

Subject: ISSS Update: July 6 SEVP Guidance - Fall Semester 2020 Study Plans

Tuesday, July 7, 2020

Dear International Students at the College and the Institute,

*(This email contains information relating to recent news regarding the F-1 student visa status.)*

We know that many of you have questions about the [July 6 news release](#) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)—Student & Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) that took everyone by surprise. Colleges and universities in the U.S. did not anticipate this outcome as institutions began developing our plans for fall enrollments. This initial SEVP announcement alerts schools to the actions we must anticipate taking in the coming weeks.

ISSS is working to understand the new guidance and its implications. This is fresh news, and ISSS needs to review it in detail before we can offer accurate guidance and advice. We also await SEVP's soon-to-be-posted Frequently Asked Questions to determine next step actions. We are conferring with Middlebury's academic administrators to discuss the implications of this new guidance in light of our plans at the College and Institute for the fall. Along with our professional associations, we are advocating to ensure that SEVP understands the repercussions of this guidance that will affect our international students.

We appreciate hearing the MANY thoughtful and nuanced questions you are directing to ISSS. We aim to prepare an update in the coming days, based on the current regulatory guidance.

We know that you are all trying to determine your plans for fall term. We ask for your patience as we strive to outline options for our international population and to provide input into institutional decisions regarding the plans for fall. We will prepare a general update for all international students, and then we will focus on responding to individual questions.

We appreciate your understanding at this incredibly busy time.

~Kathy

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