INSURANCE QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

Several concerns and questions have been submitted regarding health insurance. The topic of health insurance is incredibly complex and unique to each individual’s particular insurance policy. However, some basic information is provided below.

Students enrolled in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) received an email containing information regarding COVID-19 coverage and resources via ArchNews on March 24. This email also provided information regarding resources available to students who don’t have coverage through the SHIP. Within the email, there is a link to the United Healthcare Student Resources main news page where they are providing updates regarding coverage under SHIP. Students can also access COVID-19 information through their United Healthcare Student Resources accounts.

All students at University System of Georgia institutions are now eligible to consult with doctors, nurses, and mental health specialists through United Healthcare Student Resources as they work through issues related to COVID-19. These consultations are no cost for students enrolled in the USG Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) and $40 for non-enrolled students. There is a 24/7 help line available for all students at no charge. Link to ArchNews from March 24

GENERAL CONCERNS

Many international students have expressed concerns related to staying safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic. We share your concerns, but we know that we can all get through this if we exercise the appropriate cautions and best practices to stop the spread of the virus and to keep each other safe and healthy. Explore these resources:

- Common best practices for stopping the spread of COVID-19
- CDC’s latest guidance and recommendations on homemade cloth face coverings
  - While these homemade masks will not fully protect you from the virus, it can help slow the spread of COVID-19 and is a good thing to wear in general if you are outside of your home

Some international students have expressed concerns about being treated differently or negatively due to their nationality or race. While we understand that those concerns may exist, at this time no instances of unfair treatment have been shared with ISL. If you or a fellow international student experience unfair treatment due to your nationality/race, please let us know by emailing isl@uga.edu.

FINANCIAL CONCERNS

We know that this unprecedented situation can create financial challenges for students. If you encounter a financial emergency where you cannot pay for groceries, housing, or required health care, please explore these resources for undergraduate and graduate students.

Please note that neither of these funds are controlled by ISL so we cannot answer questions regarding applications or decisions. Also, please be sure you are ONLY requesting emergency funding for true emergencies. Please do not apply for funding because you anticipate a financial challenge or dislike paying higher grocery fees or delivery fees. Thank you!