



## February 2023 Newsletter

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

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- Tax Season is Here! – Let's Taco'bout Taxes!
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### HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY – TUESDAY, FEB. 14<sup>th</sup> 2023



We are glad you are here and thank you for being part of the UWG family. Drop by ISAP on 2/14 to say hello, get some chocolate and a hug if you need one. You are the world at UWG!

*What is this day about anyway? Where did it come from? Is it just an American marketing stunt?*

Check out this 2:32 minute [History Channel Video](#).

## TAX SEASON 2023 (FOR TAX YEAR 2022) FILING DEADLINE: APRIL 18, 2023



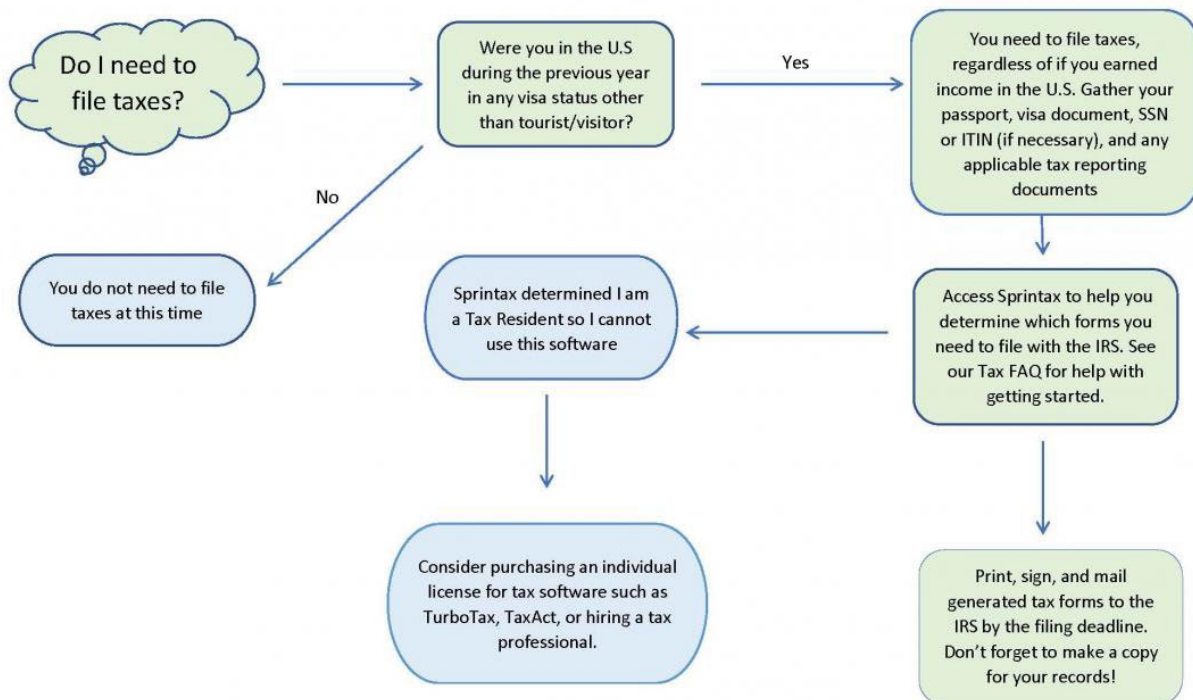
If you 1<sup>st</sup> arrived in the U.S. in 2023, **RELAX** - you don't have anything to file or do this year regarding taxes.

**Everybody Else:** You need to understand the basic flow chart below.

### The #1 Question from International Students!

**Q:** I'm not a U.S. citizen, so why do I need to do this?

**A:** The US government might owe you a refund. If you don't ask for it, you won't get it. If you ever apply for a future visa or a Green Card, all tax records will be required for every year. Filing the proper tax form each year is the law for everyone in the U.S., regardless of income or employment.



### Another way to understand this is:

- Were you in the US in 2022 with income or a scholarship?  
>> Prepare a complete non-resident tax return on form 1040-NR-EZ. Use Sprintax!
- Were you in the U.S. in 2022 with NO income or scholarship?  
>> Only complete [form 8843](#). It's a simple form. We can help.

c. Have you been in the U.S. more than 5 calendar years?

>> You might be a *Resident for Tax Purposes*. Do not use Sprintax. Use the same software or forms as Americans (1040 EZ, not 1040-NR-EZ) \*NR = non-resident



**1:** Click the photo to watch a 5 minute intro video from Sprintax.

**2:** Review the ISAP tax information page.

**3:** If you had taxable income in 2022, ISAP will email a free code in late February to your UWG email. Use it to pay for Sprintax at the end.

**4:** Print full return or [form 8843](#). Mail it to the IRS. Keep a copy for your records. You're done!

***Be aware:*** the Sprintax code from ISAP is only for use by UWG international students who are enrolled or on OPT. Sharing the code with anyone else is a basis for termination of your status.

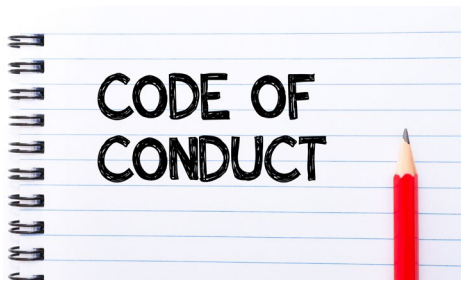
## NEED HELP ?



“Let's Taco Bout Taxes!” –

- Thursday, March 9th 2:00 – 3:30 PM
- Location: ISAP Office Mandeville Hall
- This is our free tax info workshop.
- RSVP to: [dplummer@westga.edu](mailto:dplummer@westga.edu)
- For students who would prefer to complete the Sprintax forms at the ISAP Office, you can do so on Friday afternoons from 1:00-3:00 PM

UWG STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT >> [online here](#)



Please be reminded:

- The legal drinking age in the US is **21 years old**.
- If you enter a bar or place that sells alcohol, you will be asked for photo ID ( DL or passport). If you are under the age of 21 you will not be served or allowed to buy alcohol.
- Possession, use or distribution of pot in any form is **illegal** in Georgia and in the US, despite being legal in some states.
- In Georgia, this is a "misdemeanor" (lower category) crime, with a possible fine of \$1000 or a year in jail. O.C.G.A. §16-13-2(b)
- A criminal conviction, including D.W.I. (Driving While Intoxicated) can lead to visa **revocation** and a 10-year travel ban to the U.S.

**WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO THINK WISELY  
ABOUT YOUR CHOICES.**

### REMINDERS

- **FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT.** Undergraduate - 12 credit hours. Graduates - 9 credit hours. No exceptions. ISAP will be conducting enrollment checks periodically throughout the semester.

## SPRING SEMESTER CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT



- F1 & J1 students may be employed in non-federal work study jobs on-campus up to 20hrs per week.
- J1 students must request employment authorization first.
- All employment requires application for a free Social Security Card.
- Instructions for the SSN application are here >> [Support & Services](#)

- UWG campus jobs are listed on this webpage >> [Jobs at UWG](#)

## EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Before you can work off campus for any reason, you need authorization. Come learn about it at our free employment workshop: 2 this semester. Sign-up required. RSVP to Danielle Plummer-[dplummer@westga.edu](mailto:dplummer@westga.edu)

***So, Optional Practical Training (OPT)?***

- OPT - Required to work in the U.S. after graduation in your degree field.

**All Employment Workshops are held in the Mandeville Hall Room 109 3:00 - 4:00pm**

### Upcoming Workshop Dates:

- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- To sign up RSVP to: [dplummer@westga.edu](mailto:dplummer@westga.edu)



Campus Outreach, a UWG campus ministry, is interested in helping out UWG International Students. Campus Outreach has weekly meetings called The Gathering on Monday evenings at 8:30 PM. You can follow [co\\_westgeorgia](#) on Instagram and direct message them for more information. They also have a number of retreats and events throughout the year. Campus Outreach has helped students in the past with getting connected. If you have a specific need, they would love to help. Please reach out to Joel Ledbetter at [Joel.Ledbetter@campusoutreach.org](mailto:Joel.Ledbetter@campusoutreach.org) for more information.