

# **INTERNATIONAL CENTER HIGHLIGHTS**

September 2023

International Center Hours

Monday-Friday 8am- 4:30pm



Drop-In Hours

Mon-Thur 2-4 pm Fri 11-Noon

#### **Appointments**



Students can schedule through Handshake

Search for Global **Opportunities** 



Globa

International **Education** Week October 2-5

IEW is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide.

October 3 & 5 October 2 GO Fair! 4:30-6 pm Student Traditions Tables

This fall the International Center set a record with the number of documents to those coming to the U.S. in F1/J1 student status!

> Total **International** Student Population 459



Nearly 500 documents were issued for new international students. We yielded 219 graduate, undergraduate, and exchange students for the fall semester from over 45 countries!!

We're excited to see so many fresh faces despite the continued challenges around the world. Everyone is here and settled...but please reach out if you see any concerns.



**Promote your** 

Global Program at the **GO Fair!** 

Sign up for a table

**HERE!** 

Clarkson International Center ERC 2300 email: internationalcenter@clarkson.edu

## **International Visitors: The Process**

The International Center assists departments and faculty sponsors with hiring or hosting international faculty, staff and scholars under the J Exchange Visitor Program. This includes:

- assistance with immigration document preparation
- arrival guide for J Scholars
- general scholar advising to those on J visa status

Clarkson can issue documents under the following categories:



- J Professor / Research Scholar: Individual whose primary duties are teaching or research. These categories commingle. Length of stay is 3-weeks to 5-years
- J1 Short-Term Scholar: A professor, research scholar or person with similar education or accomplishments coming to the US on a short-term visit for the purpose of lecturing, observing, training or demonstrating special skills. Length of stay is up to 6-months.
- J Student Intern: Student pursuing a degree outside the US where the internship is fulfilling the education objective for his/her degree at home institution. Special conditions do apply. Length of stay is 3-weeks to 1-year.

Please visit the International Center intranet to view the 'Steps to host a J-1 Scholar'.

Important Note: Please allow at least 2 - 3 months processing prior to the start of the J program. This allows enough time for International Center staff to review and process the visa paperwork, visa processing - and - travel to Clarkson University.

Please email internationalcenter@clarkson.edu with any questions or requests.

## VISA APPLICATION UPDATES

As the spring recruiting season continues in full force please be mindful that students from certain countries may encounter delays in visa processing.

The turnaround time is shorter prior to the start of the spring term, encourage students to submit their documents in a timely manner.

The soft deadline for visa document processing is November 20. After that dates we will review each situation on a case by case basis.

Please encourage students to be patient and visit the US Consulate website daily to see if appointments have become available.



It is important to understand that when students apply for their student visas, they are required to answer three basic questions:

- What is the reason for your travel to the United States?
- How do you plan to pay for your educational expenses?
- Prove strong ties to your home country.

Challenges once these questions have been answered:

- Overcoming the US Consular Officers' perception of immigrant
- intent. The applicant must prove strong ties to their home country.
- Visa appointment shortages.
- Global/political challenges Some countries are currently going through some political turmoil which impacts the US Consulates availability to provide regular visa services. In some instances, that makes the US Consular Officer sensitive to the applicant's intent to travel to the US. Natural disasters are also causing delays.
- The applicant's previous visa application history.
  If a student has been denied more than two times,
  this may have an impact on their visa application.

The US Department of State continues to make student visa applications a priority.

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## **Meeting with the International Center**







Please know our staff is working hard to answer all of your questions. If there are no available appointments and you have a time sensitive matter, please email <a href="mailto:internationalcenter@clarkson.edu">internationalcenter@clarkson.edu</a> so we can arrange an alternative time.







### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

The International Center's communication with faculty and staff is key for the success of our programming. In an effort to better communicate with all of our internal audiences, the International Center is in the process of restructuring our intranet site. We would love your input on how best to reach you with our communications and any specific information you typically have trouble locating or would like access to. Email us with your suggestions at internationalcenter@clarkson.edu!