

Information Session on Recent Immigration Actions

February 1, 2017 • 3:30 pm • Interfaith Chapel, River Campus

On January 27, 2017, President Trump issued an Executive Order entitled *Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States*. While this order took effect immediately, there is still considerable uncertainty regarding the interpretation and enforcement among various government agencies. The main provisions of the order are summarized here for discussion purposes:

Suspension of visa issuance and other benefits to certain foreign nationals

- The order specifies current countries of concern: Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen
- For 90 days, entry to the United States is suspended for individuals from these countries.
 - *Note:* This travel restriction applies to citizens of the identified countries, but guidance is still unclear regarding ties based on birth, residency, dual citizenship, etc.
 - *Note:* The order included both immigrants and nonimmigrants. In a statement on 1/29, Department of Homeland Security cited exceptions for US Lawful Permanent Residents.
- Government agencies are directed to determine what information should be required to grant visa issuance, admission to the United States, and immigration benefits. Countries that are unable or refuse to supply this information may be subject to similar barriers to entry.
 - *Note:* The order specifies immediate limits for travel permissions to enter the country. Clarification is still needed on considerations of visa validity and immigration benefits.

Suspension of US Refugee Admissions Program

- For 120 days, refugee applicants from any country will not be admitted to the United States. Refugee applications from Syrian nationals are suspended indefinitely.
- Government agencies are directed to establish additional procedures for the review of refugee applications, with a cap of 50,000 and priority given to those facing religious-based persecution.

Suspension of Visa Interview Waiver Program

- All individuals seeking a nonimmigrant visa must undergo an in-person consular interview. The option to renew a visa by “dropbox” to skip this scheduling requirement is suspended.

Other Provisions

- Expedited completion of a biometric entry-exit system for all travelers at US Ports of Entry.
- Review of visa agreements to ensure similar treatment of US nationals by other countries.
- Periodic public reports regarding public safety metrics and crimes committed by foreign nationals.

Practice & Recommendations

- The University will continue to issue documents and support benefit requests for foreign nationals impacted by this order, based on individual eligibility under current immigration regulations.
- Carry current and up-to-date immigration documents for all international and domestic travel.
- Plan ahead and be cautious! Due to the scope and haste of this Executive Order, most government agencies have not yet commented on exactly how these provisions will be implemented.
- Speak to an experienced immigration attorney about specific strategies and complex needs.

Campus & Community Resources

As impact of this order and other governmental actions becomes clearer, please find updated information and additional resources online: www.rochester.edu/global/important-news-resources-and-information.

Consider University Support Services

- **International Services Office:** Rely on experienced professionals familiar with current immigration and travel permissions for planning and support. Referrals to qualified immigration attorneys available.
Contact: International Services Office, questions@iso.rochester.edu, (585) 275-2866, 213 Morey Hall
- **Academic & Other Advisers:** Consider contacting your school/department for support and referrals to other University resources. Depending on your University affiliation, such offices could include: College Center for Advising Services (Molly Jolliff), Arts, Sciences & Engineering Graduate Studies Office, Simon Business School Student Engagement, School of Medicine & Dentistry Graduate Education & Post-Doctoral Affairs, Eastman School of Music Academic Affairs, Warner School of Education Academic Affairs, Eastman Institute of Oral Health Registrar's Office, and School of Nursing Student Affairs. For faculty, researchers, and staff, you may connect with resources through Employee Assistance Services.
- **University Counseling Center:** Services are available for a wide variety of challenges that can include anxiety, depression, school-related problems, family problems, and grief. UCC has a professional on-call 24 hours per day for emergencies. *Visits are confidential.*
Contact: University Counseling Center, UHS Building, 738 Library Road, (585) 275-3113
- **CARE Network:** Members of UR community can submit a referral (<https://www.rochester.edu/care/>) to request assistance, for themselves or a peer, and become connected to available resources.
Contact: CARE Network, carenetwork@rochester.edu, (585) 275-4085
- **Interfaith Chapel:** Chaplains are available by appointment or often by visiting the Interfaith Chapel any day between 10 and 6 (and frequently later). *Visits are confidential.*
Contact: The Rev. Dr. C. Denise Yarbrough, Director, Religious and Spiritual Life, Interfaith Chapel, 500 Joseph C. Wilson Blvd., (585) 275-8422, dyarbrough@admin.rochester.edu

Get Involved (just a few suggestions, many more available!):

- **Paul J. Burgett Intercultural Center (BIC)** exists to promote cultural awareness and engagement, educate on issues of identity, culture, and diversity, and provide opportunities for collaboration among students, staff, and faculty.
- **Area community organizations that provide services and support to refugees resettled in Rochester:** Refugees Helping Refugees, Mary's Place, Saints Place, Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services, Rochester International Academy, Children's School of Rochester, Rochester General Hospital Office of Community Medicine, Jordan Health, Brown Square Health Center, Catholic Family Center, and Rochester Global Connections.
- **Donate to Global Engagement Fund through the Office of Advancement:** Support initiatives of institutional priority across all schools & units at www.rochester.edu/giving/GlobalEngagementFund.
- **Student Organizations/Campus Club Connection:** There are many UR student & staff groups that are impacted and passionate about these issues!! Connect with your peers to learn and engage!
- **New York State Emergency Immigration Resource Hotline:** For detained traveler assistance and other resources through NYS Department of State, call 888-769-7243.
- **Legal Resources:** Legal Aid Society of Rochester, Volunteer Legal Service Project of Monroe County