

OCTOBER 2023

# OISS Newsletter



## Dear International Gauchos,

October is here and the 2023 - 2024 Academic Year has officially begun! The excitement is palpable and we're so happy to see a lively campus. We have a great feeling about this year and can't wait to see what it brings.

Attention all new students: be sure to submit your Online New Student Check-In by October 13 in UCSBGlobal.

Happy Fall quarter!

In community,

The Office of International Students & Scholars

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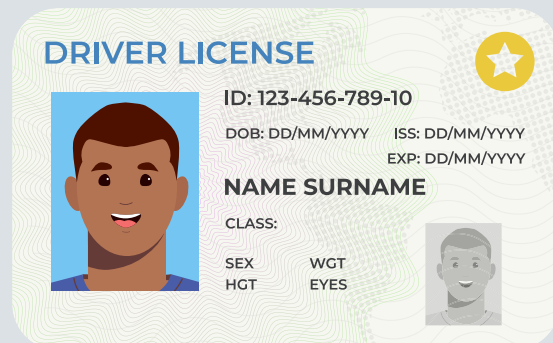
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# Alerts & Updates

## Driver's Licenses

If you would like to drive a car or motorcycle in California, you will need to apply for a California Driver's License (CDL).

Driver's Licenses are issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Our [Driving in the U.S.](#) webpage has information about when, where, and how to apply.



## Need a Social Security Number?

Have you recently gotten a job? Congrats! If you have never been issued a Social Security Number (SSN) before, you can apply for one soon. Start by reading either the [F-1 Students SSN information](#) or the [J-1 Students SSN information](#) on our website.

For those employed on campus, you will submit an on campus employment request in UCSBGlobal to receive an employment verification letter from OISS. You may use the letter (along with [other documents](#)) to apply for an SSN through our local Social Security Office.

For those with CPT or Academic Training authorizations, refer to the [Social Security website](#) for the list of documents needed to apply.

The local Social Security office is located at  
122 W Figueroa St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Phone number: 866-695-6285





## We Appreciate Your Patience

At this point in time, OISS remains understaffed, but is headed towards a fully-staffed team soon!

After submitting a request in UCSBGlobal, you may refer to the processing times listed on our [Student Request Guide](#). We appreciate your patience as it may take us a few extra business days to process your request. While your request is under review, if there is anything that requires follow-up or more information, we will reach out to you via your UCSB email address.

Please do your best to plan ahead so that your requests are approved ahead of any important deadlines. We ask that you refrain from emailing our general inbox (OISS@sa.ucsb.edu) to check the status of your request if the standard processing time, plus a few extra days, has not passed yet. Thank you!

## Help Us Help You

OISS is happy to help you with all your immigration concerns. But the thing that sets students, scholars, and their OISS advisors up for success is doing your best to ask the right questions. We know the transition to UCSB can be challenging, especially when it comes to learning UCSB and immigration terminology. That will all come in due time. But until then, we recommend reading through the [OISS website](#) to familiarize yourself with immigration concepts so that you can ask questions as efficiently and accurately as possible.

We also ask that you be as detail-oriented and explicit as possible when seeking OISS support. This will allow no room for error or misinterpretation when receiving responses from our team. Thank you for working together with us on this.

## Next OISS Closures

Friday, November 10 - Veteran's Day

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 - Thanksgiving Holiday



# Recent Scam Warning from UCSB Information Security

## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FINANCIAL FRAUD!

Do NOT engage in any communications  
via text message with these numbers:

- (626) 768-1837
- (626) 261-2174

These numbers are linked to an Advance Fee scam. Here's how it works:

- Scammers send a bogus check for "services."
- The check usually exceeds the actual amount, and they ask you to send a portion of the surplus to someone else.
- Once you send the money, their original check bounces, leaving you at a loss.

It is important to remember:

- A Professor would NEVER ask you to send them a text message.
- A Professor will never send you a check or request money to be sent through Zelle.
- Payroll Services will never send you a check to your email.

Forward any suspicious emails to [security@ucsb.edu](mailto:security@ucsb.edu)

UC SANTA BARBARA  
Information Security

This is an example of what is being sent to students

Hello, this email message confirms that your message was received via text for quick response. Thanks for your interest in joining our team as a research assistant.

Less than seven hours are needed to finish a week's worth of work, and you get paid \$300 weekly. Throughout the week, you can work on any convenient day. This program is designed to fit in with your academic schedule, which is two to three days a week.

#### General Information

- \* Job Description: Study Research Assistant
- \* Working Title: Research Assistant
- \* Department Name: Computer Science

\* Education & Experience Requirements: Good communications skills, Microsoft Office proficiency(word, excel, PowerPoint) and excellent observational skills.

\* Knowledge, Skills & Abilities: Ability to use discretion and maintain confidentiality, interpersonal skills including verbal and written communication, active listening, critical thinking, persuasiveness, advising and counseling skills.

\* Experience Requirements: (Null) A professional student will be assigned to you who will serve as guide and assist you in all your projects/assignment

\* License Requirements: A copy of your student ID card

\* Working Environment: Remotely. A standard office equipment will be provided by the department to carry out your office duties. Should incase you are required to submit a report to the department, you will be notified ahead.

Most of our research projects aim to educate and enhance future undergraduate students to improve better educational knowledge. Once again Students from any department are eligible to apply, and you will receive materials from other students partnering with the position for a successful project.

Kindly notify me via text for a quick response if you received this message.

Thank you.

UCSB Professor  
Distinguished Professor  
Department & Address  
Phone (Does not start with (805) 893-####  
[professorname@ucsb.edu](mailto:professorname@ucsb.edu)

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# OISS Recommends



Roll on out to the Recreation Center this Halloween!

Enjoy roller skating, pumpkin painting, silent disco, photo booth, costume contests, esports, free food and candy, a spooky movie, s'mores, cornhole, and more!

Participants are encouraged to wear their most creative, silliest, and scariest costumes, but to ensure safety, props, and masks need to be left at home.





# Thanks for Reading!

We hope you enjoyed this issue of the OISS Newsletter. Past newsletters can be viewed on the OISS [website](#).

## Questions?

If you are a current international student with questions regarding immigration, advising and other requests, email [oiss@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto:oiss@sa.ucsb.edu).

J-1 Scholars should reach out to [j1scholar@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto:j1scholar@sa.ucsb.edu). For those with questions related to employment-based visas; please contact [longtermvisa@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto:longtermvisa@sa.ucsb.edu).

For any inquiries regarding upcoming OISS events, or collaboration opportunities, contact [oissprograms@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto:oissprograms@sa.ucsb.edu).

If you are a UCSB department or organization and would like to publicize any information or upcoming events to international Gauchos, contact [mmotomazie@ucsb.edu](mailto:mmotomazie@ucsb.edu).

## Let's stay in touch!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up-to-date with everything happening at OISS.

