

Dear LSU Community,

Last week's Presidential Executive Order affecting the ability of individuals from certain nations to enter the United States has caused significant alarm within the higher education community. Please know that LSU is monitoring the issue and we are engaged with governmental leaders to ensure the protection of our students, faculty and staff. We will continue to provide updates to potentially affected students and employees based on the latest available information.

Academia depends upon the exchange of ideas with colleagues from around the world. In fact, the ability to attract and engage scientists, scholars and students from around the world is one of the reasons American universities are leaders in innovation.

Cultural and intellectual exchange bring significant economic and diplomatic benefits. Faculty and staff from around the world have become part of our university, with many using their unique talents to solve our state's challenges. And our history is filled with international students who returned home to play pivotal leadership roles in their own nations that ultimately resulted in stronger diplomatic ties with the United States.

For these reasons and many more, our colleagues from the international community are more than simply welcome at LSU – they are respected and valued, and we are appreciative of their contributions to the success of our university.

LSU is committed to preparing globally aware students who are internationally competitive while also attracting the world's brightest scholars to Louisiana. I'm proud of our university's progress in meeting both of these goals, and look forward to all we will achieve through our combined efforts.

Sincerely,

F. King Alexander  
LSU President