

July 3, 2025



# International Student News

Important Updates from

**UCR**

International Students  
and Scholars

## SUMMER HAS ARRIVED!

Dear Students,

Summer has arrived in Riverside! For those of you attending classes, teaching or doing research this summer, good luck! For those of you on break, we hope that you are enjoying your time off. As the temperature can get quite high in the summer in Riverside and the surrounding Inland Empire, please take care to stay hydrated and cool. If you have not been able to do so yet, you might want to check out [Crystal Cove State Park](#) in Laguna which features some beautiful coastline and trails. If museums are more your thing, consider checking out the [Getty Center](#) or [California Science Museum](#) in Los Angeles. Entrance is free. Feel like attending a baseball game over the summer? Check out our two [major league baseball teams](#), the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Los Angeles Angels. There is a lot to do in Southern California.

## IMPORTANT TRAVEL UPDATES

***All F-1 and J-1 students should carefully evaluate travel risks before deciding to travel. Changes to U.S government policies and regulations are unpredictable and could impact return travel to the United States.***

If you do decide to travel, please ensure that you have all your travel documents in order; including a recent travel signature on your DS-2019/I-20 Form.

An updated travel signature can be requested by submitting a [Document Request Form](#). For more information on traveling internationally and a list of documents required for reentry (in addition to the I-20 or DS-2019), please visit [Traveling for International Students](#).

If you have any questions, please email [internationalstudents@ucr.edu](mailto:internationalstudents@ucr.edu) to speak with an advisor.

#### **Visa Appointments**

- The visa appointment pause for F and J students has been lifted at U.S. embassies and consulates.
- Increased vetting of social media accounts has been [announced](#). More information can be found at:  
<https://www.nafsa.org/regulatory-information/student-and-exchange-visitor-visa-appointment-capacity-and-dos-guidance>

#### **Travel Ban**

- The travel ban remains in place for individuals from certain countries. Additional countries can be added to the ban at any time. More information can be found at the following links:

- [U.S. Presidential Proclamation on Travel Bans to the U.S.](#)
- [U.S. Presidential Fact Sheet on Reentry to the U.S.](#)
- [NAFSA Overview on Presidential Issued Travel Bans to the U.S.](#)

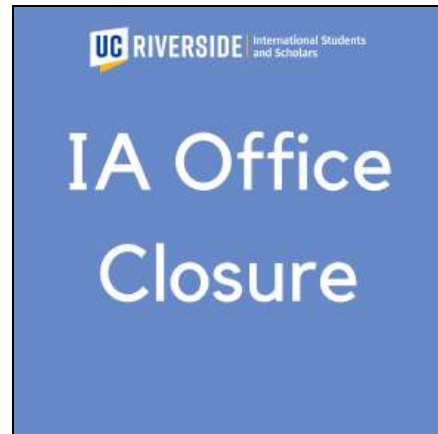
**CAMPUS CLOSURE**

**Due to Independence day, all offices will be closed on Friday, July 4th, 2025.** The

International Students and Scholars Office will reopen again on Monday, July 7th, 2025.

**All offices and resources will be closed during this date.**

In case of an emergency, please contact the UC Campus Police at (951)-827-5222 or dial 911.



## UPDATE RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

### **U.S. Address | Have You Moved?**

The U.S. government requires that F-1 & J-1 students report any residential address change within 10 days of moving. If you've changed your residence address, it is time to update your [ISS Portal](#) with your U.S. Local Address. Please take a moment to log in

- Click on 'Personal Information'
- Click on 'U.S. Address (Update within 10 Days of Any Changes)'
  - Make any updates to your Local Address

Click "Save" at the bottom of the page.

## MISC. Immigration Reminders

### **Post-Completion OPT**

If you have just completed your academic program in Spring 2025, Congratulations! For F-1 students, please remember that you are eligible to apply for Post-Completion OPT up to 60-days after your program end date. Learn how to get started with your [Post-Completion OPT application](#).

## **Program Extension**

Don't forget to check your I-20/DS-2019 end date. If you need more time to complete your degree, you need to [apply for a program extension before your current I-20 or DS-2019 form expires](#).

## **Maintaining F and J status**

It is very important to follow the regulations. Take the time to review information on maintaining your [F and J status](#).

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to [internationalstudents@ucr.edu](mailto:internationalstudents@ucr.edu) to ask your questions or set up an appointment with an international advisor.

# WEBINARS

## **From Campus to Career: Preparing for Employment-Based Visas as a Student:**

This webinar will provide practical guidance on navigating employment-based visa options for noncitizen college and university students.

Speakers included:

- Anita Gupta: Managing Attorney of Legal Programs and Initiatives, Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration
- Raju Patel: Staff Attorney, Path2Papers
- Ali Procopio: Director of Education and Workforce, FWD.us
- Dan Berger: Partner, Green and Spiegel; Senior Attorney & Co-Founder, Path2Papers, Legal Advisory Council & Board Member, Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration



**Date:** Wednesday, July 9th, 2025

**Time:** 11:00 am PST

You can register using the link [here](#).

## APPLY FOR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

### International Orientation Volunteers

ISS is looking for volunteers for 2025-2026 International Student Orientation! If you are interested please reach out to [Lauren Bracamontes](#) by August 18, 2025.



**\* This is a non-paid volunteer position.\***

**Fall International Student Orientation is scheduled to be held on September 16th, 17th and 19th. Availability for these dates are required.**

## EVENTS IN RIVERSIDE

### 4th of July celebrations in Moreno Valley:

Celebrate Independence Day with the City of Moreno Valley at the 2025 Fourth of July Celebration on Friday, July 4! Join in for a full day of patriotic fun, including the Fourth of July Parade and the Family



FunFest. Admission is just \$4 per person, and kids under 5 and military (with ID) get in free! Don't forget your lawn chairs, water, and festive spirit. 🇺🇸

**Date:** Friday, July 4th, 2025

**Time:** Gates open at 3:00 pm

**Venue:** City of Moreno Valley's Civic Center Amphitheater

For more information click [here!](#)

### 4th of July celebrations in Riverside:

Spectacular 4th of July Aerial Fireworks Show & Celebration

Come celebrate our nation's independence with The City of Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department! This free event displays a spectacular array of fireworks at two separate locations which include

- La Sierra Park ([5215 La Sierra Ave.](#))
- Ryan Bonaminio Park ([5000 Tequesquite Ave.](#))

Each location will host a variety of entertainment, food vendors, booths and more. Participants are encouraged to bring their own blankets and chairs. 🇺🇸



**Date:** Friday, July 4th, 2025

**Time:** 12:00 PM to 10:00 PM

For more information click [here!](#)

### Downtown Riverside Farmers Market:

The farmers market provides a unique opportunity to shop for fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers, hummus, aged gouda cheese by Winchester Cheese Co., fresh baked bread from Old Town Baking Co. and other specialty food items.

**Date:** Every Saturday





**Time:** 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Venue:** On Main Street between 5th and 6th Streets

# PEER MENTOR/MENTEE APPLICATIONS

## ISPMP Mentor:

Through the combined efforts of the International Students and Scholars Office and continuing UCR international students, the International Peer Mentor Program (ISPMP) provides transitional support to incoming international students.

- ISPMP supports new international students at UCR through peer mentoring and guided resources.
- Run by ISS and student mentors, it includes one-on-one meetings, group sessions, and workshops.
- Mentors assist with outreach, communication, and connecting mentees to campus resources to ease their transition and promote success.



**\*This is a non-paid volunteer position**

**\*\* Please complete [this application](#) by Sunday, August 2nd at 11:59PM (PT)\*\***

## ISPMP Mentee

Are you a first-year undergraduate, graduate or Phd student feeling overwhelmed, nervous, or excited about starting college? We're here to help you start strong at UCR and make every moment count. That's the goal of the ISMP (International Student Mentor Program).

What can ISMP offer you?

- A friendly face and instant connection as you arrive at UCR
- One-on-one support to talk through any challenges or questions

- Guidance with communication, campus resources, and getting involved

Let us help you feel at home from day one!

**\*\* Please complete [this application](#) by Sunday, August 2nd, 11:59PM (PT)\*\***

## ISS FORMS AND GUIDES

Did you know that you can find essential forms, guides, and information about maintaining your status, travel, and employment on our website?

[international.ucr.edu/students](http://international.ucr.edu/students)

- [Need a Form?](#)
- Learn about [F and J requirements](#)
- [Travel and Dependents](#)
- [Employment and Taxes](#)

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### Contact Us

There are several ways you can reach our team. Our staff works Monday-Friday, from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM (closed from 12:00 - 1:00 PM for lunch).

General Email: [internationalstudents@ucr.edu](mailto:internationalstudents@ucr.edu)

General Phone: (951) 827 - 4113

**Michael** Schmelzle, Director: [michael.schmelzle@ucr.edu](mailto:michael.schmelzle@ucr.edu)

**Kelly** Eldridge Hinosawa, Associate Director: [kelly.hinosawa@ucr.edu](mailto:kelly.hinosawa@ucr.edu)

**Alan** Joss, Senior International Student Advisor: [alan.joss@ucr.edu](mailto:alan.joss@ucr.edu)

**Jen** Gerardi, Senior International Student Advisor: [jennifer.gerardi@ucr.edu](mailto:jennifer.gerardi@ucr.edu)

**Brandon** Chao, International Student Specialist: [brandon.chao@ucr.edu](mailto:brandon.chao@ucr.edu)

**Lauren** Bracamontes, Program Coordinator: [lbracamo@ucr.edu](mailto:lbracamo@ucr.edu)

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### Thank you from all of us in International Affairs!

As a reminder, the International Student News is an email for international students sent monthly. You will find important information from our office, such as:

- notices from the U.S. government
- reminders to ensure that you stay in status
- UCR campus updates and cultural event information



**Please read the newsletter carefully. If you have any questions, please email our office at [internationalstudents@ucr.edu](mailto:internationalstudents@ucr.edu).**