How do international students bring value to our University community?
Part One @ 1:00 pm
International Students at U
ISSS and our services
Arrival Communications and Processes

BREAK and ISSS Tour @ 1:45 pm

Part Two @ 2:15 pm
Decoding the Adviser Role in Immigration
Maintaining Legal Status
International Students Today at the University of Minnesota

Who is an “international?”
At ISSS, this is defined as an individual who is a non-immigrant visa holder.

5,231 International Students
800+ International Scholars
All International Student Enrollment by Colleges

- College of Sci and Engineering: 35.8%
- College of Liberal Arts: 25.8%
- Carlson School of Management: 11.0%
- College of Educ./Human Development: 5.8%
- Coll of Food, Agr & Nat Res Sci: 4.8%
- College of Biological Sciences: 2.8%
- School of Public Health: 2.7%
- College of Design: 2.0%
- College of Pharmacy: 1.6%
- Medical School: 1.6%
- Coll of Contin & Prof Studies: 1.5%
- Law School: 1.5%
- School of Dentistry: 1.3%
From 130+ world locations
Including:

Afghanistan  
Albania  
Algeria  
American Samoa  
Andorra  
Argentina  
Armenia  
Australia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Bahamas  
Bahrain  
Bangladesh  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Benin  
Bolivia  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Brazil  
Burkina Faso  
Cambodia  
Cameroon  
Canada  
Chile  
China  
Colombia  
Congo  
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the  
Costa Rica  
Cote d'Ivoire  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Dominican Republic  
East Timor  
Ecuador  
Egypt  
El Salvador  
Eritrea  
Estonia  
Ethiopia  
Fiji  
Finland  
France  
Gambia  
Georgia  
Germany  
Ghana  
Greece  
Grenada  
Guam  
Guatemala  
Guyana  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Hong Kong  
Hungary  
Iceland  
India  
Indonesia  
Iran, Islamic Republic of  
Iraq  
Ireland  
Israel  
Italy  
Jamaica  
Japan  
Jordan  
Kazakhstan  
Kenya  
Korea, Republic of  
Kuwait  
Kyrgyzstan  
Lao People's Democratic Republic  
Lebanon  
Lesotho  
Liberia
Including:

Lithuania
Macao
Macedonia
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Malta
Mauritius
Mexico
Moldova, Republic of
Mongolia
Montenegro
Morocco
Myanmar
Namibia
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Palestinian Territory
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Puerto Rico
Qatar
Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Serbia
Sierra Leone
Singapore
Slovenia
Somalia
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Taiwan
Tanzania, United Republic of
Thailand
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States Minor Outlying Islands
Uruguay
Uzbekistan
Venezuela
Vietnam
Yemen
Zimbabwe
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
at the University of Minnesota - Fall 2023

6% of the undergraduate population

1,800 UG International Students
GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL DEGREE STUDENTS
at the University of Minnesota - Fall 2023

3,294 Graduate & Professional International Students

28% of Graduate Students

4% Professional Students
NON-DEGREE STUDENTS
at the University of Minnesota - Fall 2023

Over 137 exchange and non-degree seeking
Who is ISSS?

Our Vision:
An inclusive and engaged international learning community
ISSSS SERVICES

For **Students & Scholars**
- Academic and Career Support
- Immigration Advising and Counseling
- International Student Funding
- Tax Return Orientation
- Sponsored Student Agreements and Support

For **UMN Community**
- International Student Recruitment
- Employment-Based Visa Support
- Research on the International Student Experience
Student Engagement

New Student Programs
- International Student Ambassadors
- Global Gopher Experience Events
- Identity Based Caucus Groups
- International Buddy Program*

Cultural and Social Programs
- Cross-Cultural Discussion Groups*
- Small World Coffee Hour*

Leadership and Professional Development Programs
- International Student Advisory Board
- Culture Corps Internships
- Graduate Student Internships and Counseling Practicum*

* Programs For International and Domestic Students
New Student Transition Support
Welcoming and engaging new international students

ISSS New Student Website
Student facing new international student website

ISSS UMN Department Website

Undergraduate Advisor and Staff Guide
○ Overview of the New UG International Student Transition
■ including “Timeline and Checklist”

Graduate & Professional Degree Advisor and Staff Guide
○ Overview of the New Graduate & Professional International Student Transition
■ including “Timeline and Checklist”

Supporting New International Students
2023 Impact Report

International Student and Scholar Services welcomed 1,497 new international students to campus in Fall 2023, including our largest-ever class of international freshmen (666). We thank our 50+ partners across campus for helping create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all.

- Immigration Documents
  699 undergraduate I-20s
  127 graduate student I-20s

- International Student Preparation Course
  1,600+ students completed the pre-arrival course

- Global Gopher Caulcuses
  6 groups for specific identities:
  - LGBTQIA+
  - Muslim
  - Black-identifying
  - Latino/a/x
  - Sponsored students
  - Student parents
  117 students participated

- Student Leaders
  19 student leaders helped welcome new international students

- ISSS Check-Ins
  1,500+ students completed their ISSS Check-In

- Global Gopher Experiences
  3,500 attendees
  30 virtual and in-person events to prepare international students for life at UMN

- Responsive to Student Needs
  1,260 new student emails answered from April 1-September 5

- Clear Communication
  Total of 12 emails, targeted by student type, sent to all new international students from May to August
  High student engagement with over 80% open rates

- Social Media
  250 new Instagram followers over the summer
  Reached 3,240 Instagram users

NST Impact Report Link
Office of Undergraduate Education
Advising International Students

Undergraduate Advising
Training, Resources, and Tools for Advisors at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities

International Students
A student who is in the U.S. on a non-immigrant visa whose primary purpose is to study.

Tips for Advising this Population

Further Resources
Common Requests from International Students to Their Academic Advisor
- Reduced Course Load
How can you learn and engage?

- **Subscribe to newsletters:**
  - ISSS Weekly Update or new international student communications
  - Karin Fischer’s Latitudes blog

- **Participate in workshops:**
  - Introduction to International Student Advising
  - Intl Student Academic Integration Workshops
  - Addressing Xenophobia & Minoritization Workshop
  - Inviting and Hosting International Scholars, Employees, and Students

- **Learn from International student perspectives:**
  - Request college specific data or host a listening sessions
  - Have students in leadership positions or employed in your college/unit!
  - OSA and ISSS International Student Advisory Board
  - Attend a Small World Coffee Hour
Part One @ 1:00 pm
International Students at U
ISSS and our services
Arrival Communications and Processes

BREAK and ISSS Tour @ 1:45 pm

Part Two @ 2:15 pm
Decoding the Adviser Role in Immigration
Maintaining Legal Status
Decoding Academic Adviser Role in Immigration

- Collaborative relationship
- Rely on academic adviser to verify academic information
Visa

- **F-1**: Student visa—most common
- **J-1**: Exchange Visitor: Student, Scholar, Intern. Sponsored/exchange students (funded by gov’t, organization, or non personal funding).
- **H1B**: Employment based status

Description

- Student visa—most common
- Exchange Visitor: Student, Scholar, Intern. Sponsored/exchange students (funded by gov’t, organization, or non personal funding).
- Employment based status

Document

- **I-20**
- **DS-2019**

Employment

- On campus, Curricular Practical Training (CPT), Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- On campus, Academic Training
- Temporary work in specialty occupation, initiated by employer.
When advising international students keep in mind

- Sound academic advice can conflict with US immigration regulations
- Maintaining legal status can be confusing
  - Full time enrollment is a basic requirement. Less than full time must be approved by ISSS first.
    - GRAD 999
  - Off campus work, even if a program requirement, also must be approved by ISSS first.

Consultation with ISSS advisers is recommended
Full Course Load

- Purpose of the F-1 visa is to study in the U.S. full time
- Full course load:
  - 12 credits for undergraduate students
  - 6 credits for graduate students
  - Professional programs vary
- Only 3 credits online/remote coursework per semester are allowed toward full time requirement
- Audit/incompletes do not count toward full time requirement
- All international students must have ISSS approval to drop below full time enrollment
- Limited reasons for Reduced Course Load (RCL)
  - Academic, Medical, Disability
Employment

On-campus

- 20 hours/week during semester
- More than 20 hours/week:
  - summer
  - winter and spring breaks
- Doesn’t have to be related to a major
- How does a student know the job is on campus?
  - https://hr.umn.edu/Jobs/Find-Job
  - paycheck is issued by University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Employment

Off-campus

- Requires authorization before starting to work
- Eligible after enrolled for one academic year in U.S. college or university
- F-1: Practical Training (field specific)
  - Curricular (CPT)—while studying; need a job offer
  - Optional (OPT)—after graduation; no need for a job offer
- J-1: Academic Training (field specific)
  - Letter by department, Job offer letter, No need to register for a course, Sponsor Approval

ISSS F-1 Work Authorization info for Academic Advisors
When to Refer students to ISSS

- Concerned about their mental health
- Under Full-time Enrollment
- Travel outside U.S.
- Employment
- Completing program
QUESTIONS
Tour of ISSS

How to Contact and Refer to ISSS

- ISSS Hours
- Areas of office
- Student contact us (see notes for current schedule)
  - Email
  - Call
  - Virtual Appointment (schedule through Aplus)
  - Virtual Drop-in
  - No assigned adviser unless longer term assistance is needed

Keeping students/umn staff informed
  - Weekly Newsletter Updates
  - Instagram account

- Staff Connect us via:
  - College Liaisons
  - Use of APlus
  - In a emergency

- Tips for creating a warm referral!