

Dear USF International Students,

We hope your Fall 2020 semester is off to a great start and you are starting to settle into the flow of the semester. Though our USF community is dispersed across the world, we are focused on supporting our international students and addressing the unique challenges you are facing this term. We have developed a range of new resources to help support you this semester, including:

**International Shipping for Library Materials:** USF is committed to ensuring you have access to the materials you need to thrive academically. We have partnered with the Gleeson Library to offer home delivery, free shipment of physical materials to your home. International shipping times vary from 7–14 days. The Gleeson Library is also offering electronic document delivery, sending you electronic or digitized copies of library materials; and **course reserves**, class readings faculty have made available for you online. Please check the course reserves first, because your documents may already be accessible there. For more on these services, please visit the **Document Delivery** page.

**ISSS Adviser Town Hall Sessions:** Between now and Oct. 1, every international student will be offered a town hall with their ISSS adviser. These sessions will familiarize you with ISSS services, cover recent changes in immigration, and help you learn about the different types of work authorization that are available to you. You will receive an email directly from your ISSS adviser. Email [iss@usfca.edu](mailto:iss@usfca.edu) if you have any questions.

**Career Planning and Support:** Remote learning has resulted in fewer student employment opportunities on-campus and increased challenges for students seeking internships off-campus. We know that continuing to develop your professional skills and exploring career options is a priority to our international students and we want to be as helpful as possible in your career planning. We hope you will take advantage of some of the following resources:

- Career Services Resources: The **USF Career Services Center (CSC)** is offering the Career Premier events in September and the Career Pop-ins in October. You can also review their presentation on **finding a job during COVID-19**, and attend one of their many **Fall 2020 Workshops**. This is a great time to reformat your resume, build your interview skills, and explore different professions.
- NetworkUSF Mentorship Program: **Sign up to meet with a USF alum**, network, and explore different professional industries. NetworkUSF has over 100 USF international alumni who are currently active in the network and want to meet with you.
- Alumni Panel Workshop: Career Services, the International Student Association, and ISSS will co-host an international alumni panel event in late October. Alumni will share their experiences searching for jobs and navigating the cultural and immigration considerations associated with employment in the US.

**Student Employment Updates:** Student employment has traditionally been an important way for international students to gain work experience and make some additional money. Although on-campus employment is not legally possible for USF students or personnel based abroad, ISSS has collaborated with the University Tax Compliance office and Student Leadership and Engagement to provide financial support for a range of leadership roles on-campus that are available to international students. This has enabled most of our international students to keep their positions. We know there may be international students who have had to give up their positions for this semester because they are abroad. If you have been adversely impacted, **please contact ISSS**.

**Student Engagement Opportunities:** Although we are spread out around the globe we are still a community and staying connected inside and outside of the classroom is an important part of your learning experience. Get involved and connected with the resources below, or let [iss@usfca.edu](mailto:iss@usfca.edu) know if you have an idea for a student event to connect our international students around the world.

- Cafe International: Do you ever just want to hang out with other international students? Here's your chance. Come to Cafe International to enjoy a stress-free, virtual coffee break and chat about food, music, pop culture, and anything and everything to help you recharge. Cafe International takes place every other week and you can register through the **Cultural Centers RSVP form** (note that more events will be added as they are scheduled).
- International Student Association: The International Student Association (ISA) is a student organization that strives to support and give voice to our international students. The ISA president, Tanya Sanjay, and the executive board would like to let you know that they are working to support you with events this fall and invite you to contact them for more information through their Instagram [@isa.usfca](https://www.instagram.com/isa.usfca) or email [isa.usfca@gmail.com](mailto:isa.usfca@gmail.com).

We miss seeing all of you on-campus and look forward to our community's safe return as soon as public health conditions allow. We will continue to work closely with campus partners to adapt services to your needs. Your success is our success. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you.

Warm regards from the ISSS team,

Marcella Pitcher DeProto  
Ying-Sing (Cynthia) Lai  
Nina Gordon Lopes  
Mari McDermott  
Sarah Ruszkowski

Join the conversation **#USFCA**



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