

General FAQs

1. What is Slater?

“Slater” refers to the Slater International Center, the Slater International Student Association, or Slater House! The Slater International Center is dedicated to supporting the Wellesley College international student & scholar community. It was established to encourage greater understanding among cultures through personal association and cooperative endeavor. The Center is a focal point for international activities and events that bring together members of the college community who share a desire for increasing intercultural understanding. “Slater” is also a place where students can meet to study, cook, entertain, and gather informally.

2. Where is the Slater International Center located?

The Slater International Center is located on the Wellesley College campus. You can find a map and directions to campus on the Wellesley College website: www.wellesley.edu.

The Slater International Center is a blue house at the end of Tupelo Point, right next to the lake. Once you’ve arrived on campus, follow the main road through the college and turn at the Founders Parking Lot. The sign will say “Founders Parking Lot, Chapel, and Tupelo Point”. Turn left after the Chapel and continue down that street to Tupelo Lane. Stay to the left at the fork. Slater is the 3rd house on the right and there is a sign at the end of the loop.

3. Who works at Slater International Center?

Karen Zuffante Pabon is the Director of Slater International Center, the Advisor to International Students and Scholars (ISSA), and the Advisor to the Slater International Student Association. Averie Sesskin is the Assistant to the Director. Slater also has 2-3 student workers per semester that assist with administrative tasks and programming preparation.

4. What is the Slater International Student Association?

The Slater International Association is a student run organization formed with the aim of encouraging a greater understanding among cultures through events and community building. The Slater Executive Board is a group of elected student leaders from the Slater International Association who work closely with the staff at the Slater International Center. Together they collaborate with other student groups and departments to coordinate and organize events that increase intercultural awareness and involve the diverse Wellesley community.

5. What is an ISSA?

An ISSA is an International Student and Scholar Advisor. The ISSA at Wellesley College is Karen Zuffante Pabon. Karen provides vision and leadership in the development and implementation of programs, services and policies that strengthen and celebrate Wellesley's intercultural community. She also oversees federal immigration compliance for students and scholars, and works the international students and scholar population on immigration issues, employment authorization and cultural adjustment.



6. Am I required to attend Pre-Orientation (International Student Orientation)?

All non-immigrant students are required to attend International Student Pre-Orientation. Pre-Orientation provides you with important information about immigration issues and student employment authorization, as well as information on student life and academic support, financial and health and wellness resources.

7. Is Slater a house?

Slater is a house and an office. In addition to housing the offices for the Director and the Assistant to the Director, Slater has a large living room, a dining room, two kitchens, and a multi-purpose student activities room for organization meetings, projects, and student computer use.

8. Why should I come to Slater?

Students are always welcome to come by to study, cook, watch television, or just to hang out with other students. They will always find a comforting and welcoming atmosphere here. Students should especially come to Slater for immigration advising and cultural adjustment support.

9. When is the Slater International Center open?

Slater is open from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday during the Academic Year. In the summer, Slater is open 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. If you would like to meet with the ISSA, Karen Zuffante Pabon, please check the website for walk-in hours or contact the office to make an appointment.

10. What are Walk-In Hours?

Walk-in hours are scheduled blocks of time where students can come to Slater to speak with their ISSA about any questions or concerns they may have. Students should sign in at the Assistant's office when they arrive at Slater, as students are seen in the order in which they arrive. Walk-in hours change each semester and they are listed on the Slater International Center website.

11. How and when can I make an appointment to meet with my ISSA?

If walk-in hours are not convenient for you, please make an appointment by calling or emailing the Assistant to the Director, Averie Sesskin: 781-283-2082, asesskin@wellesley.edu. Appointments can also be made in person. Appointments are required for certain immigration-related processes such as applying for employment authorization (ie. CPT or OPT). Please note that we do not make same day appointments.

12. Where can I obtain proof of enrollment at Wellesley College or a copy of my transcript?

The Registrar's Office: <http://www.wellesley.edu/Registrar/>

13. Where can I obtain proof of residency, information on obtaining a Social Security Number or working in the United States?

You can come to Slater International Center to pick up forms and instructions or you can download forms and instructions on the Slater website: <http://web.wellesley.edu/web/Dept/Slater>

14. Where can I find information on student employment?

You can find general information on student employment at the Student Employment Office and you can come to Slater to pick up an "On-Campus Employment Form" or download it from the Slater website: <http://web.wellesley.edu/web/Dept/SFS/StudentEmployment>