Proclamation Suspending Entry of Immigrants Who Present Risk to the U.S. Labor Market During the Economic Recovery Following the COVID-19 Outbreak

Link to Executive Order Text

- The Executive Order (EO) does not impact admission to the United States by those currently holding visas for temporary entry (i.e., F-1, J-1, H1-Bs). It also does not impact any foreign national wishing to extend non-immigrant visa status in the U.S.

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Department’s processing of new visas in these categories was already on hold due to COVID-19-related closures. U.S. consular offices and embassies have suspended routine visa services and are currently processing visas for agricultural workers, medical personnel and emergency visas only.

- The EO limits those seeking status as a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR/Green Card), who are not spouses or children of a current LPR. The EO does not apply to people applying for LPR status through Adjustment of Status in the United States.

- The EO does not apply to immigrants seeking to enter the U.S. for employment as a healthcare worker, researcher related to COVID-19, or for a job “essential to combating, recovering from, or otherwise alleviating the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak.”

- UC FGR will continue to monitor Section 6 of the EO, Additional Measures. “Within 30 days of the effective date of this proclamation, the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall review non-immigrant programs and shall recommend to me other measures appropriate to stimulate the United States economy and ensure the prioritization, hiring, and employment of United States workers.” This is where our non-immigrant visas that many of our scholars, post-doc, graduate and undergraduate students would be affected if the Administration went down this road.

- This EO is effective on April 23, 2020; 30 days from then, the Administration will review non-immigrant visa categories, and the entire EO expires in 60 days unless it is given an extension due to the ongoing pandemic.