

March 6, 2026



Dear Students,

Happy March! We hope that your studies, research, and projects are going well as the Winter quarter winds down. Please make sure you are checking your UCR email address regularly for important announcements and information from our office. We send important updates about travel and other matters to your UCR email address.

Spring Immigration Reminders

Maintaining your F-1 and J-1 Status

Review the regulations you have agreed to follow while in the United States.

- Enroll into a full-time load of classes (12 units or more) for the Spring quarter. Full-time enrollment each term during the academic year is required to maintain status. If you have issues enrolling full time, please reach out to our office.
- Submit a [program extension request](#) to our ISS office if you need to extend your program end date. Now is the time to request an extension before the proposed D/S rules go into effect.
- Re-read the regulatory fine print on your I-20 (page 3) and DS-2019 (page 2).
- [Review information about maintaining your status as an F or J student inside the United States on our website](#). Visit [Study in the States \(F-1\)](#) and [Bridge USA \(J-1\)](#) for additional information.
- Consult with an International Student Advisor in the ISS office **before** travelling outside of the United States.

U.S. Immigration Documentation Reminder

This is a reminder that international students should carry the following documents while in the U.S. and when traveling within the U.S.

- Passport, valid at all times
- [I-94](#), obtained through the U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- I-20 or DS-2019, issued by UCR's International Office

SPRING BREAK

The desired break after a long winter quarter is almost here! Spring break will be from **Mon. March 23 to Fri. March 27**. Don't forget to have some fun during this break.

UC RIVERSIDE International Students and Scholars

IA Office
Closure

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead by one hour!

Daylight Savings Time begins this Sun. March 8 at 2:00 a.m. All non-automatic clocks should be manually set forward one hour at 2:00 a.m., or before you go to bed on March 7.



FRAUD AND SCAMS

Important information about scams and fraud

Unfortunately, there are many fraudulent actors who use fear to try to scam or trick students into providing personal information, such as bank accounts, credit card numbers, and SSN numbers.

These bad actors will disguise an email address, phone number, website URL, or text message to convince someone that they are interacting with a trusted source.

Please remember that:

- No legitimate source is going to call and demand immediate payment over the phone for anything. They are also not going to call you and threaten to deport you.
- If you receive a phone call, email, or text message like this, do not provide any personal information. Hang up and reach out and report the incident to our office and the UCR police department at 951-827-5222 or crimeprevention@ucr.edu.
- Students can choose to make their UCR public profile “private” if they choose. To do this, you can log in to your R'Web, and in the top left, access the privacy settings to change your profile from being public in the UCR directory to private.

Information about common scams and fraud can be found at the following links.

- [Learn about Common Fraud Schemes from the FBI](#)
- [Review USCIS website for common scams to avoid](#)
- [Read 'Beware of Phishing Scams Targeting the UCR community' on InsideUCR](#)
- [Visit the Career Center's page about job scams and protecting your privacy](#)
- [Review IRS' information on tax scams and fraud](#)

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.

TAX INFORMATION

All students in F and J status and their dependents who were in the United States in the 2025 tax year are required to file tax forms.

Important: Tax Deadline - April 15, 2026

During the workshops below, we will cover general information on:

- Glacier Tax Prep (GTP) software
- Filing federal taxes in the U.S. as a nonresident for tax purposes
- Filing state taxes in the U.S. as a nonresident for tax purposes

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Workshop	Date & Time (PST)
Post-Completion OPT Workshop	Mon. March 9, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. (Register for March 9 Post-Completion OPT Workshop)
Tax Workshop	Thurs. April 2, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. (Register for April 2 Tax Workshop)
Post-Completion OPT Workshop	Tues. April 7, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. (Register for April 7 Post-Completion OPT Workshop)
CPT Workshop	Tues. April 14, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. (Register for April 14 CPT Workshop)

CAMPUS INFORMATION

Ramadan 2026 Campus Dining Options



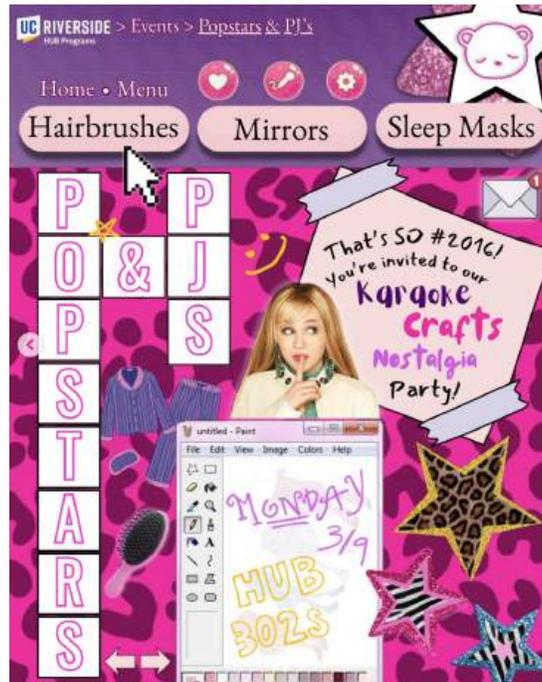
Students with a dining plan can request Suhoor Packs at Glasgow and Lothian Residential Restaurants using their meal swipes. Simply ask the cashier for a pre-packaged Suhoor Pack.

Available Dates:

Fri. February 17 – Sat. March 19

For more details, including dining hours, [visit the UCR Dining website](#).

PJs and PopStars Hub Event



Join ASPB for Pop-stars and PJs for a PJ Party, karaoke, nostalgia, crafts, and free food! We hope to see you there!

- ★ R'Card Required
- ★ Supplies Limited
- ★ Open to Undergrad and Graduate Students

When: Mon. March 9, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Where: HUB 302S

[Visit Popstars & PJs on the UCR event calendar for more info.](#)

FREE Stress-Relieving Events at the UCR Library for UCR Students

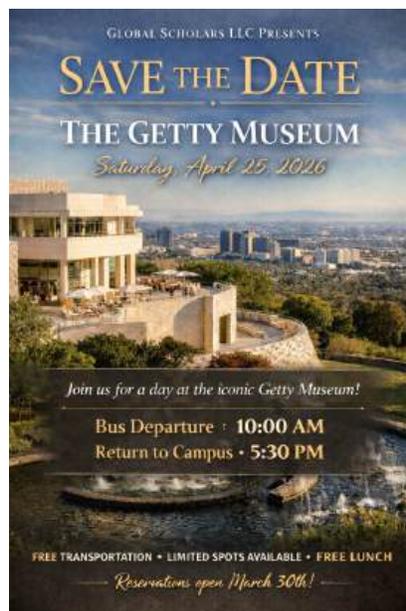


This quarter, we have FREE craft events (we're supplying everything that you'll need), food giveaways, contests, and more—just for students! Our partners this quarter are ASUCR Internal Affairs, The Well's Active Minds, the Academic Resource Center (ARC), and Basic Needs.

Dates: Mon. March 9 - Thurs. March 19

[Visit the UCR event calendar for more info.](#)

Global Scholars LLC Field Trip: Save the Date!



The Global Scholars LLC and International Students and Scholars are teaming up to present the annual field trip. This year's field trip will be to the Getty Museum in Los Angeles. More information to come soon, but make sure to **save the date: reservations begin March 30, and the event itself will be on April 25**. Transportation and lunch provided.

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

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

Contact Us

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

General Email: internationalstudents@ucr.edu

General Phone: 951-827-4113

Michael Schmelzle, Director: michael.schmelzle@ucr.edu

Kelly Eldridge Hinosawa, Associate Director: kelly.hinosawa@ucr.edu

Jen Gerardi, Senior International Student Advisor: jennifer.gerardi@ucr.edu

Brandon Chao, International Student Specialist: brandon.chao@ucr.edu

Ainos Ting, International Student Advisor: ainos.ting@ucr.edu

Flora Chen, International Student Advisor: flora.chen@ucr.edu

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.