

## ISSO NEWS: April 2014

International Student Services Office (ISSO)  
Clayton State University Center, Room #210

### TAX INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**Deadline to File >> April 15, 2014**

1. **Review:** Flow chart at the end of this newsletter to see what tax related forms to complete and how to get help.
2. **Get Information:** ISSO website forms channel, #15 contains a helpful F.A.Q. (frequently asked questions) about this topic.
3. **Use Free Tax Prep Software:** CSU provides access to Glacier Tax Prep (GTP)\* software free of charge to non-resident aliens (international students) who need to complete a U.S. tax return. ALL students present in the U.S. even for 1 day in 2013 need to complete IRS form 8843, but GTP is not needed for that form.
4. **Form 8843 Info:** On this form, you are allowed to write clearly by hand. Fill in only Part I, III, V. For III(10), you may use the name and address of Clayton State ISSO.

**Note:** Other tax services such as *Turbo Tax, H&R Block, others...* are not designed for international tax returns.

### SPRING 2014 O.P.T. (Employment Authorization) INFO SESSIONS

O.P.T. or *Optional Practical Training* is off-campus employment authorization for international students, which many F1 students apply for just before or after graduation. It's a benefit of your F1 Visa. For more information, see the ISSO Forms channel on the ISSO webpage. Look at #7 and #8. Then, make an appointment with ISSO to get started: [isso@clayton.edu](mailto:isso@clayton.edu)

### STEM MAJORS PAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

**Save The Date:** Wednesday, April 3. Room and location are to be determined.

A local company will be presenting an info session on campus for all STEM majors (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) by a local company that places STEM majors, particularly international students, in entry-level, full-time positions with US companies during OPT. If the placement is a good fit, the company also sponsors all visa fees and the legal process to change to H1-B status (work visa). This visa is renewable up to 6 years. For more information, contact ISSO.

## HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW...

### 1. University Health Services (Medical Clinic)?

**UHS** has moved to Clayton Station Residence Hall, Building 1000. The expansion is really amazing and truly looks and feels modern and spacious. CSU is prepared to meet our students' primary health care needs for years to come.

### 2. Center for Academic Success (Free Personal Tutoring and Study Skills)?

**CAS** has also moved to Edgewater Hall (formerly known as the Student Center) Suite 276. If you need a small group or individual extra help with an academic subject, this center is here to help. There is no extra cost for basic services.

### 3. Science Building Construction Cam?

Yes, this \$20 million new facility is under construction! It will have 36 lab/classrooms, 2 large lecture rooms, 26 offices for biology, chemistry and physics and more. If you want a bird's eye view of the process, check out the construction cam any time. Give it a few seconds to open. The link is >> [here](#) <<

### 4. ISSO Museum!?

It's not really a museum... These are items gifted over the years to CSU by international students. These are now on permanent display in the office. Come by for a look any time and pick up a cookie!



## I-94 Cards: LOOK UP AND RETRIEVAL WEBSITE

As most of you know, I-94 cards are no longer issued when you arrive in the U.S. However, you may need that information for other reasons like: taxes, employment, change of status etc... If you have lost your I-94 card or you were not issued one, you can look up your I-94 number easily and print the information for free:

Click >> [here](#) << for the link to the I-94 Retrieval Page

## U.S. SELECTIVE SERVICE

If you are male, aged 18-25, with a US Social Security Card, you might automatically receive mail from a government agency called Selective Service. This agency collects information about all males in the US who are eligible for potential military service. Non-immigrant students are not required to register with SS. However, if you are contacted by the Selective Service, please inform ISSO for help on the proper way to respond to document why you are exempt.

## \*\* SPECIAL EVENT \*\*

Denali /Deh-NAH-lee/ , which means “The High One”, is a famous national park in the U.S. state of Alaska. Within the 6 million square miles of the park is Mt. McKinley at 20,230 feet high. Last summer, the first group of all African American students made a historic hike to the peak of McKinley to inspire all young people to get outside! **They are visiting Clayton State campus** to talk about their amazing experience, show photos and the outdoor leadership program they participated in.

**Free. Please attend: Thursday, April 10, 3pm, SAC Laker Lounge**

## ARE YOU GRADUATING?

ISSO reminds you that after graduation, you have a 60 days grace period to remain in the US. During this time, you can apply for OPT, transfer to a different school or academic program or, obtain a change of status to a different kind of visa. If you remain in the US after the grace period, you will be in violation of your visa.

## TRAVEL SIGNATURES

Before departing the U.S., be sure to let ISSO update the travel signature on your I-20 and check your status in SEVIS. No appointment is necessary. If your visa, status or I-20 signature has expired, you will not be able to re-enter the US.

## WORLD CLASS MUSIC RIGHT HERE ON CAMPUS!

Hear World Class Artists at your doorstep! Clayton State students with valid ID have access to free, \$5 or \$10 tickets. Take Advantage! **Spivey Hall** is located right here on our beautiful campus. Check out the concerts >> [here](#) <<

## NEXT HOLIDAY

Monday, May 26 is Memorial Day in the U.S.

## CONTACT ISSO

**Hours:** M-F, 8:30 – 5:30 / **E:** [brettreichert@clayton.edu](mailto:brettreichert@clayton.edu) / **T:** 678-466-5499 / **F:** 678- 466-5469

**Facebook:** >> [here](#) << To **subscribe/unsubscribe** from the list, just contact ISSO.

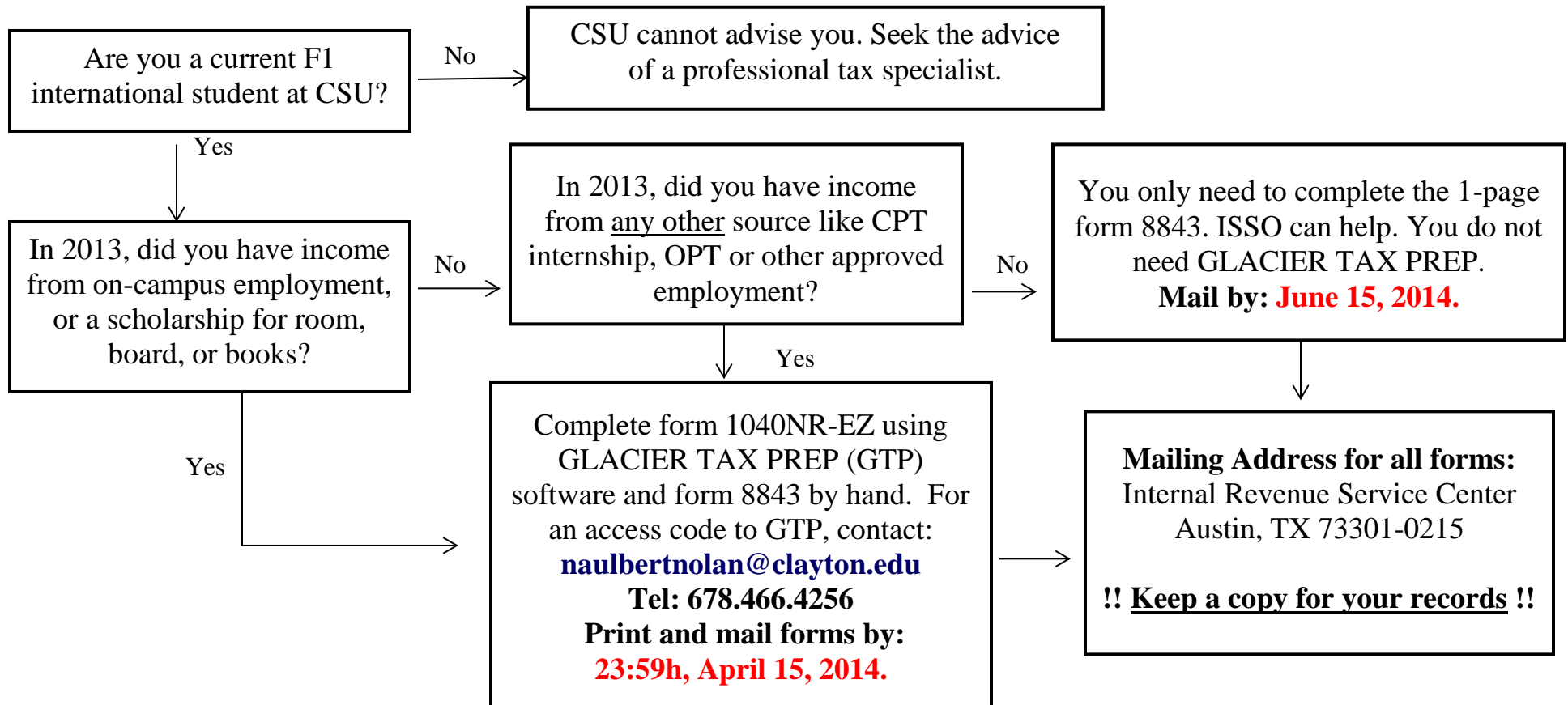
## ISSO MISSION

*To facilitate the success of international students at Clayton State through: 1) effective regulatory and compliance advising 2) providing access to diverse cultural and leadership opportunities, and 3) advocacy of cultural competence and global awareness campus wide.*

# Which Tax Forms Do I Use?

## Tax Year: Jan. 1 – Dec. 2013

### Start here:



SPT =

**Substantial Presence Test:** an IRS formula used to determine another aspect of your tax filing status. If you have been in the US any part of 5 *different* calendar years, you might be considered a *resident for tax purposes* and will file the same tax forms at US citizens. If you don't meet test, you are "exempt from SPT" and use the forms above. Contact ISSO if you are unsure.