



Millersville University

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR SERVICES

Dr. Charity Alinda, PDSO/RO – Associate Director of International Student and Scholar Services

Session Goals

Understand the International Student Journey (ISJ) and importance of compliance with Federal immigration laws to ensure student visa status maintenance

Understand how you can contribute to the International Student Journey at MU

Learn about the Scholar's program and how International Programs and Services office can help

The International Student Journey



VISA APPLICATION PROCESS

F1 Visa
Approval

Schedule/
Attend
F1 Visa
Interview

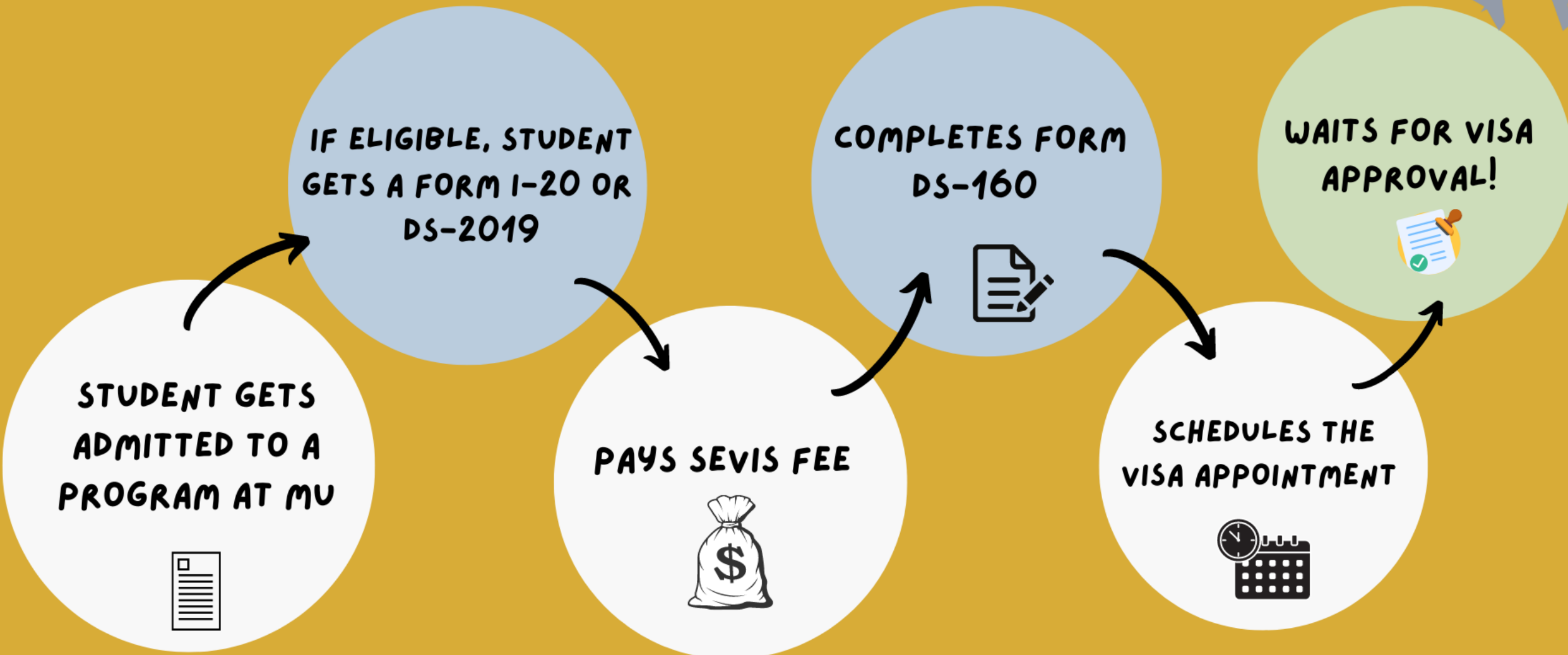
Complete
F1 Visa
Application
form

Pay Visa Fee
and Receive
your I-20

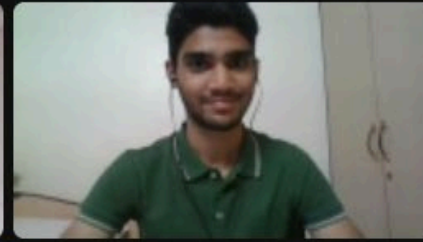
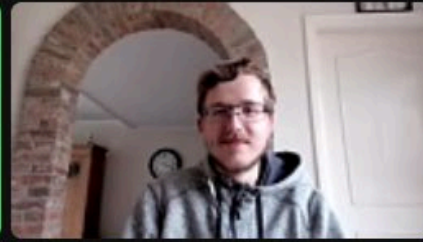
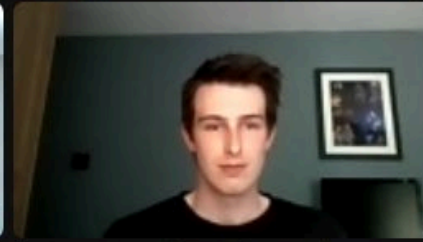
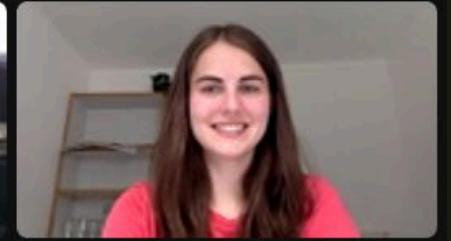
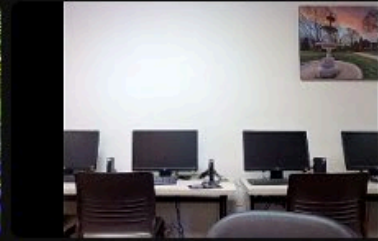
Accepted
into a
School



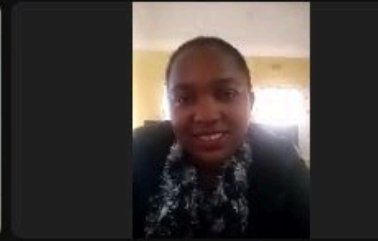
F/J VISA APPLICATION PROCESS



Virtual Pre-Arrival Orientations



Nour El Houda Halouane...

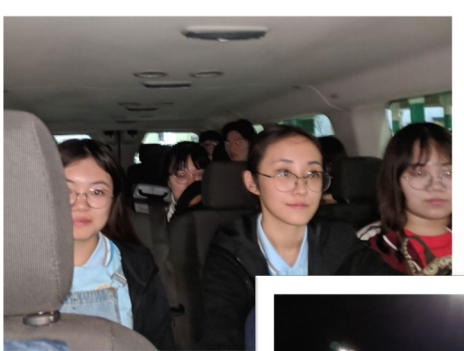


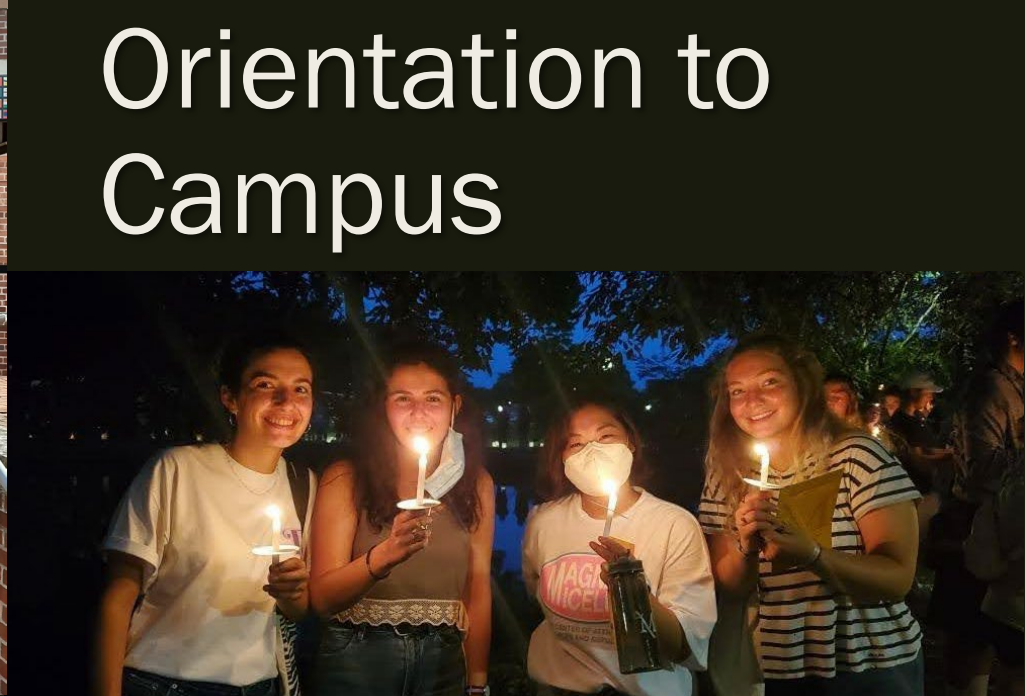
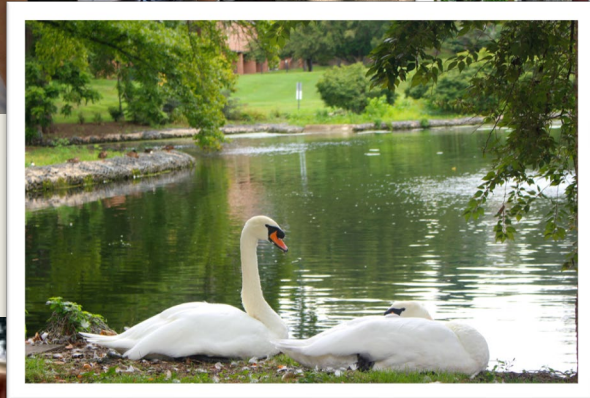
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Zed

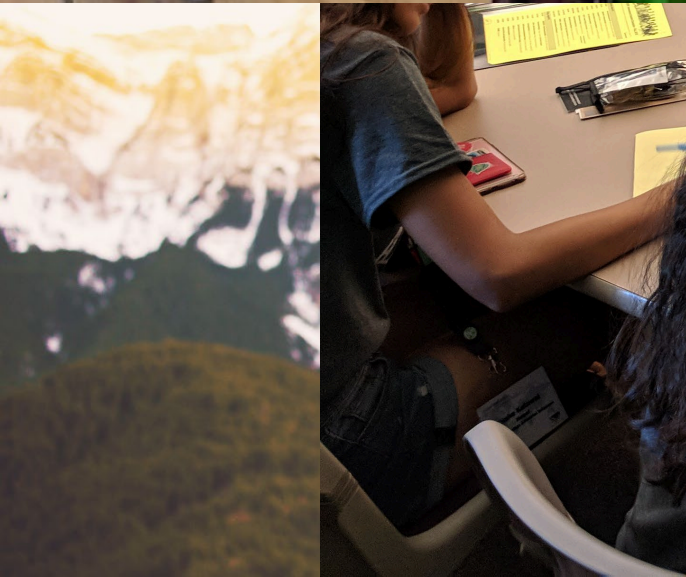
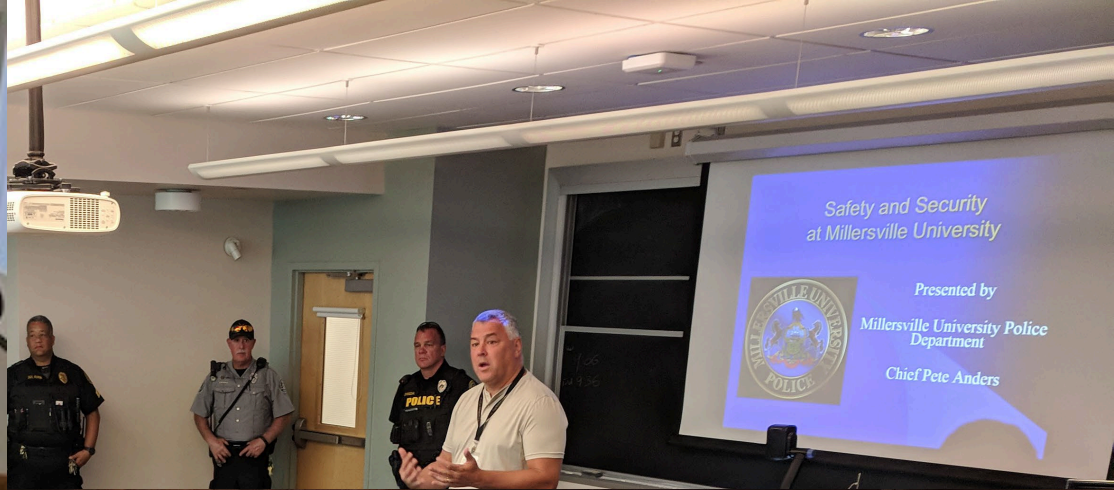


- Arrival &
Pick-Up
- Housing &
Check-In
- Shopping





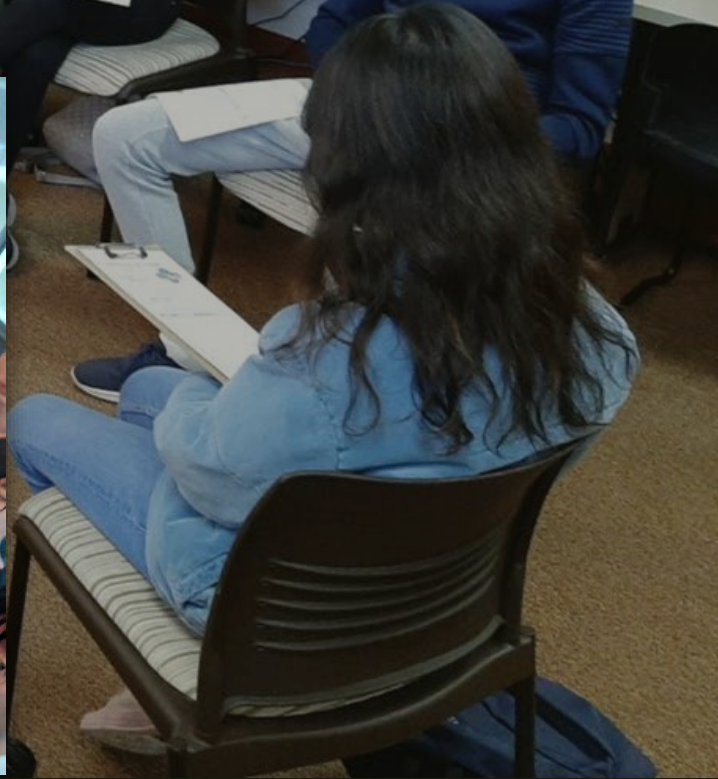
Orientation to Campus





Orientation to Lancaster County, PA

Building Community



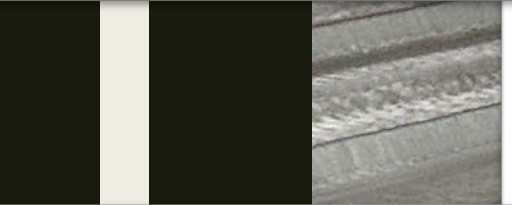


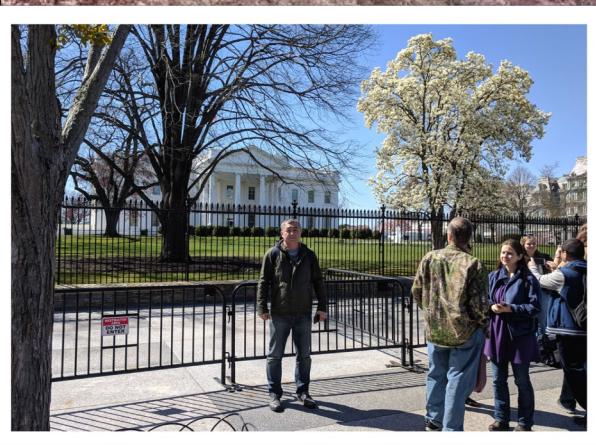
New York City



Washington D.C.

Special Events





COMPLIANCE
adherence
laws
process
mitigation
consistency
policy
defines



Homeland
Security

IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE

Permitted Student Enrollment – Fall and Spring Semesters

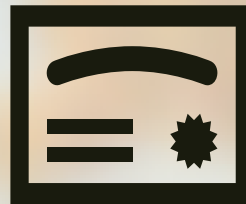
COURSE REGISTRATION

IS OPEN NOW!



Undergraduate Level

At least 12 credits per semester



Graduate Level

6 Credits per semester



Online Course

3 credits per semester

Permitted International Student Employment

On-Campus Employment

- Benefit of F-1 or J1 visa – Not special/ additional authorization needed
- 20 hours/week during academic session
- Over 20 hours/week during school breaks



Off-Campus Employment

Curriculum Practical Training (CPT)

- Internship/Practicum Training
- Academic Training (J1 Visa)
- Must be related to academic major
- Recommended by academic department
- Approved by IPS

Optional Practical Training (OPT)

- Pre - Completion OPT
- Post - Completion OPT
- STEM OPT Extension (24 months)
- Must be related to academic major
- Recommended by IPS
- Adjudicated by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

OPT TIMELINE



Graduation Date

Apply up to 90 days before

Application window

90 Days

OPT Period

Grace period of 60 days to either leave U.S., transfer to another school, or change to another visa category

60 days

OPT Employment of 12 months

*Cannot accrue more than 90 days aggregate total of unemployment during 12 months
*if eligible, can file for STEM 24-month extension. Must file before expiration of EAD card.

*Please note – if you are remaining in the U.S. for the grace period, you cannot leave and re-renter.

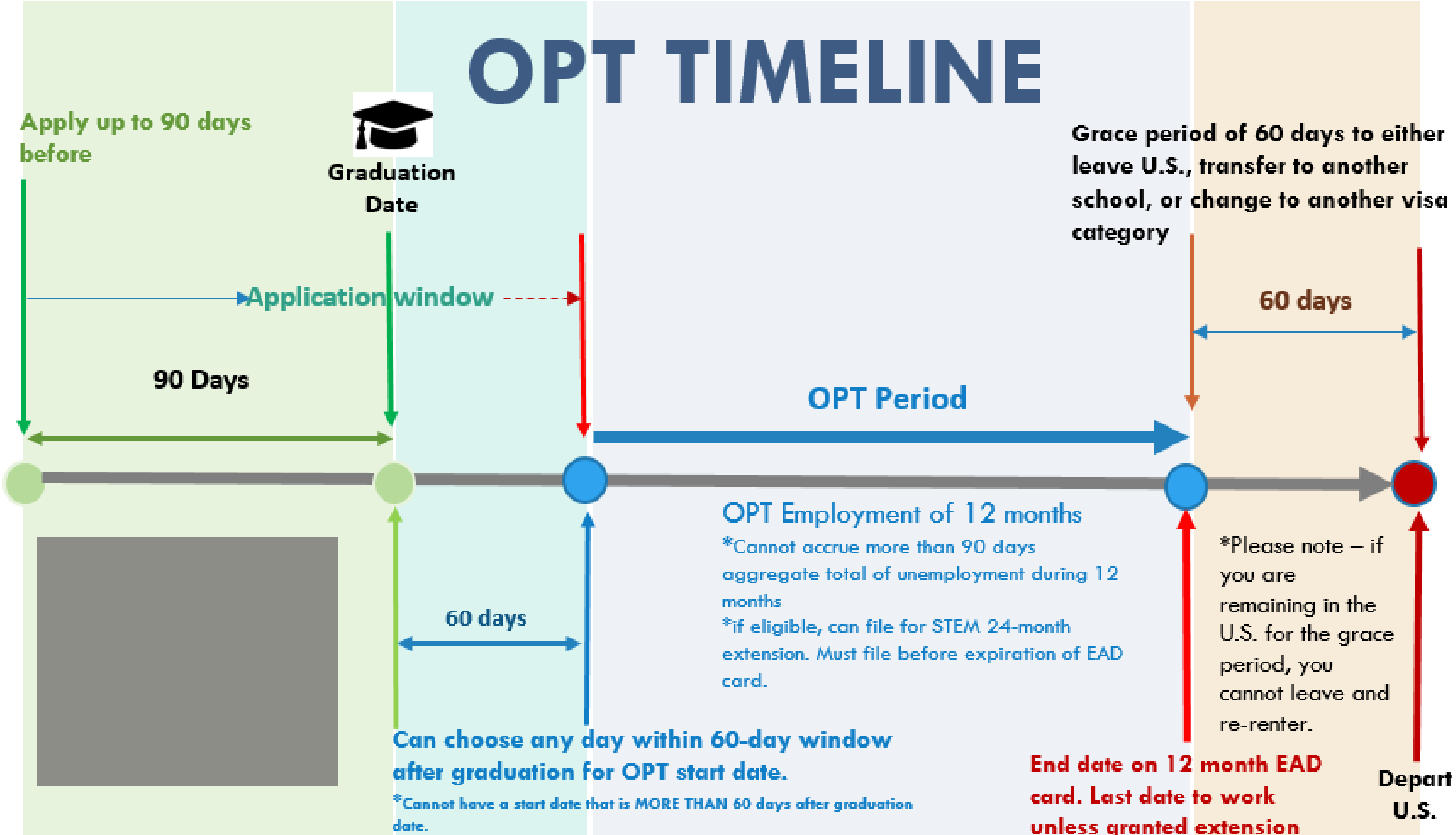
60 days

Can choose any day within 60-day window after graduation for OPT start date.

*Cannot have a start date that is MORE THAN 60 days after graduation date.

End date on 12 month EAD card. Last date to work unless granted extension

Depart U.S.



Reduced Course Load (RCL) Provisions

Reasons	Guidelines
<p>Academic Difficulties, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improper course level placement• Initial difficulty with reading requirements• Initial difficulty with the English language• Unfamiliarity with U.S. teaching methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can only be used for the initial academic term• Student must maintain a minimum six-credit course load, or half the clock hours required for a full course of study• Student must begin a full course of study at the next offered term• RCL start and end dates must correspond to the school session start and end dates
<p>Illness or Medical Condition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cannot exceed 12-month aggregate per program level• May excuse a student from all classes• Student must provide medical documentation from a licensed:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medical Doctor• Doctor of Osteopathy• Clinical Psychologist <p>Start date should be the date DSO approved the RCL</p>
<p>To Complete Course of Study In Current Term</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used in a student's final term if he/she can complete the program with fewer classes• Student must be enrolled in at least one required class



Reasons a student could lose immigration status

Taking less than a full course load –
Fall and Spring

Online Courses – Beyond the
permitted number

Unauthorized employment

Not following any other immigration
regulations



Why talk about Immigration Compliance

Lose the ability to issue immigration documents for students and scholars

Institution could lose the certification to enroll and retain international students

Not have the ability to welcome visiting scholars



Millersville University
We Are Global



Millersville University

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



Scholar Services



How IPS can help – Incoming

1. Immigration paperwork preparation
2. Pre-arrival information
3. On-campus orientation
4. Visa status maintenance and regulation compliance
5. Post- scholar visit program assessment

How IPS can help – Outgoing

1. Grant program identification
2. Application resources
3. Post- scholar visit program assessment



FULBRIGHT
Scholar Program

Action Items

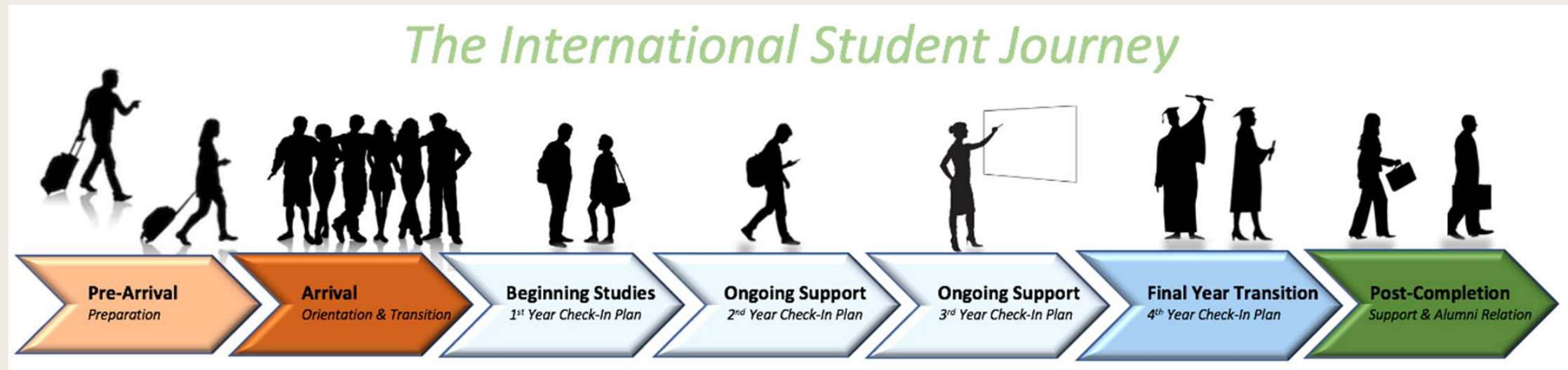
- Explore the Fulbright Opportunities
- Work with IPS during application process
- Work with Deans for the sabbatical process
- Work with IPS for guidance with travel arrangements
- Assessment of the program with IPS



<https://fulbrightscholars.org/>

Group Discussion

1. How can you support the International Student Journey?
2. Discuss 1 or 2 ways to encourage other members on your team to enhance international student experience at MU
3. How do you see yourself as an individual contributing to the International Student Journey?



ISSS Fall 2022 Events



SEPTEMBER

Thursday
1 International Tea Time

Friday
30 OPT Workshop

Contact: international@millersville.edu

*Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change.

OCTOBER

Thursday
13 International Tea Time

Saturday
22 Millersville Parade

Friday
28 CPT Workshop

NOVEMBER

Thursday
3 International Tea Time

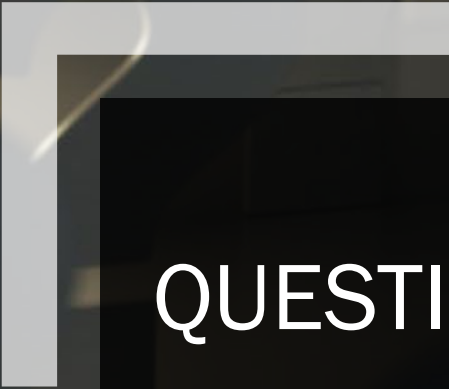
Saturday
19 Philly Trip

DECEMBER

Friday
2 International Game Night

A group of five young people are gathered in a kitchen, smiling and holding their carved jack-o'-lanterns. The group consists of four young women and one young man. The jack-o'-lanterns are creatively carved with various designs, including a cat face, a skull, and a simple smile. The kitchen background features wooden cabinets, a countertop with various items, and a sign that reads "PRAYES CHANGES THINGS". A large, semi-transparent white text overlay with the words "THANK YOU!" in a bold, sans-serif font is centered over the image.

THANK YOU!



QUESTIONS?

Photo Credits

- Airplane - <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2019/06/24/5-ways-find-last-minute-flight-deals-online-and-phone/1543537001/>
- Easter U.S. Map - <https://ontheworldmap.com/usa/map-of-eastern-us.jpg>
- New York City - <https://www.nycgo.com/articles/guide-to-the-staten-island-ferry/>
- Immigration rules - <https://wapave.org/new-immigration-rules-public-services-may-impact-eligibility-for-u-s-residency/>