

Monitoring Immigration-Related Developments

We are committed to providing our international community the welcoming, supportive environment you know and value. You are an essential part of our community, and we are dedicated to ensuring you feel valued and secure as you pursue your academic, employment and personal goals. Our office closely monitors any immigration-related developments pertaining to the student, scholar and employee populations we serve. If there are any policy updates that might impact your ability to travel, study, or work in the U.S., we will update our website and reach out with resources. As you prepare for travel, please be sure you are utilizing the [ISSS Travel page](#) for guidance.

For the latest information on policy and process during the Trump-Vance Administration (2025-2029), check the [Current U.S. Administration](#) from NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

During the first few days of his new administration, President Trump has issued numerous executive orders. Here are some key points:

- No new travel restrictions (travel bans) are currently in effect. However, the current administration has set up a [60-day review process](#) to identify countries that may be subject to a later travel ban because they do not provide sufficient information about their nationals who are applying for visas, for admission to the U.S. or for other benefits. At this time, we have no further information.
- Members of our international community should plan their travel carefully and prepare for the possibility of sudden changes. Individuals who are nationals of a country that was subject to entry restrictions in the past may want to be particularly cautious about international travel in the coming months, to avoid re-entry concerns if and when the government reimposes travel bans. Individuals who are not nationals of a previously banned country and who possess a valid U.S. nonimmigrant visa and other necessary travel documents should face fewer risks when traveling internationally, but all international travel will carry some measure of risk going forward. All travelers may expect more intensive screening at U.S. ports of inspection when they return from abroad. You should be prepared upon return to the U.S. for Customs and immigration officials to ask more searching questions about your travel, your background, your views, and your past activities abroad and in the United States.
- The U.S. Department of State (DOS) website no longer displays visa appointment wait times for each U.S. Consulate. Users are now asked to find interview wait times on the [Global Visa Wait Times page](#). Previously, DOS implemented waivers of the in-person interview requirement as an effort to reduce visa wait times. It is now expected that applicants will see a decrease in available appointments resulting in lengthy wait times.

- President Trump has issued an executive order [requiring enhanced security screening](#) of foreign nationals applying for U.S. visas, for entry into the U.S., or for U.S. immigration benefits. International students, scholars, and employees should expect heightened scrutiny, and plan for delays in obtaining a visa appointment at a U.S. consulate or embassy or in receiving a visa. Delays with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) during re-entry into the U.S. after travel are also possible, as are delays in the processing of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) applications.

Additional Resources:

UAF Student Health and Counseling offers [counseling services](#).

UAF University Relations for up to date [Federal government information](#).

University of Alaska [Updates and Resources on Federal Executive Actions](#).

If you have questions or concerns, please visit our office or send us an email.