

UC SANTA BARBARA

Office of International Students & Scholars

Dear International Students and Scholars,

The Office of International Students & Scholars is closely monitoring recent restrictions on travel to the U.S. issued in order to prevent the transmission of the COVID-19. For more information, please see our [COVID-19 updates page and answers to frequently asked questions](#).

On 3/11/2020, the White House released "[Proclamation - Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#)," announcing that effective Friday, 3/13/2020, 11:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time, the U.S. will deny entry into the U.S. of any foreign national who has been physically present in the Schengen Area during the 14-day period preceding their attempted entry into the United States.

The Schengen Area comprises 26 European states, including Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and immediate family members of U.S. citizens and permanent residents are exempt from this restriction, as well as certain other classes of travelers.

Although the President stated in spoken remarks that the restriction would last 30 days, the Proclamation itself states that it "shall remain in effect until terminated by the President."

Similar restrictions were placed on foreign nationals who had been physically present in China, effective 2/2/2020, and those who had been

physically present in Iran, effective 3/2/2020. There have been reports of foreign nationals who were permitted to enter the U.S. from a third country where they had remained more than 14 days, after travel in a restricted country.

As stated in previous memos, OISS continues to strongly discourage all nonessential travel. If you decide to travel, be aware that travel restrictions and flight cancellations can be imposed without much advanced notice. Please visit the [Centers for Disease Control](#), U.S. State Department [Travel Advisories](#), and contact your country's [local Embassy](#) or [Consulate](#) for updated information about travel.

Please stay informed and contact OISS if you have any questions regarding travel, employment, study, or stay in the U.S., 805-893-2929.

Sincerely,

Simran Singh
Director

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