

# internationals

INTERNAL NEWSLETTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA



## Winter Break, Graduation and OPT

The Fall 23 semester is almost over!!!

We are proud to announce the graduation of at least 70 international students from the University of Tampa, and very happy to have endorsed almost 50 of these students for Optional Practical Training (OPT)

We started this term with a hurricane, but we are ending it with a smile of satisfaction.

This semester we have organized multiple workshops to help you maintain your F-1 status, but also fun events, like the big celebration of International Education Week.

Now the time to rest is approaching, and many will be travelling back home to spend the holidays with their families. We just want to remind you a couple of things: It is extremely convenient to have your *Okta Verify* app set up to generate your access code, instead of receiving it through SMS, because it will allow you to access *MyUTampa* from anywhere in the world. And you might need a *Travel Signature* on page 2 of your I-20 if the latest one is older than one year at the time you are planning to reenter the US.

If you are waiting for your OPT's EAD card, please don't travel internationally. If you can't or you won't travel abroad these holidays, enjoy the many celebrations going on in Tampa Bay. This is going to be a nice end of the year.

Congratulations to all of you for making it this far!!

## ISSS PORTAL

One of the most valuable experiences as international students in the US is to have an internship related to your major. At the University of Tampa, you can have an internship only if you have been in F-1 status for one full academic year, and if that internship give you credits towards your graduation.

SEVIS will allow a school authorization for you to work off-campus on an internship with these characteristics through what is called a CPT authorization.

CPT stands for Curricular Practical Training, and you can request this authorization after you already have an internship waiting and you have gone through the credit approval process with the Office of Career Services and the Internship Coordinator of your program of study.

You will need only to have the internship class registered in your unofficial transcripts and the offer letter to receive your CPT authorization in your I-20. Contact your International Student Advisor if you have questions about this.



Curricular Practical  
Training (CPT)



## the tip of this month

sprintax

As a non-resident in the US, you're legally required to file a tax return if you received US income or just attended school during 2023 by the April 15, 2024 deadline.

And even if you didn't work or receive income in the US, you're still obliged to file a Form 8843 with the IRS.

Since the **2023 tax season** is coming up soon, **Sprintax** is hosting webinars about tax information. This is available for all current students, and for those on CPT and OPT.

We strongly encourage you to plan on attending at least one of these webinars. At IPO, we are not tax experts, therefore **Sprintax** will be able to answer all your questions and help you fulfill this responsibility.

The December webinar is taking place on Thursday December 14th at 1PM EST and you can register by scanning the QR code. We hope you take advantage of this great resource.



We are calling for **volunteers** for the week of **New International Student Orientation Spring '24 Semester**, happening **January 10 & 11, 2024**. Please register scanning this code.



internationals newsletter welcomes any contribution from international students. If you would like to share your writing talent about a topic of interest to all international students, please reach out to our office.

Happy Holidays!

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