
Office of International Students and Scholars



NEWSLETTER Volume 25, Issue 3
April 2009



TRAVELING

Are you traveling out of the U.S. during the summer, including Mexico or Canada? Remember that your last Travel Signature on your I-20 is only **valid for 6 months**. If you need a new signature, bring your I-20 to OISS to request one (it takes 7 days to process), or come to walk-in hours. To re-enter the U.S. you will need:

1. I-20 (signed by OISS less than 6 months ago)
2. Passport that is valid for at least 6 months into the future.
3. Unexpired F-1 visa
4. If you are on OPT, you also need your OPT card and Proof of Employment OR if you have not received your OPT card yet, you need to bring your OPT receipt notice.

If you are traveling out of the U.S. and you need to renew your F-1 visa, please see an advisor in the OISS office at least two weeks before you leave so we can assist you!

TRAVEL WARNING

This Travel Alert updates security information for U.S. citizens traveling and living in Mexico. It supersedes the Travel Alert for Mexico dated October 15, 2008, and expires on August 20, 2009.

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_3028.html

SUMMER WORK PERMITS

All spring semester work permits will expire on May 9th (except OPT). Remember that you have to verify your work eligibility EACH semester for on-campus or off-campus jobs before you work. In order to apply for a summer work permit you must:

1. Register for summer classes part-time or full-time ***OR*** Register for fall classes full-time.
2. Fill out a work permit request form in the OISS office.

Hotel Undergraduate majors, who wish to apply for an off-campus work permit, need to bring their I-20 and employer's address and phone number when you come to the OISS office.

If you are not an Undergraduate Hotel major, but you want to apply for an off-campus work permit, you must see an OISS advisor for information before you agree to take a job. Not all students are eligible to work off-campus.

OISS SUMMER HOURS

The Office of International Students and Scholars will be open during the summer. Our office is open Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm. You can call 895-0143 to make an appointment to see an advisor (or schedule a phone appointment). We also have walk-in hours where you can talk to an advisor without an appointment:

WALK-IN HOURS (*beginning May 1st*)

Tuesdays: 11:30 – 1:30
Wednesdays: 1:00 – 3:00
Thursdays: 11:00 – 1:00
Fridays: 12:00 – 3:00

**UNLV will be closed:
MAY 25TH and JULY 3RD
in observance of holidays.**



UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

If you change your address, you must report the change to OISS within **10 days** of your move. If your address has changed, there are several places at UNLV that you will need to update:

1. Office of International Students & Scholars
2. UNLV on-line registration system
3. Payroll (if you work for UNLV) – change through EQUUS online
4. Tax Treaty/1042-S forms (e-mail Debbie Honrath at nraassistance@unlv.edu)

***REMINDER: Tax forms due APRIL 15TH!**

I-20 EXPIRATION?

Does your I-20 expire in May or August 2009? Please make sure to check the expiration date on your I-20. If you need more time to complete your program than what is on your I-20, please come to the OISS and request an I-20 extension before it expires!

ON-LINE COURSES

Fall and spring semesters - be sure that you are only taking *3 credits of on-line courses* towards the full-time credit minimum requirement. If you drop any courses, remember that you still can only have 3 credits of on-line courses to count towards full-time requirement. If you have questions about how many on-line classes you can take because of F-1 visa regulations, please contact an OISS advisor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

OISS will have the “OISS Welcome Center” for new fall 2009 students. Help us welcome the new international students to UNLV.

Students majoring in Hotel can volunteer and receive hours toward their 295 Work Experience course. We will multiply every hour you volunteer by 10 (i.e. 2 hours x 10 = 20 hours).

Please contact Sheri Beyer at sheri.beyer@unlv.edu for more information, or to volunteer.

OISS Welcome Center will be August 17 – 21, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. daily.

Office of International Students & Scholars|4505 S Maryland Pkwy|Box 451035|Las Vegas, NV 89154-1035| (702) 895-0143 (702) 895-0169 – fax| E-mail: oiss@unlv.edu

OPT

SPRING 2009 GRADUATES:

If you are completing your program in May 2009, you should apply for OPT NOW!
Please call or stop by to make an appointment with an advisor. You will also need to pick up an OPT application packet. *The last date to apply for OPT is July 1, 2009 (for spring graduates).*

If you complete the last course credits required for your major in *August 2009* and you wish to apply for your 12 months of Optional Practical Training (OPT), you can apply after May 7th. OPT work permits are issued directly by USCIS and they require **3 months** processing time.

CAP GAP time 2009 – ALL OPT students

If you will apply for H-1b visa on April 1, 2009, please contact OISS once you have your official I-797 Notice of Action (receipt) form.

We will then be able to extend your OPT to cover you until September 30, 2009.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATING STUDENTS!

Congratulations to all spring and summer graduates! We would like to celebrate your achievement to congratulate your upcoming graduation.

Please join us!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GRADUATION PARTY!

Date: Friday May 8th, 2009
Time: 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Place: Student Union, Rooms 209



Please respond to oiss@unlv.edu (or call 702-895-0143) by May 1 with your name and the number of people that will be attending.

SUMMER HEALTH INSURANCE

Continuing students who purchased the UNLV student health insurance for the spring 2009 term are covered through August 16, 2009.

If you take a summer course you can continue to use the Student Health Center and not pay a fee. If you do not take a summer course but you want to use the Student health center, you can, but you will have to pay a fee.

TURN IN FINAL TRANSCRIPTS!

If you have NOT submitted your final transcripts to the Registrar's, you must do so BY MAY 8th. If you do not submit them by then, your admission will be cancelled and you will be in violation of your F-1 status.

Please hand-deliver your transcripts and also make sure you get the name of the person who you give them to.

L.E.A.D. team – new applications accepted for 2009 – 2010 year

Go to: <http://getinvolved.unlv.edu/leadership/pdf/LEADapp.pdf> for more information.

HANOUL KOREAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The new Korean Student Association is active! Hanoul is a new and reformed group. It promotes awareness of the Korean culture, social activities, and community service. Hanoul is active on campus and participates in campus and community events! Meetings are held weekly on Sundays, 4:00 p.m., at the Architecture library.

For more information, please contact SJ at lee.seojoo@gmail.com

NEW GRADUATE ASSISTANT International Student Advisor

Natalie Shane will be joining the Office of International Students & Scholars in fall 2009 as the new GA International Student Advisor. She comes to us from Marquette University in Wisconsin. She will be in the Master's of Education, Higher Educational Leadership program at UNLV beginning in the fall semester.

Natalie has studied abroad to Rome and London, and she looks forward to meeting the international community at UNLV!

A MESSAGE FROM MARIE WALSH

After two years at UNLV and with OISS I will be graduating in May and OISS will welcome a new GA International Student Advisor in the fall, Natalie Shane! It has been a pleasure meeting and working with so many of you.

My time as a GA has been a great learning experience, as I was not at all familiar with all the rules and regulations of the F-1 visa. You truly do have so many rules to remember and follow, I have such respect for all the academic, personal, professional AND immigration demands placed upon you while studying at UNLV.

While it can be difficult and at times frustrating, just know the UNLV and Las Vegas communities benefit from your perspectives and presence. I certainly have learned so much from all of you and it has enriched my academic experience. Good luck and all the best in the future!