



## IMPORTANT UPDATES

**April 2, 2020**

*Published monthly by International Student Admissions and Programs (ISAP) to provide reminders about immigration regulations, services, programs, and opportunities for involvement.*

### ***Hello everyone!***

*We hope you are well. So much has changed so quickly, and we hope you are all safe and well. This newsletter provides a summary of recent and new information. If you have any questions, just contact us, and we'll try to help! Wishing you health and safety wherever you are until this crisis is over.*

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### **E-SIGNATURES NOW ACCEPTED ON I-20's**

If you need a travel signature or replacement I-20, contact ISAP. We can do that for you via email now.

### **WAIVER OF SAT/ACT/GRE/GMAT EXAMS FOR ADMISSIONS**

Waived. Contact [psargent@westga.edu](mailto:psargent@westga.edu) in ISAP with questions.

Details: <https://www.westga.edu/academics/isap/international-admissions.php>

DuoLingo English Test has also been approved for Admissions. It's only \$49, takes 2 hours and provides results in 2-3 days. See the link above for details.

### **SUMMER SEMESTER 2020 COURSES**

All summer courses will continue to be online only.

### **J VISA EXTENSIONS**

If you have a J1 visa as a student or scholar and you are still in the U.S., the government is automatically pushing out a 2 month extension of stay from the current end-date on your DS-2019. Let us know if you have questions. No request is needed for the extension.

## **GRADUATION & WELCOME NEW UWG PRESIDENT, DR. BRENDAN KELLY**

As you know, UWG graduation was cancelled, but UWG's new President, Dr. stated in his welcome video that he plans to reschedule graduation for a later date if possible. Take a look >> <https://www.westga.edu/>

## **WHAT ABOUT MY DIPLOMA?**

If Spring 2020 is your final term, your diploma will be mailed to your address of record after completion of program and graduation audit. Make sure your home / mailing address is correct in your MyUWG. This includes non-U.S. Addresses.

## **UWG CARES**

Always feel free to contact ISAP for help, but if you cannot reach us UWG has a special service called "UWG Cares". Please be aware and learn more about it here: <https://www.westga.edu/uwgcares/>

## **US TAX FILING DEADLINE DELAYED**

Both Federal and State of Georgia tax filing deadlines are delayed until July 15, 2020. Form 8843 is still required for any non-US citizen in the US in 2019, regardless of income or income tax. All these details and how to use the free Sprintax code are at: <https://www.westga.edu/academics/isap/taxes.php>

## **F1 EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION FOR ECONOMIC HARDSHIP**

If you are in the US and feel you need work authorization off campus, you may apply for work authorization based on "Severe Economic Hardship". First, review the information on our website, then contact ISAP first.

<https://www.westga.edu/academics/isap/employment.php>

## **CLASSES**

All classes will continue as planned, via distance / remote instruction. No classes are cancelled. If you have relocated or will return home this semester, there is no risk to your immigration status as long as you maintain enrollment this semester. No special request or authorization is needed.

## **WHAT ABOUT TIME DIFFERENCES AND MY CLASSES?**

Please contact your professor directly via email and indicate that you have relocated or returned home. Indicate the time difference.

*Example. I'm in Korea, so I am 13 hours ahead of UWG. I cannot participate in online discussions at the same time. How can adjustments be made for me?*

If your professor is unable or unwilling to assist you with these circumstances please let us know. You can also contact the **Center for Teaching & Learning** for questions about “how to” continue a current course via computer.

<https://www.westga.edu/academics/ctl/index.php>

## **WHAT ABOUT MY LIBRARY BOOKS AND BOOKSTORE RENTAL BOOKS?**

For library books, contact the library via live chat:

<https://www.westga.edu/library/>

Library contact via email: [circ@westga.edu](mailto:circ@westga.edu)

Library contact form: <https://www.westga.edu/library/online-contact-form.php>

Bookstore: Email only at: [bookstore@westga.edu](mailto:bookstore@westga.edu)

Bookstore customer service, return policies and contact form (at the bottom): [https://bookstore.westga.edu/site\\_customer\\_service.asp](https://bookstore.westga.edu/site_customer_service.asp)

## **I'M STILL ON CAMPUS BUT NEED A RIDE TO THE AIRPORT WHEN I LEAVE**

Contact: [rashikaw@westga.edu](mailto:rashikaw@westga.edu) for resources and possible help.

## **SHELTER IN PLACE IN GEORGIA**

Georgia Gov. Kemp ordered "shelter in place" for all residents in the state of Georgia, effective Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

1. **Shelter In Place:** Stay where you are 24/7. Avoid leaving home, except for essential items (groceries, medicine, medical)
2. **Quarantine:** Possibly contagious. Remain in a private, closed space away from others for a limited time due to *possible* exposure to an illness. Quarantines are temporary.
3. **Isolation:** Sick and very contagious. The sick person must be medically sealed away from others for treatment and observation. Duration varies and depends on recovery.
4. **PPE:** Personal Protective Equipment (masks, gloves, screens, medical gowns, etc...) used to treat individuals in isolation, clinics, hospitals or other health care settings.
5. **Social Distancing:** Keep at least 6 ft. between you and the next person at all times.
6. **Personal Health Best Practices:** Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. Don't touch your eyes, nose, or mouth. Cover your mouth if you cough.

## SHOPPER SHUTTLE

Available only to the few students who were approved to remain on campus. It will **only** take you to Walmart and back to campus. You will receive communication about how to sign up from housing and residence life.

## U.S. HEALTH INSURANCE

If you are enrolled in the United Healthcare Plan, you are covered by your current policy (even if you are in your home country)! All the details are on this website:

<https://www.uhc.com/health-and-wellness/health-topics/covid-19>

## REFUNDS

To learn more about various UWG refunds that have been set up, see:

<https://www.westga.edu/student-services/bursar/uwg-student-refund-plan.php>

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR ACADEMIC & PERSONAL SUPPORT AT UWG

### How Do I Register for Classes?

Go to the Banweb tab in your MyUWG portal at <https://myuwg.westga.edu/>

Or, view the PowerPoint with steps on [How To Register](#)

### The following resources are available 24 hours a day to students:

- [Counseling Center webpage](#) Email: [counseling@westga.edu](mailto:counseling@westga.edu) or call: 678-839-6428
- [Housing & Residence Life](#): Call ResSTAR at 678-839-4718 , 24/7.
- [Student Health Services](#): Open for medical care **M – F, 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. and 1-4 p.m.**. First call, don't just go in. **678-839-6452**
- **Just need medical advice?** call 678-839-6452. [Admissions](#): email [admiss@westga.edu](mailto:admiss@westga.edu).
- [Advising Center](#): email [advising@westga.edu](mailto:advising@westga.edu); Zoom advising available.
- [Bursar](#): email [bursar@westga.edu](mailto:bursar@westga.edu) Include your 917# and question.
- [University Writing Center](#): Students can email written work (papers, reports, etc.) that they would like help with to [writing@westga.edu](mailto:writing@westga.edu). We will work to get student's assignments back to them as fast as possible within 72 hours.

## CONNECT WITH ISAP



- **ISAP on IG | Click the Logo**
- **International Student Admissions & Programs (ISAP) @ UWG**  
Mandeville Hall | Front Campus Drive  
[www.westga.edu/isap](http://www.westga.edu/isap) | T: 678-839-4780
- **Email Us: [global@westga.edu](mailto:global@westga.edu) Include 917 & Full Name**