Immigration
Office of International Affairs
Role of an Immigration Coordinator

- Advising and assistance with:
  - Immigration regulations and paperwork
  - Social and cultural adjustment
  - Personal and financial concerns
Role of an Immigration Coordinator

- Referral to other individuals and/or offices on and off-campus
- To contact an Immigration Coordinator
  - E-mail: iss@oia.osu.edu; Phone: 614-292-6101
  - Advising hours: Monday – Friday, 1 – 4 p.m. (walk-ins Monday – Thursday; by appointment on Fridays)
Immigration Information

• Your Immigration Record = Your Responsibility!
• Educate yourself! Review the immigration packet in detail on your own.
• ISS is here to assist you, but only you can maintain your status.
• “My friend said. . .” (dangerous words!)
  – Trust ISS for accurate immigration advice, NOT your professors, advisors and friends. They are great resources, but NOT when it comes to immigration!
Immigration Information

- ISS must report address and enrollment information to SEVIS about every F-1 and J-1 student enrolled at Ohio State.
- Therefore, make sure your address is up-to-date in your Student Center, and that you are enrolled full time!
Immigration Information: 3 Important Points

1. Update your local address within 10 days of moving
   - Visit buckeyelink.osu.edu and click on “Change Address”
   - Update the “Current” address with your local Columbus address
Immigration Information: 3 Important Points

2. Enroll full-time every semester!
   - How many credits is full time for you?
   - ANY term you want to enroll below full time, contact ISS
   - You might be able to enroll below full-time if you are:
     - Eligible for a summer vacation term (one per year only)
     - Eligible for an Academic Reduced Course Load
     - Eligible for a Medical Reduced Course Load
   - Unauthorized drop below full time = termination of F-1 or J-1 SEVIS record
Immigration Information: 3 Important Points

3. Know employment regulations!
   • 20 hours per week limit
   • On-campus work: no special authorization (however, J-1 students must report on-campus employment to OIA)
   • ALL off-campus work **does** require special authorization
   • Employment required for SSN
Immigration Information: Important Documents

- **Form I-20 or DS-2019**
  - Your SEVIS ID (N000...) doesn’t change when you get a new I-20 or DS-2019
  - Keep current and all previously-issued forms in a safe place
  - “My friend just got a new I-20. . . why didn’t I?”
    - Your form will stay the same unless an update is needed (change of major, change of funding, etc.)
    - If your source of funding changes, please contact OIA immediately, to update your I-20.
  - Get a “travel signature” before leaving the U.S.
    - Travel signatures are valid for 12 months
Immigration Information: Important Documents

• Paper Form I-94
  – The Arrival/Departure form (small white card in your passport)
  – Given when you enter the US; taken away when you leave
  – Stamped with date and place of entry
  – Notated “F-1 D/S” or “J-1 D/S”
Immigration Information: Important Documents

- **Electronic Form I-94**
  - Very important to print from cbp.gov
  - Ensure that your passport has been stamped with the “F-1 D/S” or “J-1 D/S”
  - It’s an **extremely important document**; it shows you entered the country legally
  - If you notice a problem with your I-94 card or are not able to access your electronic I-94 card, visit ISS
Immigration Information: Important Documents

- **Visa**
  - A permit to enter the United States
  - May expire while you are in the US; does not need to be valid for the duration of your stay (unlike the I-20)
OIA Website: oia.osu.edu

- Familiarize yourself with this great resource!
- See the gray tab for “International Students and Scholars”
- Includes information on:
  - Immigration regulations
  - Vacation term guidelines
  - Employment
  - OIA calendar of events
  - Travel
  - Taxes and Social Security
  - Workshops
  - . . . And much more!
OIA Website: oia.osu.edu

- Includes access to:
  - Forms and Handouts
  - Appointment Scheduling
  - Check-In and Orientation Survey
  - ECP registration
  - . . . And much more!
Final Questions

• Please let us know if you have any remaining questions about maintaining your immigration status.

• Remember to update your local U.S. address immediately!!!