

International Students and Scholars Office

Subject: Important Travel Advisory for International Students and Exchange Visitors - Spring Break

As Spring Break approaches, we strongly advise all F-1 international students and J-1 exchange visitors to consult with their campus Designated School Officials (DSOs) and Responsible Officers (RO/AROs) regarding the best practices of travel.

Recent reports indicate potential federal travel restrictions for entry into the United States. While the specifics remain unclear and news reports vary, there's a possibility that new bans could affect countries similar to those that were 2017, including Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen, as well as potentially Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Given the uncertainty, we recommend exercising caution when planning international travel outside your country of citizenship. We also advise avoiding non-essential travel outside the U.S. until more definitive information is available. Changes in visa processing, entry requirements, and potential delays could significantly impact your ability to re-enter the U.S. as planned.

Please understand that no definitive information exists regarding affected countries, visa categories, or the timing of potential restrictions.

Our office, in collaboration with campus DSOs, is actively monitoring the situation and will provide updates to our international community as information from the Department of State evolves.

For personalized advice and to address any concerns regarding your upcoming international trip, please contact your college's DSO or RO/ARO. You can email us at <u>iss@qc.cuny.edu</u>

Additional information is available at: <u>https://www.cuny.edu/academics/academic-programs/international-education/isss/#advisors</u>

Best, International Students and Scholars Office