

Good afternoon,

As you are all keenly aware, President Trump signed an executive order over the weekend that affects entry visas for citizens of Syria, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Libya, Sudan, and Yemen for 90 days. Across all UW System campuses, we have approximately 130 students from these countries, and undoubtedly, this executive order has created anxiety for all international students and faculty.

All of our students are important to the future of Wisconsin and our nation, and the challenges we face cross different cultures, affiliations, and political philosophies. Thank you to your campus leaders and staff who are working together to help support our international colleagues and students during this time of uncertainty.

Here are some recommendations that we suggest you pass along to your stakeholders as they have questions:

- Students or faculty from Syria, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Libya, Sudan, and Yemen should not travel outside the United States in the next 90 days as your entry visa may be deemed ineligible – and you may not be able to return to the U.S.
- Please make any friends and family members from these countries aware of this restriction as well, and encourage them to refrain from traveling to the U.S. during these 90 days.
- Carefully consider any travel plans before going outside the U.S. in the next 90 days. If you absolutely must travel, please make sure that you have all your travel documents in order.

As always, those travelling internationally should contact the:

- Embassy of their home country (contact the embassy based in the U.S.)
- Embassy of the country to which they are travelling (contact the embassy based in the U.S.)
- U.S. embassy located in the country to which you are travelling (contact the embassy in the destination country)
- For those students or employees currently present in the U.S., this executive order does not affect their lawful status, unless they leave the United States.

We do not currently know what the situation will be when these 90 days expire, but UW System will continue to carefully monitor this situation and provide you with updates as we get them.

Students and employees should check with their campus Human Resources, Students Services, or International offices for assistance. Those offices should bring any legal questions to their campus legal office or Matt Lind, UW System Legal Counsel, at mlind@uwsa.edu or 608-890-3281.

A key part of our university culture is that we respect the rights of individuals – and that different ways of thinking are encouraged, support and celebrated.

Immigration policy is extremely important to higher education, and we will closely monitor any developments and share information as it becomes available.

Regards,
Ray Cross