

Virtual Town Hall:

Proclamation Suspending Entry of temporary workers and their dependents in designated categories

July 10, 2020 at 12 p.m. EDT



International Services Office Panelists

Jane Gatewood

Vice Provost for Global Engagement

Ravi Shankar

Assistant Vice Provost and
Director International Services Office

Kathleen Strout

Associate Director for ISO Scholar Services

Sumie Jacoby and Jeff Rodgers

Senior Immigration Advisors

Today's Agenda

- June 22, 2020 Proclamation and June 29, 2020 Amendment
- Who it applies to
- Who it does not apply to
- Travel Bans and U.S. Embassies/Consulates
- U of R Employees Stranded Outside of the U.S.
- J Exchange Visitor Program
- USCIS furloughs expected to begin August 3, 2020
- Send in H-1B extension requests and change of status requests now

*Please submit questions to the **Q&A tool!***

Proclamation Suspending Entry of Aliens Who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak issued June 22, 2020 and amendment June 29, 2020

- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-suspending-entry-aliens-present-risk-u-s-labor-market-following-coronavirus-outbreak/>
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-amendment-proclamation-10052/>

Proclamation Suspending Entry of Aliens Who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak issued June 22, 2020 and amendment June 29, 2020

- Does not apply to internationals currently in the U.S. and who were in the U.S. before June 24, 2020. People in the U.S. can extend or change status within the U.S. and change employers.
- Proclamation effective June 24, 2020 through December 31, 2020. It will be periodically reviewed and may be extended.
- Does not apply to visa exempt individuals, such as Canadian citizens.
- Suspends entry of certain nonimmigrants (NIVs) through December 31, 2020.
- Continues the suspension of immigrant visa (IVs) processing at Embassies and Consulates through December 31, 2020.

Proclamation Suspending Entry of Aliens Who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak issued June 22, 2020 and amendment June 29, 2020

- **Specific categories suspended from entry to U.S.**
- H-1B, H-2B, H-4, J-1 Exchange Visitors participating in intern program, trainee program, summer work travel program, camp counselor program, Au Pair program, and J-2 spouses and children of those program participants. **This does not impact the J categories utilized at the U of R.**
- L-1A, L-1B, and L-2 spouses and children
- **Impacts people who** were outside the U.S. on June 24, 2020 **and**
- Not in possession of a valid and unexpired visa stamp in their passport of the category they are seeking admission to or an advance parole document.

Proclamation Suspending Entry of Aliens Who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak issued June 22, 2020 and amendment June 29, 2020

- **The proclamation does not apply to:** lawful permanent residents; spouse or child of a U.S. citizen; any alien whose entry would be in the national interest, such as a medical doctor to treat COVID-19 patients.
- We are waiting on the process for applying for national interest exceptions. It may require economic implications for approval.
- J Exchange Visitors in the categories of: student, research scholar, professor, short-term-scholar and alien physician are **NOT barred** from entering the U.S. if they have a valid unexpired visa stamp in their passport.

Proclamation Suspending Entry of Aliens Who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak issued June 22, 2020 and amendment June 29, 2020

- NIV categories utilized at the University of Rochester **that are suspended from entry to the U.S. are** H-1B's and H-4's, who were outside the U.S. on June 24, 2020, without a valid unexpired visa stamp in their passports or advance parole.
- ISO strongly recommends that people currently in the U.S. do not travel outside the U.S. due to the fluidity of immigration proclamations and travel bans.

U.S. Embassies/Consulates

- When U.S. Embassies/Consulates reopen they currently will not issue visas for restricted categories until January 1, 2021 or later. Expect a backlog in visa appointments.
- If you did not have the visa stamp for one of the restricted classes on June 24, 2020, you cannot obtain a visa until January 1, 2021 or later.
- If your current visa stamp expires in your passport, you cannot obtain a new one at this time.
- Canadians are visa exempt so they can enter the U.S.

U.S. Embassies/Consulates

- <https://www.usembassy.gov/>
- <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html/>
- March 20, 2020, Suspension of Routine Visa Issuance.
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news/suspension-of-routine-visa-services.html>

Travel Bans

- Web resources to research international destinations and their travel restrictions, mandatory quarantines and social distancing and health orders. [Worldcue Trip Planning Tool](#) (Net ID required): Members of the University can access updated, destination-specific intelligence information from our intelligence provider.
- [International Air Transport Association \(IATA\)](#): IATA is the trade association for the world's airlines, and this resource outlines entry/transit regulations, health entry requirements, airports closed/open, borders closed/open and flight suspensions abroad.

<https://www.iso.rochester.edu/covid19info.html>

U of R Employees Stranded Outside the U.S.

- Inform ISO of current international U of R employees stranded outside the U.S. scholars@iso.Rochester.edu
- Inform Global Engagement of U.S. citizen U of R employees stranded outside the U.S. <http://www.rochester.edu/global/>
- The University of Rochester Policy: 132 Personnel Policy/Procedure Employment of Out-of-State Residents and Establishment of Out-of-State Work Locations. Also applies to out of country locations. <https://www.rochester.edu/working/hr/policies/pdfpolicies/132.pdf>

J Exchange Visitor Program

- J-1 Exchange Visitors in the categories of student, research scholar, professor, short-term-scholar and alien physician are **NOT barred** from entering the U.S. and are not subject to this Proclamation. They must have a valid unexpired visa stamp in their passport to enter the U.S.
- Hiring freeze does apply. No new J EV's (including transfers) without senior leadership approval.
- J-1 Document Requests:
 - Forms are available at <https://www.iso.rochester.edu/forms.html>
 - Submit completed forms and supplemental documentation to scholars@iso.rochester.edu

J Exchange Visitor Program

- Form DS-2019 Delivery Options:
 - UR Mail Services: sent to campus address per your internal planning
 - FedEx: sent to local staff member's location under the departmental account/payment
 - USPS: available with verified valid mailing address

USCIS Expected to Furlough Staff as of August 3, 2020

- USCIS is funded by filing fees. Due to COVID-19 and Proclamations, fewer cases have been filed with USCIS in 2020. They have a \$1.2 billion funding shortfall.
- 75% of USCIS staff were sent furlough notices in June. Furloughs are expected to begin August 3, 2020, for one to three months or longer, unless congress provides funding.
- We expect there will be an increase in filing fees and a possible surcharge of 10% to repay any funding provided by congress. We do not know when fees will increase.

H-1B Extensions and Change of Status to H-1B

- Link to H-1B page containing questionnaires:
<https://www.iso.rochester.edu/employment/workers/h1bwork.html>
- Premium processing is available again.
- Please send in extension requests to an ISO Immigration Advisor six-months prior to expiration of current H-1B.
- Send in change of status requests **now**.
- Hiring freeze. All new hires must be approved by senior leadership.
- Cannot bring new international hires in the H-1B status from outside the U.S. at this time.

ISO Staff Working Remotely

- Accessing ISO Staff & Services
 - 8:30am to 4:30pm (Wednesdays at 9:30 – 4:30)
 - Inquiries by email scholars@iso.Rochester.edu or questions@iso.Rochester.edu
 - Temporary Phone Number: **+1 (585) 371-8736**
 - Email Immigration Advisor directly
 - Mail sent to ISO is reviewed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
 - www.iso.Rochester.edu
 - <https://www.iso.rochester.edu/covid19info.html>

Questions

*If your question was not addressed, please email
scholars@iso.rochester.edu*

<https://www.iso.rochester.edu/covid19info.html>

Thank you !

