SMSU International Student Services & Global Studies (ISSGS) E-newsletter



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WHAT'S NEW



> <u>Hamster giving PSA advice</u> against coronavirus.

Coronavirus Do's & Dont's

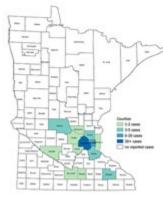
DOs:

- Practice Social Distancing of 6 ft. or more.
- Avoid groups and mass gatherings.
- Stock up on canned food and essential supplies.

- Stay home if you are sick (flu-like symptoms) - but still keep in touch with family/friends and inform the ISSGS office.

DON'Ts:

- Organize or attend a party (events with people gathered close together).
- Shake hands with others.
- Touch your face except to clean it.



Latest MN Covid19 situation (updated daily) from the MN Dept. of Health:

- 1893 patients tested
- 54 positives

Extra Week of Spring Break

Spring Break has been extended through Friday, March 27th and no classes will be held. Classes will resume on Monday, March 30th.

Travel Advisory

Travel only if necessary. If you leave the U.S., you are not guaranteed entrance as an international student.

If you have travelled out of MN state (eg. Sioux Falls) or out of the U.S., you will need to selfmonitor and limit interactions with others for 14 days after returning from travel.

Tax Info

Every international student, will need to file Form 8843.

If you have received income in the last calendar year then you will need to file <u>Form 8843</u> + Form <u>1040NR-EZ</u>.

A quick guide on filing Taxes for international students > <u>InternationalStudent.com/tax</u>.

Get professional help filing your taxes:

> <u>Sprintax.com</u>. Note: this is a paid service.

> United Community Action, Marshall FREE <u>Tax Clinic</u>. Tel: 507-537-1416 ext. 2163 to book an appointment.

It says on their website that they do not officially provide this service for international students but

SMSU has an international student doing his OPT there who is willing and has gone through training to help (ask for Pusparaj).

Note: U.S. Tax Season deadline is April 15.

Events Cancellations (due to CoVid19)

The CDC recommends cancellation of events events/gatherings of more than 50 people to slow the spread of the virus. With the deepest regret in order to keep everyone safe, the following events are now cancelled or postponed indefinitely:

- International Coffee Hour (every Thursday)
- ISO International Food Fest (Apr 04)
- Presidential Inauguration (Apr 04)
- Graduation Sash Ceremony (May 08)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 30, Monday

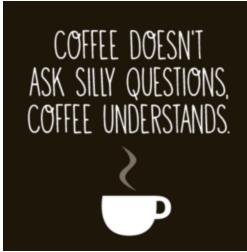
OPT Workshop

3:00 - 4:30pm

Lower CC

Anyone who is graduating in May and interested in pursuing OPT opportunities but missed the 1st OPT Workshop *MUST* attend this workshop presentation to learn about the process for applying and getting approved for OPT.

MISC



The ISSGS office will stop providing free morning coffee, to minimize risk of spreading the coronavirus, out of an abundance of caution. We hope to resume this popular service as soon as things calm down a bit.

(Try) have a great week! No classes! **Next issue:** Mar 30 (MON)