



Welcome

for New International Graduate Students

Orientation

2015



NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE, FOR THE MOST CURRENT SCHEDULE PLEASE CHECK THE WEB: [HTTP://ICENTER.STANFORD.EDU](http://icenter.stanford.edu) OR SCAN

(REVISED 8/25/2015)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ❖ **✓ Maintaining Your Legal Status Workshop:** This workshop is mandatory for all F and J student visa holders and provides necessary information about your status in the United States. Workshops will be offered several times from August 14 through Sept 22. You only need to attend one of these workshops, as they are identical, in order for your enrollment hold to be released. See the Orientation Schedule or visit http://icenter.stanford.edu/events/imm_workshops.html for all times and locations.
- ❖ **Change of Visa Status:** All students changing their visa category from one type of non-immigrant visa to another must do so through the I-Center and USCIS. If you have received an I-20 or DS-2019 from the I-Center, please be sure to complete the change of status process through USCIS (http://icenter.stanford.edu/students/new/change_status.html). Once it is completed, verify you are in the correct status by providing a photocopy of your approval notice (Notice of Action) and your I-20/DS 2019 with the change of status notations to the I-Center. If you have returned from international travel, please confirm your I-94 record at www.cbp.gov/I94 to ensure you entered the US in the correct status.
- ❖ **Release of Enrollment Holds:** All F and J students are required to bring their passport, I-20 / DS-2019, and a recent print out/screen shot on digital device of their admissions I-94 electronic record to one of the *Maintaining Your Legal Status* workshops in order to have their enrollment hold removed. The hold will be removed within 24 hours. Prior to attending this workshop, you must update your SEVIS (U.S.) address in AxBSS. Instructions on how to update your address can be found on the I-Center's web site: <http://icenter.stanford.edu/students/arrival/axess.html>.
- ❖ **F-1 Students Who Have Attended Other U.S. Schools:** All F-1 transfer students must complete the transfer process within 15 days of the program start date. This can only be done after you have updated your SEVIS (U.S.) address field in AxBSS and have attended one of the *Maintaining Your Legal Status* workshops at the I-Center. After these two requirements have been met you will receive an email instructing you to come to the I-Center to pick up your *Transfer Completed* I-20.
- ❖ **Social Security Number Information (SSN) and Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN):** If you will be employed on campus or have approval for off-campus employment you will need to apply for a Social Security Number. F-1 and J-1 students who are not eligible for Social Security numbers, must obtain an ITIN.
- ❖ **Chest X-Ray/Tuberculosis Skin Test:** Please review all the Health Center requirements at <http://vaden.stanford.edu>. You can contact the clinic vaden-emr@stanford.edu or the clinic at 650-498-2336 if you have any questions.
- ❖ **Bus Tours:** Please purchase tickets early, as a limited number of tickets are sold (starting Sept. 3) for the **Bus Trip** to Muir Woods on Saturday, September 12 and the **Bay Area Bus Tour** on Saturday, September 19. More details on the dates noted in this schedule. Note: Location of trip/tour may change, so check when purchasing ticket for the exact trip/tour locations.
- ❖ **Evening Events at Bechtel International Center:** Please join us for evening events, including dinners, films and dances. See the Orientation Schedule for details.
- ❖ **Special Information and Events for Couples and Families:** The I-Center offers a variety of special programs, classes and assistance for spouses and partners. The Resource Center for International Families provides information about living in the Stanford area. Find more information on the web: <http://icenter.stanford.edu/families/index.html>
- ❖ **Graduate Student Information Center (GSIC):** Located in the Graduate Student Community Center, (2nd floor) Room 212, 750 Escondido Road. The Center assists new and continuing graduate students with questions about administrative, academic, and student life. The GSIC is open from Sept. 2-23, in the Bogota Room (2nd floor). GSIC Contact number 650-726-7078.

Spouses & families of students are cordially invited to all activities

Tuesday, September 8

- 9:00 - 10:20 am **Staying Healthy at Stanford (also on Sept. 15, 1:00 - 2:20pm):** Presentation by Vaden Student Health Center covering topics such as caring for your health and well-being, counseling services, health promotion, safety and emergency care.
- 10:30 - 11:30 am ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 4:00 - 5:30 pm **Culture of the U.S. Classroom (also on Sept. 15, 3:45 - 5:15pm):** A discussion of cultural aspects surrounding student life: What is Stanford's academic system? What are Stanford's academic regulations? What is the Honor Code? How can you be successful? A panel of Stanford students and staff will address these and other issues.
- 7:30-9:30pm **Social Activities at the Bechtel International Center**
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Wednesday, September 9

- 8:30 - 9:30 am **Living Safely at Stanford (also on Sept. 16, 1:00 - 2:00pm):** Presentation by Stanford's Department of Public Safety. Topics include laws and customs, contacting police, bike safety rules, keeping property safe, personal safety, alcohol rules, safe hiking, phishing scams, telephone scams and a brief talk about Earthquake procedures.
- 10:30 - 11:30 am ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm **Social Activities at the Bechtel International Center**
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Thursday, September 10

- 8:30 - 9:30 am **Student Financial Services (also on Sept. 14, 10:30 – 11:30am):** A representative from Stanford's Student Financial Services will explain: When University bills are sent and due? How to read University bills and how to pay them? What to do when you have questions regarding your bills? How are Third Party Contracts billed? The important enrollment deadlines, the full-time enrolled requirements, how to be sure you have enrolled and enrolled in the correct section and the difference between withdraw and drop.
- 11:30am-12:30pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm **Automobiles (also on Sept. 17, 1:00 - 2:00pm):** A presentation on how to buy a used car, licensing and insurance by a representative from the Palo Alto office of the CSAA (California State Automobile Assoc.).
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 6:00 - 7:00 pm **Dinner (co-sponsored by Bank of America):** Mexican food tonight. Tickets can be purchased from Community Advisors, first floor Conference Room, starting Sept. 3. Cost \$5. Limited tickets available.
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm **Social Activities at the Bechtel International Center**
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Friday, September 11

- 10:30 - 11:30 am ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 12:00 - 1:00 pm **Bicycle Safety Program (also on Sept. 18, 3:30 - 4:30pm):** Want to be a safer bicyclist? Please join us for this session to learn the rules of the road when riding on and off campus. Register your bike (fee is \$3.50) and also get a free bicycle light and obtain a coupon for a bike helmet. Offered by the Dept. of Public Safety and Parking & Transportation Services with support of the Campus Bike Shop.
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 3:45 - 4:30 pm **Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)/Social Security Number (SSN) (also on Sept. 18, 4:45 – 5:30pm).** See description on page 1.
- 6:00 - 7:00 pm **Dinner (co-sponsored by Bank of America):** Italian food tonight. Tickets can be purchased from Community Advisors, first floor Conference Room, starting Sept. 3. Cost \$5. Limited tickets available.
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm **Social Activities at the Bechtel International Center**
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Saturday, September 12

- 9:00 am - 6:00 pm **Bus Trip:** Join us for a guided trip to Muir Woods National Park, a beautiful redwood forest just across the Golden Gate Bridge from San Francisco. The bus will leave exactly at 9:00 am. Please make sure to arrive at the Faculty Club (across the street from the I-Center) by 8:45 am and wear layers of clothing. The whole-day trip will cost \$45 (exact cash please) per person and includes snacks and drinks on the bus, as well as a box lunch. THERE IS LIMITED SPACE, BUY YOUR TICKET EARLY! More information and tickets available from Community Advisors on the first floor of the I-Center starting Sept. 3. NOTE: No children will be allowed on this trip.

Monday, September 14

- 10:30 - 11:30 am **Student Financial Services:** See description on September 10.
- 2:45 - 3:45 pm **Banking in the U.S.A.–Options for Managing your Money (also on Sept. 16 and 17).** Information about different kinds of bank accounts, as well as credit and debit cards offered by all banking institutions. Identity Theft Prevention combined with a discussion on U.S. banking services and money transfers (presented by Citibank).
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status: See description on page 1.**
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Tuesday, September 15

- 1:00 - 2:20 pm **Staying Healthy at Stanford:** See description on September 8.
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 3:45 - 5:15 pm **Culture of the U.S. Classroom:** See description on September 8.
- 5:30 - 7:30 pm **Welcome Reception (co-sponsored by Stanford Federal Credit Union).** Come join the festivities and enjoy the food as well as you meet and make new friends! We will also have information tables set up by different student groups and programs for spouses & families. Come and meet the I-Center staff and CCIS Advisors. Live music provided by the Souls of Blue! A raffle to win a free smartphone, courtesy of AT&T, will be held around 6:30 pm.
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Wednesday, September 16

- 9:00 - Noon **English Placement Examination:** Administered by the Language Center/English for Foreign Students. **Location: Building 200-Room 002 (History Corner of the Main Quad).* For details, please see: <http://www.stanford.edu/group/efs/platest.html>
- 9:30 - 10:30 am ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 10:45 - 11:45 am **Banking in the U.S.A.–Options for Managing your Money (also on Sept. 14 and 17).** Information about different kinds of bank accounts, as well as credit and debit cards offered by all banking institutions. Identity Theft Prevention combined with a discussion on U.S. banking services and money transfers (presented by Stanford Federal Credit Union).
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm **Living Safely at Stanford** See description on September 9.
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm **Stanford As We See It:** A panel of students will discuss what to expect of life at Stanford beyond the classroom; discussion follows.
- 6:00 - 7:00pm **Dinner (co-sponsored by Citibank):** Chinese food tonight. Tickets can be purchased from Community Advisors, first floor Conference Room, starting Sept. 3. Cost \$5. Limited tickets available.
- 7:00 - 9:00 pm **History of Silicon Valley:** Presentation by a representative of the Computer History Museum.
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Thursday, September 17

- 11:15am - 12:15pm **Transitions to Stanford:** This session is designed to bring awareness of the kinds of issues you are most likely to face as a student. The session will be interactive with exercises and discussion, and will focus on typical adjustment phases and self-care. Presented by CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services).
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm **Banking in the U.S.A.–Options for Managing your Money (also on Sept. 14 and 16).** Information about different kinds of bank accounts, as well as credit and debit cards offered by all banking institutions. Identity Theft Prevention combined with a discussion on U.S. banking services and money transfers.
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm **Automobiles:** See description on September 10. Please note that this presentation will take place in the Classroom.
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm ✓ **Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 3:30 - 5:00 pm **President's Welcome.** Stanford President John Hennessy hosts a welcome reception at his residence for new graduate students. Please go to meet President Hennessy and socialize with other new graduate students. **Location: Hoover House Lawn, 623 Mirada Avenue.* Marguerite shuttles will run from Tresidder Memorial and the Graduate Community Center to take you to and from the event.
- 6:00 - 7:00 pm **Dinner (co-sponsored by Citibank):** Indian food tonight. Tickets can be purchased from Community Advisors, first floor Conference Room, starting Sept. 3. Cost \$5. Limited tickets available.
- 7:30 - 9:30 pm **Social Activities at the Bechtel International Center**

Friday, September 18

- 8:00 - Noon **Teaching at Stanford—An Orientation for Teaching Assistants:** *Location: Hewlett Teaching Center – Science and Eng. Quad, (Hewlett Bldg.) Room 200. (Continental breakfast at 7:30 am)
- 9:00 - 10:00am **Designing your Career.** It is never early to start thinking about your future career. Join us for this informative session and get to know campus resources that will help jump-start your professional development.
- 10:00 - Noon **Friday Coffee for Spouses, Partners & Families of International Students & Scholars:** Join us for our weekly informal gathering which is an ideal way to meet other spouses and learn about the many options for enriching your stay in the Stanford area. Held every Friday from 10 am - 12 noon on the I-Center's back patio.
- Noon - 2:00 pm **Graduate Orientation and Lunch Information Event (GOALIE):** *Location: Canfield Courtyard, between the Law School and Meyer Library. This information fair is offered by the Graduate Life Office. Free lunch will be provided.
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm **✓ Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 2:15 - 3:20 pm **Medical Care— Insurance, Entrance Medical Records, Required Inoculations:** A presentation by Vaden Student Health Center. (This is also the time to ask questions about Medical Insurance.)
- 3:30 - 4:30 pm **Bicycle Safety Program:** See description on September 11.
- 4:45 - 5:30 pm **Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)/Social Security Number (SSN).** See description page 1.
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Saturday, September 19

- 9:00 am - 5:00 pm **Bay Area Bus Tour:** The all day trip includes a walking tour of the University of California campus at Berkeley, lunch at Berkeley's International House, then across the Bay Bridge for a drive through San Francisco and Golden Gate Bridge Vista Point. The cost of tickets is \$40 (exact cash please) and includes lunch. LIMITED SPACE, BUY YOUR TICKET EARLY! Tickets available from Community Advisors on the ground floor of the I-Center starting Sept. 3. NOTE: Bus leaves from the I-Center exactly at 9:00 am.
- 8:00 pm - Midnight **Bachata Lesson And Social Dance.** Come and join us for a fun and exciting night of Latin Lesson from 7:30-9pm followed by a Dance Party.
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Sunday, September 20

- 4:00 – 6:00 pm **“Dish Walk”:** Meet new friends and enjoy a Stanford tradition of “Walking the Dish” in the foothills above Stanford. Meet at the I-Center patio. Bring a hat, a bottle of water, and wear good walking shoes.
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Monday, September 21

CLASSES BEGIN

- 9:30 - 10:30 am **✓ Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
- 2:30 - 3:30 pm **✓ Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
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Tuesday, September 22

- 9:30 - 10:30 am **✓ Maintaining Your Legal Status. See description on page 1.**
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Friday, October 2

- 10 - Noon **Welcome Coffee for Spouses/ Partners and Families of International Students and Scholars:** An opportunity to meet other international spouses, get information about living in the Stanford area and learn about the many options for enriching your stay in the Stanford area. Returning spouses speaking many languages will host this event, so fluent English is not necessary to attend!

- Follow us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/Bechtelinternationalcenter>
 - Join the 'Social' mailing list: Find cultural, social and internationally related events happening at the International Center and on campus— <http://mailman.stanford.edu/mailman/listinfo/icenter-social>

The I-Center would like to express its appreciation to Staff, Students and, ESPECIALLY, to our Community Advisors (CCIS) & the Billie Achilles Program Fund. Thank you to our sponsors: Stanford Federal Credit Union, AT&T, Citibank and Bank of America.

Bechtel International Center, 584 Capistrano Way, Stanford, CA 94305 <http://icenter.stanford.edu>