

# Global Glance

A Monthly Update from the Office of Global Engagement  
February 2026



## Visa and Immigration

### Visa issuance update

January 14, the [U.S. State Department \(DOS\) announced](#) that it would pause immigrant visa issuance at U.S. consulates worldwide starting January 21 for nationals of 75 countries. During the pause, DOS will conduct "a full review of all policies, regulations and guidance to ensure that immigrants from these high-risk countries do not utilize welfare in the United States or become a public charge." The pause impacts only immigrant visa issuance at U.S. consulates abroad, and does not affect non-immigrant visas such as B tourist visas, F student visas, H-1B work visas, J exchange visitor visas, etc.

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

### Premium processing fee increase

Effective March 1, 2026, fees to expedite specific applications at the USCIS through "Premium Processing" will increase. The fee for expediting I-129 H-1b applications and I-140 applications for sponsoring employees for permanent residence will increase \$160 from \$2,805 to \$2,965.

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

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### New International Student Resources Canvas Course now available

We've launched a new Canvas course designed to centralize key resources for international students, including discussion boards, information on campus services, academic support and engagement opportunities. This course can be a helpful reference for advisors, faculty and staff who work with international students across campus.

Any administrator who would like access to the International Student Resources Canvas course can contact [Emily Brandt](#).

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## Upcoming Events and Deadlines

### UNMC Lunar New Year Celebration - Feb. 20

Join us for the Lunar New Year Celebration, Year of the Horse, Feb. 20 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Wigton Heritage Center, 4th floor, Dr. Leland J. and Dorothy H. Olson Atrium (note the new location this year). Performances start at 12 p.m.

Complimentary food available for the first 150 attendees, and giveaways for the first 200. Food is provided by the China Buffet and Mongolian Grill.

Activities include calligraphy, historical display, K-pop Demon Hunters and photo booth, paper cutting, tea tasting and wishing tree.

Live performances include a children's traditional clothing fashion show, dragon dance, Guzheng traditional music and jump rope demonstration.

The event is coordinated by the UNMC Office of Global Engagement, along with the UNMC Asia American Pacific Islander Student Association, Asia American Pacific Islander Employee Resource Group and UNMC student groups Chinese Students and Scholars Association and International Student.

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