

Congratulations to all of our graduates! We are very proud of your accomplishments! We hope that you continue to stay in touch with us via the [Global Networks](#) and [USF World](#) LinkedIn.

Remember, our office, in BEH, stays open all summer and we will continue to have Virtual Drop-In and Walk In hours at all campuses as listed on our [website](#).

### End of Semester Reminders

- Approved Spring RCL for final semester but NOT graduating? – Contact our office before the end of May to discuss your options.
- Graduating this semester? – Your 60-day grace period begins June 1, 2024 and ends July 30, 2024. Students can apply for OPT, get admitted to a new academic program, return home, or transfer to another school. During the grace period, students cannot work unless approved for OPT. To discuss any of these options, come to Virtual Drop in! **NOTE: If the I-20 end date is in the future, we will shorten the I-20 to May 31, 2024.**
- Admitted to another school in the US? – Complete the Transfer Out eform in iStart.
- Leaving USF, going home, and NOT returning for Fall? – Complete the Authorized Early Withdrawal eform in iStart.

### Summer Reminders

- If you are continuing your academic program in Fall 2024, then
  - You do not need to enroll in the summer unless your academic program requires it.
  - You can work full-time in an **on-campus job at your home campus** (as it listed on your I-20) from Monday, May 6 to Friday, August 23. No permission needed from our office.
- If you are planning to travel outside the US for the summer, then
  - Check your most recent 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, complete the Travel Signature eform in iStart.
- Are you planning to graduate this Summer? – Students MUST enroll in at least one in-person course.

## Changing Level at USF

- Students admitted to a new level of study for Fall 2024 will need to provide updated financial documents to receive an updated change of level I-20.
- This change of level I-20 can be used to enter the US or obtain a visa stamp if you travel back home this summer.
- Our office must activate the change of level I-20. We do this by checking the immigration documents uploaded to your iStart Checklist.
- If you have an on-campus job for summer but graduate in May, you will need to contact our team at [globalstart@usf.edu](mailto:globalstart@usf.edu) to have your Fall Change of level activated so you can continue working.

## Changes to USF Health Insurance Fall 2024

USF updated the USF regulation associated with health insurance at section 3.b and 3.l. To read the full regulation go to [USF Regulation 6.0162](#). The updated sections require policies to include coverage for preventative benefits and vaccines at 80% in network or 60% out of network and for the insurance carrier to be owned and operated in the U.S.

*NOTE: Students will be required to submit proof of coverage for review directly to AHP prior to August 26, 2024. Alternative policies purchased and submitted late will not be considered.*

The [Student Insurance website](#) will be updated on July 15 with the new compliance form and this new information. All questions about insurance should be directed to Students Health Services. You can contact them by completing this form - <https://form.jotform.com/212854489782168>

## OPT and CPT Information

### CPT Summer Internship Dates

The earliest start date that you can request for summer CPT is May 6 and the latest end date is August 23, 2024. More information is available on the [CPT OIS Website](#).

### Are you graduating this semester or this summer and still have OPT questions?

Join the OIS International Advisors for a Q&A session. They provide a space for discussion. Student must have already reviewed the OPT information provided [on the OIS website](#) Please come with developed questions!

When: Friday, May 10, 10–11AM

Where: Teams

Registration: <https://cmlink.me/2k5/r1947788>

### OPT Application Dates for August (Summer) Graduates

If you are graduating this summer, the program end date on your I-20 will be August 31, 2024. You may now start applying for your OPT I-20 in iStart. We recommend [you look at the USF OIS website for information](#) on how to apply prior to starting your application.

- **If you already have a job offer** that starts before August 31, you can request a start date as early as Monday, August 5, 2024. Your I-20 end date will be changed to August 3. Go to iStart and start your OPT application!
- **If you do not have a job yet**, you can begin the process and receive the I-20 to file the OPT as early as June 2, 2024, which is 90 days prior to the program end date. The beginning day of employment will be as early as September 1, 2024.

## US Taxes and No Income in 2023

If were in the US in 2023 as an F-1 and had no income, you have until June 15 to file your required tax form (the 8843). To access Sprintax for your tax filing, you must use this link to get the USF discount, go to [https://taxprep.sprintax.com/uni-lp.html?utm\\_ref=universityofsouthfloridaautolp&utm\\_content=prmc](https://taxprep.sprintax.com/uni-lp.html?utm_ref=universityofsouthfloridaautolp&utm_content=prmc)

## Check out the OIS Help Videos

Our staff has produced a growing number of videos to guide you on various immigration topics. Go to <https://www.youtube.com/@usofficeofinternationalse6953/videos> to get more information about CPT, OPT, Traveling, and Port of Entry. During the summer, we are working on adding more videos.

## USF Academic Reminders

### Spring 2024 Semester and Beyond Important Dates

- May 13 – Beginning of Summer A/C
- May 27 – USF Closed for Memorial Day
- June 19 – USF Closed for Juneteenth
- June 24 – Summer B begins
- July 4 – USF Closed for US Independence Day
- August 3-4 – Summer Commencement
- August 26 – Fall courses begin



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

A dark green banner with white and light green circular patterns. The text is centered and reads:

**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>