



**Winter Break is right around the corner! Add these reminders and events to your Fall to-do list.**

OIS provides immigration, visa, and travel guidance to the Johns Hopkins University international community which includes over 11,000 students, scholars, faculty, staff, researchers, and dependents annually. In addition to our [website](#), individuals may access an array of e-requests around the clock via our [iHopkins self-service portal](#). We also offer individualized advising by email as well as by phone:

- F-1 and J-1 students may send emails to [ois@jhu.edu](mailto:ois@jhu.edu) only.
  - Email: please allow 1-2 business days for a response
  - iHopkins requests are routinely processed within 10 business days
  - Open phone advising for students: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 1pm-4pm Eastern Time. No appointment required.
- For H-1B questions, please email [H1B-Employment@jhu.edu](mailto:H1B-Employment@jhu.edu)
- For J-1 scholar questions, please email [J1-Advising@jhu.edu](mailto:J1-Advising@jhu.edu)

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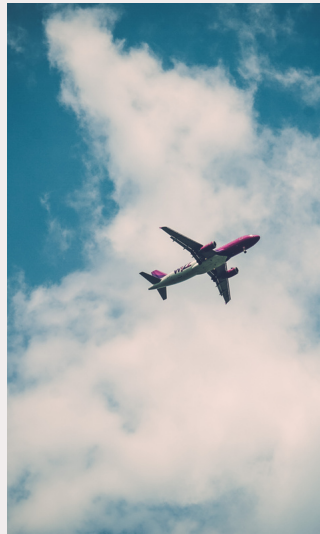
### Thanksgiving, Winter Break

JHU, including the OIS Office, will be closed on the following dates in November and December:

- Thanksgiving: Thursday, November 23rd – Friday, November 24th
- Winter Holiday: December 25th – January 2nd

OIS advisors will not be available during these dates. If your I-20/DS-2019 does not have a valid travel signature, request one now if you plan to travel during the upcoming university breaks.

If you experience an emergency at the border that impacts your ability to enter the U.S., contact OIS at 443-240-1938. [This number is for border emergencies only.](#)



## Travel & Travel Signatures

Planning to travel outside the U.S. during fall or winter break? Review the [“Travel Information”](#) section of the OIS website and prepare the appropriate documentation before departing the U.S.

**If you do not have a valid travel signature on page 2 of your I-20 or page 1 of your DS-2019, request one now [via iHopkins](#) if you’re planning to travel for Thanksgiving or Winter Break.** Travel signatures are valid for 1 year.

### **J-1 Exchange Visitors and F-1 Students:**

Request a travel signature at least **10 business days in advance of travel**. Instructions are on the OIS website here: [ois.jhu.edu/travel-information/](https://ois.jhu.edu/travel-information/)

### **H-1B Employees:**

Request a “Travel Letter” through iHopkins: [ois.jhu.edu/Travel\\_Information/Travel in H-1B Status/index.html](https://ois.jhu.edu/Travel_Information/Travel_in_H-1B_Status/index.html). In addition, all H-1B employees should carry their Form I-797 and other documents listed on the OIS website to demonstrate their continued employment.

## OPT Q&A SESSION - 11/16

OIS advisors will provide updates on OPT and answer questions submitted during the session.

Participants are advised to review the OPT info online before attending a Q&A session: [How To Apply for OPT](#)

**When:** Thursday, November 16th at 12:00 p.m.

**Registration is required. Register here:**

[https://jh.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_8EEomvKaT8yVfyb9GF4w](https://jh.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8EEomvKaT8yVfyb9GF4w).

Additional sessions will be available in spring.

**REGISTER**

## U.S. Immigration & Employment Seminar



**U.S. IMMIGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS**

\* Open to ALL JHU Affiliates \*

Presented by Jim Arkell  
Arkell Immigration Team, Dunn  
Law Firm, LLP

- ✓ U.S. Permanent Residence
- ✓ National Interest Waivers
- ✓ Extraordinary ability petitions
- ✓ Transitioning from F-1/J-1 to H-1B

Moderated by Jennifer Kerilla, Director, International Scholars and Employment, OIS

<b>NOV.</b>	<b>9</b>	November 9th, 2023 To join the webinar via Zoom, visit <a href="https://tinyurl.com/JHU0193">tinyurl.com/JHU0193</a>
<b>FEB.</b>	<b>20</b>	February 20th, 2024 To join the webinar via Zoom, visit <a href="https://tinyurl.com/JHU0224">tinyurl.com/JHU0224</a>

Disclaimer: OIS does not endorse or recommend the law firm providing this presentation. JHU sponsorship policies on permanent residency and non-immigrant statuses such as H-1B or O-1 apply when the university is the petitioner. Contact OIS at [ois@jhu.edu](mailto:ois@jhu.edu) with questions about employer sponsorship.

This seminar series explores various immigration and employment options like US Permanent Residency and transitioning from F-1 and J-1 status to H-1B. **The seminar is open to all JHU affiliates.**

Tuesday, February 20, 2024—4:00-5:00 p.m. EST

To join the webinar via Zoom, visit

[tinyurl.com/JHU0224](https://tinyurl.com/JHU0224)

LEARN MORE

## Electronic Form DS-2019 Reminder

OIS began providing digitally signed DS-2019 forms in October 2023. OIS advisors are authorized by the U.S. Department of State to digitally sign and electronically transmit form DS-2019. J-1 Exchange Visitors must continue to print a physical copy and manually sign the bottom section of any DS-2019 forms they receive through electronic transmission after October 2023.

## CPT Requirements

As you plan for the spring semester and possible off campus opportunities, please keep in mind CPT eligibility and application requirements for F-1 students:

- Always review the OIS CPT page: [CPT Eligibility & Application Instructions](#)
- To be eligible for CPT, an F-1 student must have completed one academic year in the US
- The position must be directly related to your academic program
- CPT authorization is not guaranteed
- Authorization for CPT is required BEFORE you begin working. Plan and submit your request at least 10 business days in advance





## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

### International Students at Hopkins (ISAH) Survey

The International Students at Hopkins (ISAH), a student-led initiative from the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, invites **international graduate students and post docs** to participate in our programming feedback survey.

This survey will take 5-10 minutes of your time and will be used to influence future programming.

**Survey Link:**

[https://jh.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8ucalEOhAsF0ztA](https://jh.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8ucalEOhAsF0ztA)

If you have any questions or additional comments to share with our team, please reach out to [isah@jhu.edu](mailto:isah@jhu.edu). Follow **[ISAH on Instagram](#)** for the latest news, events, and resources!

TAKE SURVEY

### Facilitating Difficult Conversations

In addition to their recent event, the Center for Teaching Excellence and Innovation has provided some resources for those leading classes to help in facilitating difficult conversations during class. Click here for great tips and best practices: [Facilitating Difficult Conversations during Class.](#)

### Flu Vaccination Deadline

All Johns Hopkins University affiliates are required to receive and report their annual flu shot by **November 17th**. [Read more](#) for information on vaccination sites and uploading proof completion.

### Update Your Local Address

F-1 Students and J-1 Students and Scholars are required to update their address with OIS within 10 business days following a change of address. To update your address:

- **F-1 and J-1 Students:**  
Follow the instructions on the OIS website:  
[https://ois.jhu.edu/Students/Current\\_F1\\_Students/Updating\\_Your\\_Address/](https://ois.jhu.edu/Students/Current_F1_Students/Updating_Your_Address/)
- **J-1 Scholars:**  
To notify OIS of an address change, please email [J1-Advising@jhu.edu](mailto:J1-Advising@jhu.edu) with ADDRESS UPDATE in the subject line.

## EVENTS & RESOURCES



### SAFE ZONE TRAINING 12/6,7

**Safe Zone** conferences will be held virtually on **December 6-7**, 1-4:30pm. Participants can take all 4 workshops or sign up for individual workshops as their schedules allow. Please check out our [website](#) for more details and to register!

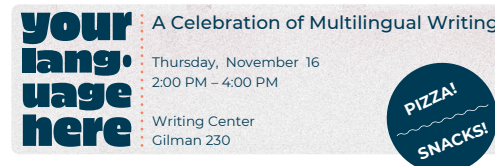
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### EAST BALTIMORE FOOD PANTRY

The Food Security Coalition in partnership with the Bloomberg School of Public Health, School of Nursing, School of Medicine, and University Health and Well-being announces the opening of a pop-up Hopkins Food Pantry at East Baltimore. Limited shopping hours will be open to all Hopkins affiliates.: 11/17 (12-2PM), 11/21 (5-7PM) 12/1 (1-3PM), 12/4 (5-7PM), 12/11 (8-10AM) For more information please contact the [Food Security Coalition](#).

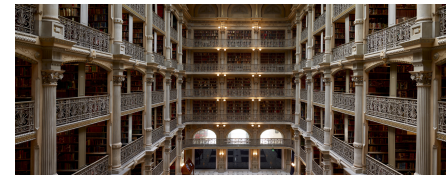
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### YOUR LANGUAGE HERE 11/16

Come to the Writing Center to celebrate all the languages at Johns Hopkins. We're asking all writers in the Johns Hopkins community to join us by sharing your languages in a translation exercise. Help us create a tapestry of language use in this interactive event. Pizza and snacks!

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### INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK 11/13 - 17

International Education Week is an opportunity for college campuses to celebrate intercultural exchange. Join the Center for Diversity & Inclusion- Multicultural Affairs and ISAH for a week of exciting events! For a list of events and registration requirements, click here: [ISAH](#) or follow [ISAH on Instagram](#)

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## World Events and Wellness Resources

World events, particularly in tragic times of war, unrest, and natural disasters, weigh heavily on our minds. This is poignantly true for those separated from loved ones back home who may be in harm's way. JHU has a number of resources available to support individuals who are deeply feeling the impact of such events. OIS and campus partners are available to assist you. Never hesitate to reach out to OIS ([ois@jhu.edu](mailto:ois@jhu.edu)) if you do not know which way to turn when you are struggling or are in need of support, and we will work to connect you to the appropriate resource.

OIS has regularly reached out to international students from impacted areas and invited them to support spaces, providing follow-up resources via direct email. Individuals may also reach out directly to [ois@jhu.edu](mailto:ois@jhu.edu) with questions and requests, or review and use the following select resources:

- [Student Health and Well-Being resources blog](#) (also noted in an Instagram post)
- [Employee Assistance Program support and resources](#)
- [Public Safety Escort Program](#)
- **Coping with News Resource:** Student Health and Well-Being staff assembled some tips on "[How to Handle a Stressful News Cycle](#)."
- **Requests for leave of absence or time off, including temporary alternate work/study arrangements:**  
International individuals struggling with world events who are having difficulty making a request of a professor or supervisor, or in receiving a requested accommodation, may contact their school's student or academic affairs office, as well as OIS. While faculty and supervisors ultimately decide to allow leave or offer accommodations, immigration regulations often govern when and how long leave or accommodations are permissible. OIS advisors will advise on immigration restrictions, as well as advocate on your behalf with faculty, supervisors, and divisional leadership, as appropriate.
- **If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis,** contact the [Behavioral Health Crisis Support Team](#) at 410-516-WELL (9355) to speak with a crisis support clinician.
- **Report all instances of discrimination and harassment** with the [Office of Institutional Equity](#) (OIE) [here](#). Discrimination and harassment FAQs are available [here](#).
- **Dial "911" for any emergency that requires immediate assistance** from the police, fire department, or ambulance, including when you are in a dangerous situation and need help.
- [The Johns Hopkins Briefing](#)  
In this series, experts provide timely analysis and insights about topics of national and global importance and engage in real-time Q&A with the audience. The Office of Interdisciplinary Initiatives hosts the series.