



ST. JOHN'S
UNIVERSITY



Spring 2021 International Student & Scholar Services (ISSSO) Orientation

**Monday, February 1, 2021
2:00-3:30 pm**

I-S-S-S-O Staff Welcomes You! 😊



Meet our staff, we are here to help you!

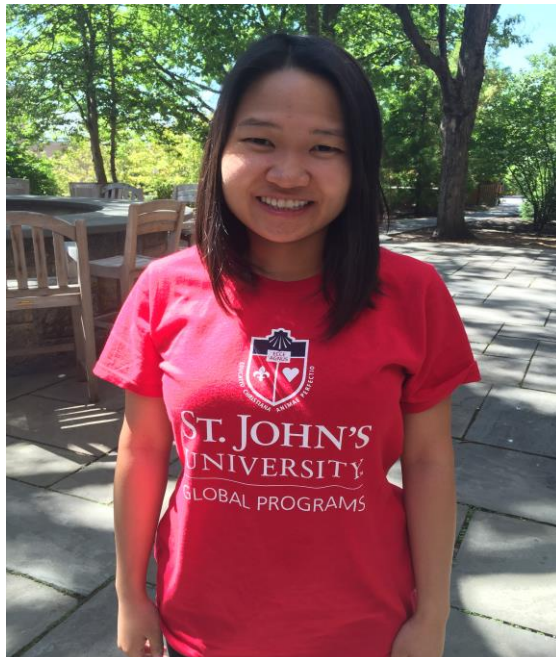
Amy Schoenfeld
Director



Laura Bellacicco
International Student Advisor



Xiao Ying (Sue) Li
International Student Advisor



Chi Hsin (Joanna) Kang
International Student Advisor



Overview of ISSSO Presentation

- 2:00-2:45 Overview of F-1/J-1 Status
- 2:45-3:00 Understanding & Using the US Healthcare System
- 3:00-3:30 Questions?



General Office Information

- The International Student & Scholar Services Office is the first place to contact whenever you need help or information during your stay in the United States and at St. John's University. We are here to help you with all matters of special concern to you and to refer you to other university services.
- Our office acts as the university liaison with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the U.S. Department of State. It provides you with the information you need to maintain lawful status while you are in the United States and answers any immigration questions you may have.

Office Location and Hours

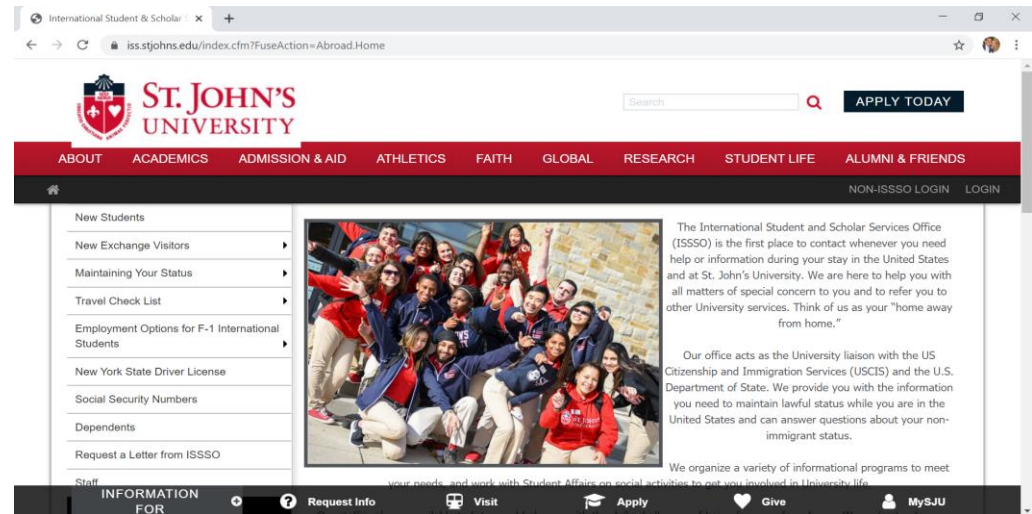
For the spring 2021 semester:

- The [International Student & Scholar Services Office \(ISSSO\)](#) will continue working remotely.
- Should you need assistance, we would be happy to answer your questions via e-mail at iss@stjohns.edu or you may schedule a phone appointment or video chat via WebEx [here](#).
- Should you need support on-campus, staff will be in Marillac Hall, Room 210 beginning January 25, 2021 and can assist you with making remote appointments, or with basic information.
- Virtual office hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30-4:30 and Friday, 8:30-3:00.

Terra Dotta

The ISSSO has a dedicated website (iss.stjohns.edu) just for international students and scholars! Through the website you can learn all about your F-1 or J-1 status and submit online requests for:

- Letters
- Travel signatures
- Extension of your F-1 or J-1 status
- Employment (CPT or OPT) and much, much more!



New Student Mandatory Check-In

Check in virtually with the ISSSO **after** you arrive to the U.S.

Complete our [online registration form](#) (“complete registration form” in **red**) and upload copies of the following documents:

- I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1);
- Passport biographical page;
- F-1 visa or J-1 visa;
- Port of entry stamp.



Important Documents

ALL I-20's (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1).

**be sure to keep every I-20/DS-2019 that has ever been issued to you in a safe place*

Passport which includes F-1 or J-1 visa.

I-94 (Arrival information):

<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov>



Maintain full-time enrollment each semester

- US Federal regulations require international students to pursue a full course of study during the Fall academic semester and the Spring academic semester.
- Students attending The English Language Institute (ELI) are required to attend full-time each session.



What is full-time enrollment?

- Bachelor's degree — 12 credits per academic semester
 - Fall & Spring semester — register for and complete 12 credits
 - Summer break — official school break
- Master's or PhD — 9 credits per academic semester
 - Fall & Spring semester — register for and complete 9 credits
 - Summer break — official school break

Only in the last semester of study can you be less than full time

Can I take online classes?

For the spring 2021 semester ONLY:

- Bachelor's degree — must register for 12 credits and at least **one** course must be on campus or hybrid
- Master's or PhD degree — must register for 9 credits and at least **one** course must be on campus or hybrid
- Change of education level or transfer students must register full time and can take all on-line courses



Can I drop a class?

- If you need to drop below full-time, meet with an International Student Advisor **BEFORE** YOU DROP YOUR CLASS to discuss your options.
- There are limited exceptions that require prior authorization from an International Student Advisor.

Keep your passport valid at all times

- You must have a valid passport at least 6 months into the future.
- If your passport will expire while you are in New York, contact your country's Embassy or Consulate for information on renewing it.
 - Your passport can be renewed in the US.
 - Most countries have an Embassy or Consulate in Manhattan.



Report address changes to ISSSO within 10 Days of moving

- US Federal regulations require all F-1 and J-1 students to report a change of address directly to the ISSSO within 10 days of the change.
 - **Update your address on UIS [here](#).**
 - Make sure to update your phone number on UIS as well.
 - Check your St. John's University email.
 - Set up your voice mailbox on your phone.



Make sure all information on your I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1) is correct

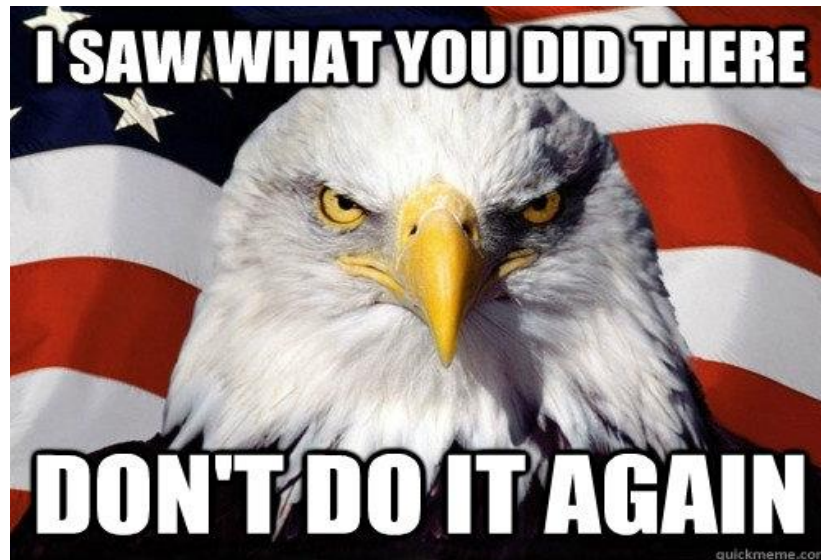
- Students are required to notify ISSSO as soon as possible if there are any changes to the information on the I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1).
- Changes include:
 - Name;
 - Citizenship;
 - Degree level;
 - Major;
 - Source of funding.

Notify ISSSO if there is a change in the completion date on your I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1)

- Know your completion date on your I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1).
- If you plan to complete your program before the date listed, you must notify ISSSO of this change.
- If you cannot complete your program by the date listed, you will need to apply for an extension of your F-1 or J-1 status BEFORE the completion date listed on the I-20 or DS-2019.
- **NEVER LET YOUR I-20 OR DS-2019 EXPIRE!!!**

Do not accept unauthorized employment

- Employment options in F-1 and J-1 status are limited since your first priority is to be a full-time student.



On-Campus Employment

- Limited to 20 hours per week when school is in session and full-time during official school breaks.
- No authorization required from ISSSO **unless** you are in J-1 status.

STUDENT ON CAMPUS

JOBS

Off-Campus Employment

- F-1 Visa
 - [Curricular Practical Training \(CPT\)](#) and [Optional Practical Training \(OPT\)](#).
 - ISSSO has seminars regarding this each academic semester.
 - Work authorization is required from ISSSO and the US federal government.
- J-1 Visa
 - Academic Training.
 - [Schedule an appointment](#) to speak with an International Student Advisor.

Obtain a Change of Educational Level I-20 to begin a new program of study

- If you have been admitted to a new program of study at SJU you must obtain a Form I-20 for your new program of study. You need to ensure you receive this I-20 within the first two weeks of your new program.

Transfer Process

- If you plan to transfer to another U.S. school you must notify the ISSSO as soon as possible. You will need to submit your request for transfer-out [here](#) (acceptance letter needed).

Departing the U.S. after program completion

- If you complete your program of study, you must depart the U.S. within 60 days if you are in F-1 status (30 days for J-1 status).
- Likewise, if you have completed your post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) and have no further plans to study or change your immigration status, you must depart the U.S. within 60 days of your OPT completion date. For J-1 students you must depart the U.S. within 30 days of Academic Training ending.



Request a travel signature on your I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1) to the ISSSO **BEFORE** departing the U.S.

- You must have a valid travel signature on your I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1) if you are traveling outside of the US.
- You may request a travel signature [here](#), afterwards, email iss@stjohns.edu to let us know you submitted your request. This must be done at least 2 weeks **before** travelling outside of the U.S.
- Refer to NY state quarantine requirements [here](#).



Who can sign my I-20 for travel?



- ONLY the International Student Advisors in ISSSO can sign your I-20.
- **International Student & Scholar Services (ISSSO):**
 - Amy Schoenfeld;
 - Laura Cocchiarella;
 - Xiao Ying (Sue) Li
 - Chi-Hsin (Joanna) Kang

The English Language Institute (ELI) students ONLY:

- Christina Quartararo;
- Susan Peterson;
- Karen Gilmartin

File a federal income tax form

- Even if you did not work in the US, you will be required to file taxes.
- ISSSO purchases tax software
 - Information is given out in February/March of every year.



How to change your address on UIS

- **Log in to your UIS account through <http://www.stjohns.edu/services/uis>.**
- **Enter your X-ID number as your user ID (Uppercase X) and your PIN, the first time you login is your 6 digit birth date, or MMDDYY. Once you have logged in, click on Personal Information to update your current mailing information.**
- **Write the exact street address, city, state and zip code (zip codes are 5 digits long). The "address line 1" field can only contain a street number and street name (Example: 8000 Utopia Parkway). The "address line 2" field should include your apartment # (if applicable).**
- ***Make sure you have a complete address including apartment #**
- **Include your U.S. cell/mobile phone number which is 10 digits long: XXX-XXX-XXXX**

If you will be living on campus

- When you have mail and/or packages sent to you please have it addressed as follows:
- **Your Name**
- **St. John's University**
- **The University's Address**
- **Residence Hall Name and Room Number**
City, State Zip Code
- **Important:** if you are expecting a letter and/or package that was sent with a confirmation number it would be helpful if you have the tracking number which will help with locating your package.

ISSSO



1. What documents are required to complete the ISSSO check in process?
2. How many credits does an undergraduate student need to register for? Graduate student?
2. What should you do if you are thinking of dropping below full time?
3. What is the #1 thing you need to do if you plan on travelling outside of the U.S.?
4. Within how many days must you report a change of address to the ISSSO?



U.S. Health Care System

- <http://www.internationalstudentinsurance.com/explained/us-healthcare-system-video.php>



St. John's Health Insurance

- St. John's University wants to make sure all students have adequate health insurance coverage
- The insurance company St. John's provides for international students is called **United Health Student Resources.**
Their telephone numbers are:
 - **United Health Student Resources: (800) 767-0700**
 - **University Health Plans: (800) 437-6448**
- Claim forms, benefits and provider information can be obtained at **www.universityhealthplans.com.**

St. John's Health Insurance

- All F1 & J1 International students will receive a charge for health insurance each semester on their student account.
This is a mandatory charge.
- **The cost for this coverage:**
\$1,483 for the spring 2021 & \$1,187.50 for the fall 2021 semester (rates subject to change)
- This insurance coverage for the **Spring** semester begins **January 1, 2021 and ends on August 14, 2021.**

St. John's Health Insurance

- The **insurance covers** accidents, sickness, and emergencies. This insurance covers you if you get sick, have an accident, or have to go to the emergency room. The insurance can be used outside New York; anywhere you travel **except to your home country**.
- **Expenses** are covered up to **\$500,000 maximum per policy year** after a **one-time \$50 deductible**. The deductible is the fee that you are responsible for. **When you visit any doctor or hospital, make sure you show your insurance card.**

St. John's Health Insurance

- Some doctor's offices require you to pay out of pocket. If the doctor's office requires payment from you, make sure you get a receipt from the doctor's office. You can then submit a claim form along with your receipts to the insurance company and you will be reimbursed.
- After the deductible is paid, the insurance pays 100% for the first \$2,500.00 and then 80% up to the **\$500,000 maximum per policy year.**
- There is **prescription coverage** and depending on the prescription, you pay a \$15 or \$45 co-pay.

Vaccinations

- **Covered Vaccinations:** The following preventative vaccinations will be covered by the plan: Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Herpes Zoster, Human Papillomavirus, Influenza (Flu Shot), Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningococcal, Pneumococcal, Tetanus, Diptheria, Pertussis, Varicella, Polio
- **Non-Covered Vaccinations:** Any vaccinations specifically related to travel including, but not limited to the following: Yellow Fever, Typhoid, Japanese Encephalitis

How to Locate a Preferred Provider

- Step 1: Log onto www.universityhealthplans.com
- Step 2: Type in "St John's University"
- Step 4: Click on a Provider Type: Providers, Specialists, Facilities, etc at the top left
- Step 5: Enter search criteria and continue
- If you need further assistance, please call UHP at 800-633-7867 to speak directly to a representative

SJU webpage for United Health Student Resources

- http://universityhealthplans.com/letters/letter.cgi?school_id=8



St. John's Health Insurance

- If you have any questions or need help with claims, please feel free to contact **Student Financial Services (718) 990-7592** or fax **(718) 990-8284** or e-mail Student Financial Services at [**studentfinancialserv@stjohns.edu**](mailto:studentfinancialserv@stjohns.edu).

Health Office on-campus

- **Important:** If you are on campus and you are sick or need medical attention please go to the **Health Office on the Queens Campus; which is located on the 1st Floor of DaSilva Hall.**

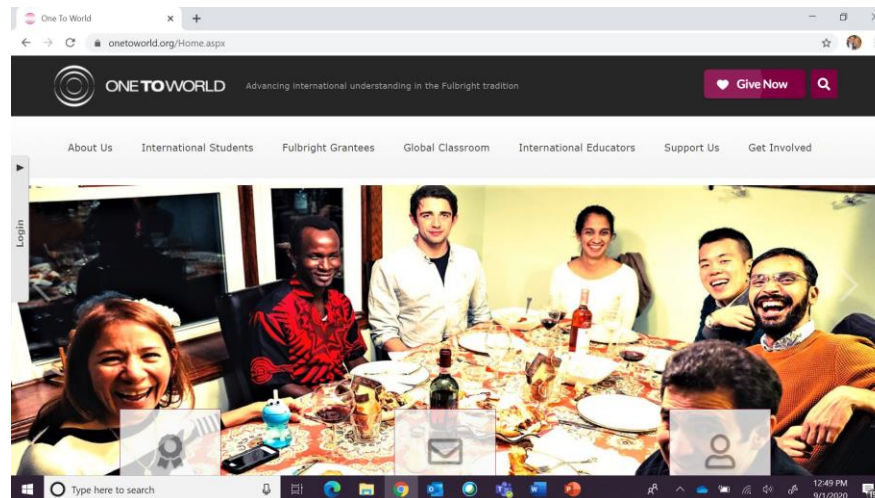


Project AIM: International Mentoring Program

- **Project AIM** is a peer-mentoring program that promotes student success by supporting student engagement, community-building, personal development, and retention of first year and second year international students.
- **Programs & Services:**
 - Individual/Group Interactions with Mentors
 - Academic Success and Career/Leadership Development
 - Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Awareness/Appreciation
 - Vincentian Mission and Social Action
- **If interested e-mail Rosa Yen at yenc@stjohns.edu**

One to World

- The mission of [One to World](#) is "To advance global cooperation, One To World fosters intercultural understanding by creating face-to-face experiences among local communities, international students and Fulbright scholars."
- Watch a 15 minute video on what One to World does [here!](#)



Questions?



www.twitter.com/stjohnsisso



www.facebook.com/stjohnsisso