UCONN

June 6, 2025

Important Update: U.S. Travel Ban Effective June 9, 2025

Dear Colleagues:

We are writing to remind you of UConn's ongoing commitment to welcome and support those in our international community from all over the world. We are aware that recent policy changes and actions related to immigration, visas, and travel are causing uncertainty and anxiety for many members of the UConn community, especially our international employees, scholars, and students. Please know that the University is taking action to offer support to impacted community members, is planning for disruptions caused by potential policy changes, and will continue to provide updated information.

Below is specific information and guidance concerning a recent federal policy change that may affect members of our international community.

TRAVEL BAN

On Wednesday, June 4, 2025, President Trump signed a proclamation on restricting travel to the U.S. by foreign nationals from certain countries. This travel ban will go into effect on Monday, June 9, 2025, and will restrict travelers from identified countries from entering the U.S. **and who** do not possess a valid visa as of June 9, 2025. The full proclamation can be accessed <u>here</u>.

The following lists the impacted countries along with the categories of visas whose travelers are restricted from entering to the U.S.:

Country	Who is Impacted
Afghanistan:	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Burma	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Burundi	Partial Suspension: Immigrant Visas; B, F, M and J visa categories.
Chad	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Republic of Congo	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Cuba	Partial Suspension: Immigrant Visas; B, F, M and J visa categories.
Equatorial Guinea	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Eritrea	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Haiti	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Iran	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Laos	Partial Suspension: Immigrant Visas; B, F, M and J visa categories.

Libya	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Sierra Leone	Partial Suspension: Immigrant Visas; B, F, M and J visa categories.
Somalia	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Sudan	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas
Тодо	Partial Suspension: Immigrant Visas; B, F, M and J visa categories.
Turkmenistan	Partial Suspension: Immigrant Visas; B, F, M and J visa categories.
Venezuela	Partial Suspension: Immigrant Visas; B, F, M and J visa categories.
Yemen	Full Suspension: Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas

From the plain reading of the proclamation, it does not appear to restrict travel for those who are outside the U.S. **and** who possess an unexpired and valid visa as of June 9, 2025 (Please remember that this reading of the proclamation should not be construed as legal advice). However, we advise caution when deciding whether to travel internationally at this time for **all those** from the identified countries until we gain more knowledge of how this proclamation will be implemented. The proclamation also states that no immigrant or nonimmigrant visa issued before the effective date shall be revoked pursuant to the proclamation. We encourage you to reach out to your airline to ensure you will be allowed to check-in and board your flight after June 9, 2025, should you decide to travel.

The proclamation does not apply to lawful permanent residents of the U.S., any dual nationals of a country listed in the proclamation when traveling on the passport of a country that is not listed, and a few other unique exceptions. Please feel free to contact International Employees Paralegal <u>christene.cooper@uconn.edu</u> and Labor Relations Manager <u>alison.cutler@uconn.edu</u> if you have specific questions about how this proclamation may impact you.

Given the latest events, we recommend the following:

Avoid Non-Essential Travel: Human Resources, Labor Relations is advising impacted individuals who are citizens of the countries listed above to avoid all non-essential travel outside the U.S. at this time. Please be mindful that policies are changing quickly and consider carefully whether to travel abroad for the foreseeable future. We will continue to monitor changes carefully and update the community. If international travel is a mandatory or a key component of your employment, it is critical that you understand how the travel ban may impact your participation, and that you discuss this with your supervisor.

Documenting Employee Status: If you are a UConn international employee and are planning to travel abroad, we recommend that you travel with additional documentation confirming your employment. These documents should only be presented at the port of entry if requested by the immigration officer. Please visit our <u>website</u> and go to "H-1B" and then "<u>Travel on H-1B</u>" for a list of documents you need to bring with you when traveling. If you are not in H-1B status, please know that the list also applies to other employment visa types such as O-1.

Attend the Immigration Update Information Session: An Immigration Update Information Session will is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10 from 12:00-1:00 pm (click here for more details). This session will cover the travel bans and other recent immigration announcements

from the administration for international employees as well as scholars, and students. More detailed information on this Session will be posted on the Center for International Students and Scholars (CISS) <u>homepage</u>.

University Support and Resources on Immigration Website: We recommend that you visit the <u>University Support and Resources on Immigration</u> website to find more information, resources, and communications concerning the international community and how immigration policy initiatives may impact you.

As a reminder, UConn employees (including Graduate Assistants) and their families have available to them:

Employee Assistance Program ("EAP"), which provides 24/7, free counseling sessions and can be reached at 1-800-676-HELP (4357).

Non-UConn Legal Resources you may consider include:

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Connecticut

American Immigration Lawyers Association

We recognize the uncertainty these changes may bring and want to assure you that we are here to help. As the situation evolves, we will continue to ensure that you receive updates and are informed of changes.

Sincerely,

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