

# The Global Glance

A Monthly Update from the Office of Global Engagement  
December 2020



## Visa/Immigration

### International Student and Scholar Holiday Travel Plans

This time of year, it is common for international students and scholars to plan travel abroad to their home country or other destinations. Before departing, it is important to carefully consider the plan for returning to the U.S. If a student/scholar holds a F or J visa status, then he/she must first arrange to receive a travel validation signature on his/her official form I-20 or DS-2019. Please contact [Dan Teet](#) to inquire about the best way to obtain that signature. In many cases, Teet will simply prepare a new form for the student/scholar that Teet will sign and deliver to his office where the student/scholar can retrieve it. Teet can also mail it to the student/scholar's home address if there is time to do so before the planned departure. Other considerations—especially during the worldwide pandemic—are to be sure the student/scholar maintains awareness of all travel restrictions for the destinations, and any requirements he/she may need in order to return on the scheduled date. The visa stamp in the student/scholar's passport must be valid on the date that or re-entry into the U.S., and if the visa will be expired before return, he/she must obtain a new visa in order to re-enter the U.S.

Keep in mind that the time needed to obtain a new visa may exceed the planned travel period and delays in visa appointments and issuance are now very common throughout the world. The student/scholar should be aware of any restrictions on travel or re-entry based on any countries that the he/she will pass through on the way to or from your destination. Currently, there are restrictions on re-entry to the U.S. for anyone who has been in the Schengen region and some other countries within 14 days, and while F visa holders are permitted entry to the U.S. under the National Interest Exception (NIE), J visa holders will require a letter from a U.S. Consulate or Embassy declaring a National Interest Exception for them to return to the U.S. The airline will typically require this before allowing boarding of a flight to the U.S. from a restricted region. Communication with the airline is important as they will usually have accurate information about any travel restrictions the student/scholar may face during his/her trip. The student/scholar should be sure to notify his/her UNMC department (academic and/or research) about his/her travel

plans and explain that his/her return could be delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. Also, the student/scholar keep Teet informed about travel and especially about any delays in his/her planned return.

Contact: Dan Teet, [dteet@unmc.edu](mailto:dteet@unmc.edu).

### **Minimum Salary Levels for H-1b Sponsorship Reverted to Pre-October Levels**

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced on Dec. 3, 2020 that in compliance to the court orders, it will change the prevailing wages to the data as it was on Oct. 7, 2020. The executive order in October significantly increased minimum salary requirements for H-1b sponsorship.

Contact: Steve Daubendiek, [sdaubend@unmc.edu](mailto:sdaubend@unmc.edu)

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### **Global Learning**

UNMC College of Medicine and the linguistics department at the University of Anáhuac in Xalapa, Mexico (UAX) have announced the creation of a new Immersion Spanish elective which will be held in Omaha. This experience features 1:1 virtual individualized instruction based on trainee Spanish level for six hours a day, five days a week, for three weeks. Instruction is provided by UAX faculty. In addition to the intensive Spanish language course, the trainee will receive six virtual lectures, including a lecture about the health care system in Mexico. Lectures will be given in English. For the final week of the elective, the student will deliver a presentation on social determinants of health in Omaha for Hispanic/Latino/a population on the last day of the rotation with post-presentation discussion. Details of the presentations will be discussed with the faculty advisor for the month. The course, which will be offered in February 2021 and possibly again in April or May 2021, will be pass/fail.

Contact: Sara Pirtle, [sepirtle@unmc.edu](mailto:sepirtle@unmc.edu)

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### **International Visitors/Scholars**

#### **Requirements for International visitors**

Flu vaccine is required for all CON visitors in addition to some clinical sites that may also require flu vaccination for their visitors.

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