



January 2022 ISAP Newsletter

Published monthly by International Student Admissions and Programs (ISAP) to provide reminders about F1 / J1 regulations, services, programs, and opportunities for involvement.

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Hello and Happy New Year!

ISAP and UWG are excited to welcome new international students to campus!

For those returning to UWG after your break, welcome back. A great semester and year are ahead!

You are WELCOME here!



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Get Your COVID-19 Vaccine

UWG Health Services offers free COVID-19 Vaccines & Boosters, and many other vaccines, services, tests, and common Prescriptions. Please see: <https://www.westga.edu/vaccine/>



DEADLINES SPRING '22

JANUARY 18th, 2022 - THE MOST IMPORTANT DATE OF THE MONTH

- **DROP / ADD:** You can change your schedule up to [Friday, January 14th 11:59pm](#)
- **FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT REQUIRED BY:** [January 18th, 11:59pm](#). Enrollment requirements for international students: Undergraduate - 12 credit hours. Graduates - 9 credit hours. Only 1 course within the total required can be online. For fewer hours, submit a completed [Reduced Course Load \(RCL\)](#) form by the end of week one.
- **REDUCED COURSE LOAD (RCL):** If this is your final semester, or you have a valid medical reason to be under-enrolled, the deadline to request an RCL is: [January 18th, 4pm](#).
- **FEE PAYMENT DEADLINE:** The payment deadline for all tuition and fees or payment plan arrangements is [January 18th, 11:59pm](#). After this date, all enrollment could be automatically dropped.
- **CURRICULAR PRACTICAL TRAINING (CPT) APPLICATIONS:** CPT is a temporary work authorization for off campus internships in your field of study. The deadline to apply for Spring 2022 CPT is [Friday, January 14th at 4pm](#). Details are [HERE](#).
- **HEALTH INSURANCE WAIVER DEADLINE:** [February 6th, 2022, 5pm](#). **See Next Topic Section.**
- **SEVIS REGISTRATION & GEORGIA DRIVERS LICENSE:** All new and returning students will be registered to “active” or “continued attendance” in SEVIS for Spring 2022 in the 1st week of class. **THEN**, you may apply for a [Georgia Driver License \(DL\)](#)

HEALTH INSURANCE WAIVERS: DEADLINE IS FEB. 6, 2022

If you wish to submit a waiver request of the United Health Care insurance plan, please follow the steps below.



Q: Where is the waiver request portal with details?

A: [On the ISAP website here.](#)

Please note that ISAP is not involved in the waiver process and has no way to appeal the UHC decision.

Q: What if there is no insurance charge on my account, but I'm enrolled in classes?

A: Please email Paul Sargent psargent@westga.edu as soon as possible to verify your course enrollment and location. Failing to correct a billing omission you are aware of will catch up you and create a bigger program.

Q: What if I don't have USG approved coverage by the fee payment deadline?

A: Your course enrollment will automatically be dropped by UWG as required by the USG. ISAP is not involved.

Q: Can ISAP help me find insurance that meets the USG / UHC waiver requirements?

A: ISAP is not aware of any plans that meet the UCH / USG waiver requirements.

Q: My waiver was denied but I think my plan is acceptable. How can I appeal?

A: Please email: ship@usg.edu with your full name, institution name and a brief summary. ISAP is not involved in the process.

UWG STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT



Take the quick [Code of Conduct Quiz](#).

Access the full [UWG Code of Conduct here](#).

Quick Reminders:

- The legal drinking age in the US is **21**. When you enter a bar or place that sells alcohol, you will be asked for photo ID (DL or passport). If you are under the age of 21 you will not be served or allowed to buy alcohol.
- Possession, use or distribution of pot in any form is **illegal** in Georgia and in the US, despite being legal in some states.
- In Georgia, possession of pot is a crime with a possible fine of \$1000 or a year in jail. O.C.G.A. §16-13-2(b)
- A criminal conviction, including D.W.I. (Driving While Intoxicated) can lead to visa **revocation** and a 10-year travel ban to the U.S.

We encourage you to think wisely about your choices.

MAKE FRIENDS | GET INVOLVED



The best way to meet new people, improve your English and be successful in the U.S. is to make friends. The best way to make American friends is to get involved in a campus organization!

Pick an interest, sign up, show up and say hello! It's that simple.



- Check out the [list of all UWG student clubs, organization and sign up via "Wolf Connect"](#) here.


TAX INFORMATION 2022 (FOR TAX YEAR 2021)



ISAP will provide information about U.S. Federal and State of Georgia Tax Returns each Spring ahead of the tax-filing deadline: [Friday, April 15th, 2022](#). The Tax collection agency in the U.S. is called the Internal Revenue Service or:



What you need to know now is:

- **DON'T BUY** Tax Prep Software: like TurboTax, H&R Block or any others! They were **not** designed for "Non-Resident" tax forms.
- ISAP will provide free access to special software called  in February for your Non-Resident Federal Tax Returns.
- Everyone has at least 1 federal tax form to complete, unless you arrived in the U.S. in 2019. In that case there are no forms to complete this year.
- For more info, check out [ISAP's International Student Tax Info Page](#).

ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

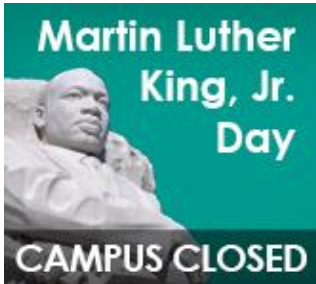


- F1 & J1 students may work on campus up to 20hrs per week.
- J1 students must request employment authorization from ISAP.
- All employment requires application for a free Social Security Card.
- [Instructions for the SSN application are here.](#)
- Follow this link to see a listing of all [Jobs at UWG](#)

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS (SSN)

If you have a job offer or Georgia Driver's License and need to apply for a US social security #, you will need to arrange your own transportation to the Social Security Office, located in Villa Rica. You can also reserve a ride via "Carroll Connection" at: 844-778-7826 or utilize Lyft or Uber. Note that currently, you need an appointment first to visit SSA due to Covid-19 Restrictions. Their # is: 866-331-2318 and their address is: 908 S. Carroll Road, Villa Rica, GA 30180.

NATIONAL HOLIDAY



University of West Georgia will be closed: **Monday, January 17th, 2022** in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Stay tuned to participate in UWG MLK events on campus.

- More information on the legacy of MLK Jr. is [HERE](#) .

ISAP EVENTS

How do I sign up for these events?



Register in "Wolf Connect" [HERE](#). No emails will be accepted to sign up for ISAP or other campus events. Feel free to let us know if you have questions about any events you see though. We encourage you to get off campus!

CONNECT WITH ISAP



- **ISAP on IG | Click the Logo**
- **International Student Admissions & Programs (ISAP)**
Mandeville Hall | Front Campus Drive
www.westga.edu/isap | T: 678-839-4780
- **Live Chat** | via the website above 9-5, M-F
- **Email** | global@westga.edu | Please include your 917# and full name
- **Walk-in Advising**
M-F (except Tuesday mornings)
9 – 11:30am, and 1:30 – 4:30pm