WELCOME TO THE COOPER UNION ISSO WELCOME EVENT!

We will be starting at 9am
Just a reminder to please mute yourselves!

Use the chat box for questions, and we will take more questions at the end!
THE COOPER UNION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
SCIENCE AND ART

Hala Alkasm
PDSO
Director of International Students & Scholars Office
international@cooper.edu
APPLYING FOR I-20

- I-20 Application
- Passport Copy
- Visa Copy (if you have one currently)
- Affidavit of Support Form
- Affidavit of Support Form (Room & Board)
- Bank Statements
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & SCHOLARS OFFICE (ISSO)

By the Numbers:
• 18% of our student population is International
• 22 different countries

ISSO Services:
• I-20 Application and Processing
• Maintaining Status and Change of Status
• SEVIS Transfer In & Out
• CPT/OPT/STEM Workshops & Applications
• H1B & O-1 Workshops
• International Student Tax Workshops
• On Campus Employment & Onboarding
• I-20 Extension, Change of Level or Major
• I-20 Information Updates & Data Fixes
• I-20 Medical Leave or Reduced Course Load
• Social Security
• Legal ID/License
• Travel Signatures
• U.S. Visa Renewal Questions
• International Student Events /Assimilation
Things to think about as an International student coming to USA

When do you meet with ISSO?

- After you are admitted! (As soon as you are)
- ISSO is NOT involved in the Admissions process

Are there pre-arrival documents I should prepare?

- Yes! Listed on last slide

What type of visa should I apply for?

- F-1 student visa

What about DACA/Refugee students?

- Resources on our website & contact ISSO
More things to think about as an International student coming to USA

Can I work while I’m attending school full-time?

• Yes, you are allowed to work on campus up to 20hrs/wk while school is open and up to 40hrs/wk while school is off (summer time and holidays)

Are international students guaranteed housing?

• Yes, for your freshman year you have guaranteed housing - other resources available on the last slide

Will I need a vaccine to attend in-person classes this fall?

The Cooper Union is closely monitoring both state and federal guidelines to ensure that we open our doors safely when welcoming students on campus this fall. At this time, we have not made a determination as to whether students will require a vaccine to attend in-person in the fall. Please watch this space and your Cooper email in the coming months for updates on vaccination requirements.
More things to think about as an International student coming to USA

I would like to know when I can fly in to New York City, and if I have to quarantine prior to attending classes in-person?

If you are on the F-1 visa, you can only arrive in the United States 30 days prior to the start of the term. The Cooper Union is closely monitoring both state and federal guidelines. As of now, the New York State requires 14 day of mandatory quarantine for travelers. Please watch this space and your email in the coming months for updates on quarantine requirements.

Can I get a vaccine once I’m in NYC?

Yes. Once you are in NYC, you will be eligible to receive a vaccine as long as you have a NYC residence to list, regardless of your permanent address or immigration status. Further information regarding state vaccination guidelines can be found here.
Maintaining your status

- Always be full-time and if you have to drop/add/withdraw you need permission from ISSO office
- Only work as authorized
- Complete your program of study no later than the completion date on your Form I-20 or let me know if there’s an exception or error
- Obtain a SEVIS transfer to attend another U.S. school
- Obtain a Change of Education Level to begin a new program of study
- Do not remain in the U.S. more than 60 days after completing your program of study unless you have applied for Post-OPT employment, School Transfer or a Change of Education Level

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Keep your passport valid at all time
- Report any address or name change to the ISSO office within 10 days of making the change
- Get an updated Form I-20 when any of its information changes
- Get a travel endorsement on your Form I-20 every term before you leave the U.S.
- Fulfill your U.S. federal income tax reporting requirements
HERE ARE SOME VERY IMPORTANT REMINDERS BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

- Make sure to take your passport, I-20, acceptance letter, and financial documents to your VISA appointment and carry them with you on the plane. The U.S. Customs and Border Patrol will ask you for these documents upon arrival. DO NOT PACK them in your suitcase.

- Initial new F-1 students are permitted to arrive in the U.S. no earlier than 30 days before the program start date listed on your I-20.

- Keep your PDSO’s (Hala Alkasm) emergency phone number handy at the port of entry: 1.203.581.4733

- Check that the CBP officer properly stamped your passport as “F-1 D/S” with date of arrival.” If there are mistakes, have the officer fix it right then.

- You must check-in with your PDSO upon arrival and attend the mandatory International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO) orientation.

Principal Designated School Official (PDSO)
Director of International Students and Scholars Office
Hala Alkasm
1.212.353.4192 | hala.alkasm@cooper.edu
cooper.edu/admissions/international
External Housing Options:
First check with residential@cooper.edu for options and look at the Cooper’s list on Facebook.

- 92y.org/Residence - Rate: $1700/mo - $2100/mo
- Hostelworld.com - Rate: $40/day - $90/day
  Indicates if locations follow COVID 19 sanitation guidelines
- Hostelbookers.com - Rate: $40/day - $150/day
- Sarahomestay.com - Rate: $40/day
  Requires down payment (~$250-300)
- Sublet.com - Rate depends on location
- Vrbo.com - Rate: $100-300/night
- Airbnb.com - Rate depends on location
External Financial Aid options:
(not affiliated with Cooper Union)

- **Abroad Planet Scholarship Resources**
  Online community of international students studying in the United States.
- **College Board**
  Free online financial aid source for scholarships, grants, and loans for all college-bound students, including permanent residents and international students wishing to study in the United States.
- **Edupass**
  Free online scholarship search service.
- **International Education Financial Aid**
  Free online scholarship search service designed for international students.
- **International Scholarships**
  Free online scholarship database for international students wishing to study worldwide.
- **Mobility International USA**
  Free online scholarship resource for minority group members
- [https://uncf.org/scholarships](https://uncf.org/scholarships)
- **IIE Emergency Student Fund**
- **Rowe Fund scholarships** for students from Latin America the Caribbean
FOR MORE INFORMATION

COOPER.EDU/ADMISSIONS/INTERNATIONAL

international@COOPER.EDU

REGISTER FOR OUR MAILING LIST:
ADMISSIONS@COOPER.EDU
THANK YOU!

Please feel free to email international@cooper.edu with any additional questions