

## U.S. Government rescinds order requiring in-person classes for international students

Dear International Students,

This afternoon U.S. District Judge Allison Burroughs announced the Trump Administration had rescinded a policy that required international students to leave the United States amid the COVID-19 pandemic if their college or university moved courses exclusively online.

This means the July 6 announcement that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) issued requiring international students to take at least some in-person coursework if they wished to remain in the U.S. is no longer in effect. The previous policy, which was issued in March, has been reinstated. That policy allows for enrollment flexibility for international students attending institutions that are adapting to COVID, and preserves the ability of international students to remain legally in the country in a F-1 student legal status if they are enrolled full-time.

Schools such as KU that are not moving exclusively online will offer a combination of in-person, online and hybrid courses that will allow international students to remain in the U.S. legally. New international students coming into the U.S. to begin their KU studies will still be limited to one online 3-credit course, as long as the remaining credit hours consist of in-person or hybrid enrollment options provided by KU. This will ensure new students are able to enter the U.S. to begin their programs.

The Trump Administration rescinded the order to resolve a lawsuit that was filed by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and had hundreds of other institutions and organizations across the country submitting amicus briefs in support.

What is particularly stunning in all of this is how the higher education community, professional associations, industry, and state governments stepped forward in unqualified support of our international community. I have never seen such an instantaneous and broad coalition of unwavering support for the hundreds of thousands of students who have chosen to come to the United States for an education.

The support was a resounding statement of advocacy and appreciation for the rich value this diverse community brings to higher education. I am deeply proud to be serving our students at this time, inspired by a nation that has collectively stood with our international brothers and sisters. I am energized to continue in our institutional advocacy and efforts to ensure that KU is an inclusive and supportive home for everyone. We have much to do, but today is an outstanding day for our field and for higher education in this country.

At 10 a.m. Thursday, immigration issues and other international student concerns will be addressed at a virtual town hall meeting hosted by KU International Affairs and the International Student Advisory Committee. I invite you to [join the Zoom livestream.](#)

Sincerely,  
Charles Bankart  
Associate Vice Provost for International Affairs



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