

Office of the Provost

MSC 3445 New Mexico State University P. O. Box 30001 Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001 575-646-2594, fax: 575-646-6334 provost@nmsu.edu

MEMORANDUM

lakshun n Reddi

TO: All NMSU Faulty, Staff, and Students (Undergraduate and Graduate)

FROM: Lakshmi N. Reddi, Interim Provost & Chief Academic Officer

DATE: April 7, 2025

SUBJECT: NMSU System-wide Message Concerning International Students

The many recent Executive Orders from the Federal Government and the news reports of visa revocations and terminations of eligibility for student status (I-20) have undoubtedly caused concern, confusion, and uncertainty. At this time, we are aware of three international students whose visas have been revoked.

We want to assure everyone that NMSU is closely monitoring the situation, and we are following updates from international organizations, as well as working closely with various leadership roles across the NMSU campuses system wide.

In response to the Executive Orders, President Ferme has created a task force that will soon include student representation, in addition to NMSU employees. The objective of this task force is to analyze the impact of the Executive Orders on our operations and on our people, and to find solutions that allow us to continue fulfilling our land-grant mission, while providing the best support possible for those affected by the different orders. A website was created to help keep our community informed, and is linked here: <u>Updates</u> <u>Regarding Executive Orders and their Impact at NMSU</u>. It is full of resources and information.

We have not currently identified any changes to federal F and J immigration policies. We will notify you if we become aware of any changes in the federal immigration policies.

During this time, it is important for each of us to uphold our core Aggie values of courage, empathy, gratitude, inclusivity, kindness, and respect to support one another, and cherish the accomplishments of our talented faculty, staff, and students.

We suggest that international students take the following practical steps to be compliant with immigration records:

- Check Communications. Check for e-mails from ISSS and NMSU regularly for any updates.
- **Health and Well-Being**. Please check resources for health, well-being, and self-care provided by NMSU at https://ohp.nmsu.edu/.
- **ISSS Contact Information**. Keep the <u>contact details</u> of ISSS staff in case you need help or face challenges at the Port of Entry.
- **Maintain your Status**. Ensure that you enroll full-time each academic semester to maintain your F-1 or J- 1 status.
- **Obtain ISSS Authorization**. Please check with ISSS before you apply for <u>internships</u>, <u>co-ops</u>, work authorization, and Reduced Course Load.

- **Review Documentation**. Be aware of the required documents you must carry while in the U.S. and Know Your Rights while studying in the U.S.
- **Travel**. Obtain travel authorization before you leave the U.S. If you need a visa for re-entry, check <u>visa appointment wait times</u> at the local U.S. embassy or consulate and plan accordingly.
- **Update Your Local Address**. Check <u>my.nmsu.edu</u> and update your local contact information within 10 days of moving.

We will provide updated information as it becomes available and when we have any further guidance to share.

Meanwhile, if international students, faculty and staff have any questions, they may contact isss@nmsu.edu. We realize these decisions bring much anxiety and concern to our communities. We want everyone to be able to pursue study and work in a supportive environment that allows all to thrive. We are being challenged to do so currently, but we continue to support our students as we abide by the law.

Continue to keep us informed, continue to stay connected, and work with us as we navigate these uncertain waters.