

# The Global Glance

A Monthly Update from the Office of Global Engagement  
July 2021



## Visa/Immigration

### DHS Withdraws Proposed Rule Eliminating D/S Policy

On July 6, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officially withdrew the proposed rule to eliminate the Duration of Status (D/S) policy for F students and J exchange visitors, and their dependents. The proposed rule would have drastically changed the way student visa stays are calculated, establishing a firm end date on the I-94, making it difficult or impossible to extend the stay of students who need more time to complete academic programs, or who wish to continue their education through higher degree levels. Now that the proposed rule has been withdrawn, the existing rules remain in place, allowing for students to extend their status and pursue additional academic opportunities without potentially having their time curtailed by an arbitrary status end date.

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

### IRS Experiencing Delays in Processing Non-Resident Tax Returns

Several students have recently indicated that they have not yet received their tax refund from their 2020 tax return. Currently, the IRS is experiencing significant delays, similar to last year, in processing non-resident tax returns, which are mostly filed on paper through the mail rather than e-filed, which is not yet available for most non-resident returns. While there is a tool on the IRS website used to check the status of a refund, it does not currently support non-resident tax returns, so if someone filed a non-resident return, this tool will not have information about the refund. The best way to determine the status of a return is to call the local IRS office in Omaha at this number: 402-233-7272. Be sure to identify that you filed a non-resident tax return. Any additional tax questions can be directed to Dan Teet.

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

### National Approval Rates of H-1b cases

The USCIS released its second-quarter statistics for FY 2020 adjudication statistics. Approval rates remained similar to previous years, while “Requests for

Evidence” (RFE) rates increased or remained at their already high levels. For H-1b cases, the national approval rate was 87% and 36% of H-1b cases received an RFE. For UNMC and UNO cases, the H-1b approval rate was 100% with 30% of cases receiving an RFE. RFE’s typically delay the final adjudication by one month.

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

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## International Visitors/Scholars

As a reminder, unpaid international visiting research associates are not submitted to PeopleAdmin, Jobs@, nor are they entered into SAP. The Office of Global Engagement will continue to track the unpaid international visitor throughout the duration of their stay on campus.

Contact: Nasreen Maiwandi, [maiwandi@unmc.edu](mailto:maiwandi@unmc.edu)

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## International Travel Guidance

Beginning July 1, 2021, pre-approved essential international travel for students, faculty and staff will be allowed. [In addition to pre-trip approval using the Concur software program](#), additional pre-trip approval by the immediate supervisor is required for all international travel and is limited to essential university-related business. Because all university travel is contingent upon the traveler agreeing to comply with all guidance, supervisors are not responsible for knowing the traveler’s vaccination status for the approval process and should not ask travelers about such status.

After approval by the immediate supervisor, an [international travel request](#) must be submitted to the Office of Global Engagement.

[Click here for more detailed information.](#)

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## Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- The UNMC International Student Orientation is scheduled August 12-13 from, 8-00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Contact [Sara Pirtle](#) if you have any questions.
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## Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

*Join us to celebrate 75 years of Fulbright!*

Chat on zoom with Fulbright alumni, students, scholars, and supporters to learn more about what Fulbright is and does.

YOU can talk with Fulbrighters from around the world to learn about their experiences abroad and the cultural connections they continue.

Students interested in Fulbright will be able to connect with scholars and alumni from countries around the world—and we will all celebrate globalization here in Omaha.

Hosted by the NE Fulbright Chapter.

August 27th at 3:00 pm  
<https://bit.ly/3zYDldG> to register



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