



Division of International Student and Scholar Support
International Student Support
Immigration Services

MEMORANDUM

24 September 2025

To: H-1B Employees at the University of South Carolina

From: Harlan L. Smith, Director

Late on Friday, September 19, 2025, President Trump signed a Proclamation titled [Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers](#). (Refer also to the [White House Fact Sheet](#)). The Proclamation seeks to restrict the entry to the United States of H-1B specialty occupation workers unless employers pay a \$100,000 fee per petition. The Proclamation took effect on September 21, 2025.

Late on Saturday, September 20, 2025, [US Citizenship and Immigration Services \(USCIS\)](#) issued a [memorandum](#) clarifying that the Proclamation applies only to petitions that have not yet been submitted to the USCIS. The memo states:

*“The proclamation **does not apply to** aliens who: are the beneficiaries of **petitions that were filed prior to the effective date of the proclamation**, are the beneficiaries of **currently approved petitions**, or are **in possession of validly issued H-1B non-immigrant visas**.”*

Separately, late Saturday, September 20, 2025, [Customs and Border Protection \(CBP\)](#) issued a [memorandum to all Ports of Entry](#) that states:

*“This Proclamation only applies prospectively to petitions that have not yet been filed. It does not impact aliens who are the beneficiaries of currently approved petitions, any petitions filed prior to 12:01 AM ET on September 21, 2025, or aliens in possession of validly issued H-1B non-immigrant visas... **The Proclamation does not impact the ability of any current visa holder to travel to or from the United States.** CBP will continue to process current H-1B visa holders in accordance with all existing policies and procedures.”*

Despite these clarifications by USCIS and CBP, H-1B employees of the University of South Carolina are advised to carefully consider **any** international travel plans and consult with the Division of International Student & Scholar Support to understand the potential risks and impacts of international travel.

To schedule an advising appointment, please send a message to IMMIGRATION@sc.edu.