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Travel Ban

<u>Presidential Proclamation</u> of June 4, 2025: Restricting The Entry of Foreign Nationals to Protect the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats establishes a "full" travel ban on 12 countries and a "partial" travel ban on 7 countries, effective 12:01 am eastern daylight time on June 9, 2025.

Per the NAFSA: Association of International Educators:

Full ban countries. Twelve countries are subject to a **full ban** that suspends "entry into the United States" of nationals of those countries as "immigrants and nonimmigrants." The 12 "full ban" countries are: Afghanistan, Burma, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen (see page 2-3 for more information).

Partial ban countries. Seven countries are subject to a **partial ban** that suspends "entry into the United States" as immigrants and of nonimmigrants "**B-1**, **B-2**, **B-1/B-2**, **F, M, and J visas**." The 7 "partial ban" countries are: Burundi, Cuba, Laos, Sierra Leone, Togo, Turkmenistan, and Venezuela (see page 4 for more information).

Exceptions. The proclamation only applies to nationals of the above 19 countries who are outside the U.S. and do not have a valid visa on June 9, 2025.

The following categories of travelers will be exempt from the restrictions:

- U.S. lawful permanent residents (green card holders);
- Dual nationals of a country designated in the proclamation when the individual is traveling on a
 passport issued by a non-designated country;
- Those whose travel is deemed to advance a critical U.S. national interest involving the
 Department of Justice as determined by the Attorney General, in coordination with the
 Secretaries of State and Homeland Security; and
- Those whose travel is deemed to serve a U.S. national interest, as determined by the Secretary
 of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Note – the list above applies specifically to the populations we serve. Please refer to the <u>NAFSA</u> website for more information.

Additional information: The White House Fact Sheet

Full restriction on 12 countries

Section 1(f) of the proclamation will "fully restrict and limit the entry of nationals of the following 12 countries," declaring that for each of the twelve countries:

• "The entry into the United States of nationals of [country names 1-12] as immigrants and nonimmigrants is hereby fully suspended."

"Immigrants" refers to individuals entering the United States for the first time on an immigrant visa... people who are already lawful permanent residents are exempt as discussed in <u>Scope and Exceptions</u>. The "full ban" covers all nonimmigrant categories except those listed in <u>Scope and Exceptions</u>. That would impact most of the nonimmigrant categories typically encountered in higher education, such as B visitors, F and M students, J exchange visitors, H-1B and O-1 workers, etc.

The 12 countries subject to full restrictions and the declared basis for their inclusion are:

- 1. Afghanistan (basis: "The Taliban, a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) group, controls Afghanistan. Afghanistan lacks a competent or cooperative central authority for issuing passports or civil documents and it does not have appropriate screening and vetting measures. According to the <u>Fiscal Year 2023 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Entry/Exit Overstay Report</u> ("Overstay Report"), Afghanistan had a business/tourist (B-1/B-2) visa overstay rate of 9.70 percent and a student (F), vocational (M), and exchange visitor (J) visa overstay rate of 29.30 percent.")
- 2. **Burma** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Burma had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 27.07 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 42.17 percent. Additionally, Burma has historically not cooperated with the United States to accept back their removable nationals.")
- 3. **Chad** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Chad had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 49.54 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 55.64 percent. According to the Fiscal Year 2022 Overstay Report, Chad had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 37.12 percent. The high visa overstay rate for 2022 and 2023 is unacceptable and indicates a blatant disregard for United States immigration laws."
- 4. **Republic of the Congo** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, the Republic of the Congo had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 29.63 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 35.14 percent.")
- 5. **Equatorial Guinea** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Equatorial Guinea had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 21.98 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 70.18 percent.")
- 6. **Eritrea** (basis: "The United States questions the competence of the central authority for issuance of passports or civil documents in Eritrea. Criminal records are not available to the United States for Eritrean nationals. Eritrea has historically refused to accept back its removable nationals. According to the Overstay Report, Eritrea had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 20.09 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 55.43 percent.")
- 7. **Haiti** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Haiti had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 31.38 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 25.05 percent. Additionally, hundreds of

thousands of illegal Haitian aliens flooded into the United States during the Biden Administration. This influx harms American communities by creating acute risks of increased overstay rates, establishment of criminal networks, and other national security threats. As is widely known, Haiti lacks a central authority with sufficient availability and dissemination of law enforcement information necessary to ensure its nationals do not undermine the national security of the United States.")

- 8. **Iran** (basis: "Iran is a state sponsor of terrorism. Iran regularly fails to cooperate with the United States Government in identifying security risks, is the source of significant terrorism around the world, and has historically failed to accept back its removable nationals.")
- 9. **Libya** (basis: "There is no competent or cooperative central authority for issuing passports or civil documents in Libya. The historical terrorist presence within Libya's territory amplifies the risks posed by the entry into the United States of its nationals.")
- 10. **Somalia** (basis: "Somalia lacks a competent or cooperative central authority for issuing passports or civil documents and it does not have appropriate screening and vetting measures. Somalia stands apart from other countries in the degree to which its government lacks command and control of its territory, which greatly limits the effectiveness of its national capabilities in a variety of respects. A persistent terrorist threat also emanates from Somalia's territory. The United States Government has identified Somalia as a terrorist safe haven. Terrorists use regions of Somalia as safe havens from which they plan, facilitate, and conduct their operations. Somalia also remains a destination for individuals attempting to join terrorist groups that threaten the national security of the United States. The Government of Somalia struggles to provide governance needed to limit terrorists' freedom of movement. Additionally, Somalia has historically refused to accept back its removable nationals.")
- 11. **Sudan** (basis: "Sudan lacks a competent or cooperative central authority for issuing passports or civil documents and it does not have appropriate screening and vetting measures. According to the Overstay Report, Sudan had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 26.30 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 28.40 percent. ")
- 12. **Yemen** (basis: "Yemen lacks a competent or cooperative central authority for issuing passports or civil documents and it does not have appropriate screening and vetting measures. The government does not have physical control over its own territory. Since January 20, 2025, Yemen has been the site of active United States military operations.")

Partial restriction on 7 countries

Section 1(g) of the proclamation will "partially restrict and limit the entry of nationals of the following 7 countries," declaring that for each of the seven countries:

- "The entry into the United States of nationals of [country names 1-7] as immigrants and as nonimmigrants on **B-1**, **B-2**, **B-1/B-2**, **F, M, and J visas**, is hereby suspended." and
- "Consular officers shall reduce the validity for any other nonimmigrant visa issued to nationals of [country names 1-7] to the extent permitted by law."

"Immigrants" refers to individuals entering the United States for the first time on an immigrant visa... people who are already lawful permanent residents are exempt as discussed in <u>Scope and Exceptions</u>. Unlike the "full ban" on the 12 countries, the "partial ban" on these 7 countries applies to **B-1, B-2, B-1/B-2, F, M, and J visas** only. B-1 visas are for visitors for business, B-2 is for visitors for pleasure, the F category is for F-1 academic students and their F-2 dependents, and the J category is for J-1 exchange visitors (of all subcategories) and their J-2 dependents. No other nonimmigrant categories are included in the "partial ban," including categories typically encountered in higher education such as H-1B and O-1 workers.

The seven countries subject to partial restrictions and the declared basis for their inclusion are:

- 1. **Burundi** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Burundi had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 15.35 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 17.52 percent.")
- 2. **Cuba** (basis: "Cuba is a state sponsor of terrorism. The Government of Cuba does not cooperate or share sufficient law enforcement information with the United States. Cuba has historically refused to accept back its removable nationals. According to the Overstay Report, Cuba had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 7.69 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 18.75 percent.")
- 3. **Laos** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Laos had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 34.77 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 6.49 percent. Laos has historically failed to accept back its removable nationals. ")
- 4. **Sierra Leone** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Sierra Leone had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 15.43 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 35.83 percent. Sierra Leone has historically failed to accept back its removable nationals.")
- 5. **Togo** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Togo had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 19.03 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 35.05 percent.")
- 6. **Turkmenistan** (basis: "According to the Overstay Report, Turkmenistan had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 15.35 percent and an F, M, and J visa overstay rate of 21.74 percent. ")
- 7. **Venezuela** (basis: "Venezuela lacks a competent or cooperative central authority for issuing passports or civil documents and it does not have appropriate screening and vetting measures. Venezuela has historically refused to accept back its removable nationals. According to the Overstay Report, Venezuela had a B-1/B-2 visa overstay rate of 9.83 percent.")