Have an Enjoyable and a Safe Holiday Break!

**I-20 or DS 2019 ---** Get it signed for reentry if you plan to travel outside of the U.S.

**Travelling in the U.S. ---** Carry all of your immigration documents on your person!

**Reentry ---** It might not be as easy to reenter the U.S. as you think. Prepare for the unexpected.

**Health Insurance Waiver ---** If you qualify, then file a waiver for the Spring 2015 Semester.

**OIA will Reopen after Holiday Break ---** 8:00 a.m., January 2, 2015.

**New Graduate International Student Check-in ---** January 6, 2015 at the OIA.

**New Graduate International Student Orientation ---** January 7, 2015, Student Union Building

**New Undergraduate International Student Check-in ---** January 13, 2015 at the OIA

**New Undergraduate International Student Orientation ---** January 13, 2015, ICC Auditorium


**Change of Level ---** See an international student counselor immediately!

**Extension of Program ---** See an international student counselor immediately!
ALL APPOINTMENT SYSTEM TO BEGIN ON JANUARY 2, 2015

The International Student and Scholar Services section at the Office of International Affairs will begin servicing international students on an “appointment only” basis beginning January 2, 2015. The ISSS will cease walk-in service on Friday, December 19, 2014. The university will be closed for the holidays from 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 19, 2014 thru January 1, 2015 and will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on January 2, 2015. Students will then be able to make appointments online with their designated international student counselor and schedule appointments for 15-minute, 30-minute, and possibly in special cases, 45-minute time slots. There may also be variations on time allotments depending on an individual case situation. Obviously, there will still be situations where a student may have to come in on an emergency basis, but these situations will be on a case-by-case basis. We feel that by having an all appointment situation, we will be able to better serve the international student and scholar community.

NEW SOCIAL SECURITY CARD APPLICATION INFORMATION PAGE ON THE ISSS WEBSITE

International students who are offered on-campus employment will now be able to go online at http://www.depts.ttu.edu/international/isss/f1/socialsecurityapplications.php and follow a step-by-step process in order to apply for their social security card. This process should make it easier for students to be serviced and to avoid long waits at the ISSS. Please carefully read the steps to make certain that you qualify for a social security card and, if you do, that you follow all the steps and procedures to get one.

DON’T LOSE YOUR EAD CARD IN THE MAIL BECAUSE OF AN INCORRECT ADDRESS

Students who apply for optional practical training and the EAD card should remember to correctly key-in (or print) their U.S. address on the I-765 application. This also means a correct zip code so that the USCIS can send a receipt notice to you and eventually the EAD card itself. If you change address, you can easily notify the USCIS of the change, but make certain that you do it in a timely way. Already, we have had a few students fail to notify USCIS and subsequently lose their EAD in the mail. Don’t let this happen to you!

LET US KNOW OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Students are also reminded to let the International Student and Scholar Services section through your assigned international student counselor know of any change of address while a student. We have noticed that as many as 40 percent of new students who registered last August have failed to inform us of a change of address. Remember that you are required by law to inform our office of where you live. Also, students on curricular practical training and optional practical training are required to inform the ISSS of their address while on CPT and OPT. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

YOU MUST BE ENROLLED IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN CURRICULAR PRACTICAL TRAINING

F-1 students are reminded that you must be enrolled for at least one hour each semester in an internship or a course that constitutes the same thing as an internship in order to participate in curricular practical training during that semester. This also includes one session only during the summer term, if you are doing CPT during the summer. A total of one to six hours of CPT can be done for academic credit towards your degree program in most departments.