



International Student Services Newsletter

Office of International Programs

Block 3, Volume III

October 25, 2017

F-1 & J-1 Travel Reminders

TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.



If you are planning to travel abroad during Fall Break, now is the time to make sure you are prepared, from an immigration perspective, to depart and re-enter the United States. Understanding your immigration obligations can help minimize delays on re-entry.

Before you travel abroad, make sure to do the following:

- Check your passport validity.
- Check your visa to make sure it is valid for re-entry to the United States.
- Check to make sure that your Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Status) or Form DS-2019 (Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status [J-Nonimmigrant]) has been endorsed for travel.

Same-Day Service Travel Signature Days:

Need a travel signature on your Form I-20/Form DS-2019? Stop by the Office of International Programs (OIP) with your document on the following days and we will be able to sign your form the same day:

- Thursday, November 9th 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Monday, November 13th 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

TRAVELING WITHIN THE U.S.

If you will be traveling within the U.S., driving on major highways, riding on buses, trains, or planes, we recommend that you carry with you your passport, I-94 arrival record, and your current Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20/Form DS-2019).

Fall Break Shuttles

Traveling for Fall Break? The Worner Desk is sponsoring shuttle service to both Colorado Springs Airport (COS) and Denver International Airport (DIA) on the following dates:

DIA:

Wednesday, November 15th: 12:30, 2:30 & 4:30 pm
Thursday, November 16th: 6:00, 8:00 and 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

COS:

Wednesday, November 15th: 12:00—5:00 pm Every hour, on the hour
Thursday, November 16th: 7:00 am—12:00 pm Every hour, on the hour



The cost for the shuttle service is \$7.00 to the Colorado Springs Airport and \$45.00 to the Denver International Airport. The Worner Desk accepts cash, check, Gold Card and credit card payments, but these costs are non-refundable, so please be sure of your travel plans before paying for your shuttle reservation. Visit the Worner Desk today to book your shuttle reservation!

Inside this issue:

<i>F-1 & J-1 Travel Reminders</i>	1
<i>Fall Break Shuttles</i>	1
<i>Fall Break Housing Requests</i>	2
<i>Thanksgiving in the U.S.</i>	2
<i>Diversity Lottery Update</i>	2
<i>Lunch & Learn OIP Events</i>	3
<i>IEW Week Schedule</i>	4
<i>Aspen Hikes in Colorado Springs</i>	4

Finishing Your Program of Study at CC in December?

F-1 students who have maintained lawful status have a 60-day “grace period” following their program end date at CC, and J-1 exchange visitors who have maintained lawful status have a 30-day “grace period” following their program end date, to:

- Depart the U.S.;
- Request a transfer of their SEVIS record to another school to begin a new program of study; or
- Apply for a change of nonimmigrant status



Fall Break Housing Requests

CC residence halls are scheduled to close at noon on Thursday, November 16th, for Fall Break and re-open (with Gold Card access restored) on Sunday, November 26, 2017 at 8:00 am. Students and exchange visitors who are temporarily in the U.S. with a nonimmigrant visa and who are unable to make alternative accommodation plans for Fall Break, e.g. staying with friends or relatives, going on a trip, etc., however, may request special permission to stay in their current residence hall room (at no extra cost) during Fall Break. **Please be advised that there will be limited campus services available during Fall Break**, so you should be prepared to make your own arrangements for meals, since the campus dining facilities will be closed.



If you would like to request on-campus housing for ANY part of the Fall Break period, you must complete the online [Fall Break Housing and Intent Form](#) and submit it **by 5:00 pm on Friday, November 10th**. If you submit your request before the deadline date, you will be approved for break housing. Do not expect to receive a confirmation email.

Thanksgiving in the U.S.



Thanksgiving in the U.S. is on Thursday, November 23rd. It is a federal holiday and all banks, post offices, and other government offices will be closed, as will most schools. Many businesses will also be closed on Friday, November 24th to allow their staff a 4-day holiday weekend.

In the United States, Thanksgiving is a time for tradition and sharing. People gather with family and friends on the fourth Thursday in November to enjoy a traditional meal and to give thanks for life's many blessings. The traditional Thanksgiving meal can vary somewhat from one geographic region in the U.S. to another, but it typically includes: turkey, stuffing or dressing (seasoned bread crumbs used to stuff the turkey), cranberry sauce, yams or mashed potatoes, gravy, and pumpkin pie.

Many Americans will travel to visit their families during the Thanksgiving holiday, which makes the day before Thanksgiving the busiest travel day of the year in the United States. If you will be traveling during Fall Break you are advised to plan ahead and allow yourself plenty of extra time, particularly if you will be traveling by air, as most U.S. airports will be very crowded and check-in and security clearance lines will likely be very long on the days before and after Thanksgiving Day.

For more information about the history of Thanksgiving in the U.S. and common Thanksgiving traditions and customs, check out the link below:

http://americanenglish.state.gov/files/ae/resource_files/thanksgivingday.pdf

State Dept Revises FY 2019 Diversity Lottery Registration Period

The situation

Due to an ongoing technical issue with its application website, the State Department is revising the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Diversity Visa (DV) lottery registration period. The agency will accept online registrations for the FY 2019 DV lottery starting Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at noon EDT and ending Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at noon EST.

The application website is currently down for maintenance. The filing period originally opened on October 3, 2017 and was to close on November 7, 2017.



Some lottery entries must be resubmitted

Entries that were submitted during October 3-10 are considered invalid and have been excluded from the DV lottery website. These entries must be resubmitted between October 18 at noon EDT and November 22 at noon EST to be considered for selection in the lottery.



Upcoming “Lunch & Learn” OIP Events

OPT/CPT Workshop

Friday, October 27, 2017 and Friday, December 1, 2017

12:15 pm—1:15 pm in Worner Campus Center Room 211

Have you heard these two terms used by other international students since you've been on campus? Are you planning to do an internship while you are a student at Colorado College? Did you know that you have to have authorization to do so? International students have the option of working within the United States by engaging in practical training either during their program or after it ends. Practical training can provide valuable work experience by sharpening and adding to the skills you are learning in school. There are two types of practical training available for F-1 students: Curricular Practical Training (CPT) and Optional Practical Training (OPT). This workshop will discuss the requirements, how to request authorization, and other information related to CPT/OPT. Bring your lunch and join us!



Kick your Internship Search into Gear—Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, November 7, 2017

12:15 pm—1:30 pm in the Tutt Library Event Space

Bring your own lunch (you can even pick it up at the new Susie B's Café in the Tutt Library) and join the Career Center and the Office of International Programs for this informative presentation on what you can do now to ensure a meaningful summer of experience. We will focus on basic search tools as well as specific considerations for you as an international student.



International Education Week at CC: Schedule of Activities

What is International Education Week?

Founded jointly by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, International Education Week (IEW) is “an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide.” This joint initiative is part of the U.S.'s efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States.



When is the celebration of International Education Week at CC?

November 6-11, 2017

What is happening on campus during IEW?

Meet My Country Exhibits in Worner Campus Center

International Film Screenings	South America	City of God	Monday, 11/6	Loomis Lounge	7:00pm—9:00pm
	Asia	Lion	Wednesday, 11/8	Loomis Lounge	7:00pm—9:00pm
	Africa	Difret	Friday, 11/10	Gaylord Hall	7:00pm—9:00pm

Global Events/Topics Panel

Music, Dance, Poetry and More Celebration Saturday, 11/11 Bemis Great Hall 6:00pm—10:00pm

Global Focus Dinners in Rastall Café Monday, Nov 6—Saturday, Nov 11 5:30pm—7:00pm
Countries highlighted: Brazil | India | China | Russia | South Africa | Costa Rica |

Look for more information via email and on the CC digest!



State Dept Revises FY 2019 Diversity Lottery Registration Period (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

Complying with lottery application requirements

- Eligible entrants must apply online and submit a digital photo through the official [DV lottery website](#). DV lottery applicants may include a spouse (same-sex or opposite-sex) and children in their initial entries or add a spouse and children after their initial registration.
- Only one entry is permitted per person. If there are multiple registrations on behalf of one person, all of them are disqualified.
- Applicants must carefully follow the [State Department's official lottery instructions](#). Lottery entries and digital photos that do not precisely conform to the instructions will be disqualified.
- Once the application is accepted, applicants will receive a confirmation number, which can be used to check the status of their application.
- Entrants can use an attorney or other legal representative to submit their application, but should beware of fraudulent lottery websites and service providers.

How lottery winners are chosen and notified

The State Department chooses lottery winners by random computer selection. Results will be published starting May 15, 2018 through at least September 30, 2019, on the official [DV lottery entry status website](#).

Foreign nationals can learn whether they were selected **only by visiting the official website and entering their confirmation number**. The State Department does not notify entrants by letter, e-mail, fax or telephone. The official website is the only legitimate source of lottery results.



Aspen Hikes Near Colorado Springs

The autumn season in Colorado Springs bursts with color thanks to the beauty of our local aspen trees. These trees, which are known for their leaves that change from green to a colorful, bright yellow between mid-September and mid-October—the exact time of the change varies each year based on summer rainfall—are in plentiful supply in and around the city of Colorado Springs. For more information about scenic hikes that you can take to get a glimpse of the aspens, green or gold, around Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak region, see:

<http://www.visitcos.com/colorado-springs/travel/itineraries/aspen-hikes>



Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed on Saturday night, November 4, because Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 5, at 2:00am.



Office of International Programs

Office of International Programs
14 E. Cache La Poudre St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3294
USA

Phone: 719-227-8282
Fax: 719-227-8283
E-mail: ISS@ColoradoCollege.edu

Campus Location:
Armstrong Hall, 2nd Floor



The Office of International Programs (OIP) serves students who study off-campus (domestically and internationally), incoming international students, faculty who lead students on off-campus programs, and international faculty who require immigration services.

OIP provides comprehensive services for degree-seeking international students and exchange students, including individualized immigration advising, specialized workshops, and orientation programs.

For more information, contact Lisa Kosiewicz Doran, International Student Specialist at ISS@ColoradoCollege.edu.

We're on the Web!

<http://www.coloradocollege.edu/offices/international/international-students/>

November Birthdays

The Office of International Programs would like to wish a very happy birthday to all the international students who are celebrating a birthday in November!

Andrej Blazhevski

Liwei (David) Cui

Yifan Ji

Ziyu Liu

Eden Lumerman



Mame (Ouli) Sane

Yao Sun

Pan Tan

Sandor Teleki

Ying Ti