

From: International Student Scholar Office

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:47 PM

Subject: International Student Considerations: 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear International Students,

You are an important and welcome member of our Husker family. Our first priority is your safety, health and wellbeing.

We recognize this is a time of uncertainty and disruption, and that [Thursday's message from Chancellor Green](#)—including the decision to cancel classes next week and move to remote learning on March 30—impacts you differently than it does our domestic students. You are far from home and may be evaluating whether to remain here or to return to your families while you complete this semester's coursework. Ultimately that is a personal decision, but we want you to know **you are welcome to stay here and that UNL is a second home for you.**

Some things to consider:

- UNL, including housing and dining facilities, **will remain open** and we will continue to support all of our students.
- We have **notified the Department of Homeland Security** that we are transitioning to remote learning instead of in-person instruction and have been reassured that this transition does not put your visa status at risk at this time.
- The situation related to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) remains unpredictable and the steps that U.S. officials might need to take to address this unprecedented challenge are unknown. If you choose to depart the U.S., you might encounter challenges in returning in the summer or fall to continue your studies. I urge you to consider this possibility seriously as you weigh the decision to travel outside the U.S. at this time. If you ultimately decide to depart the U.S. for Spring Break or the remainder of this semester, **please remember to get a travel signature on your I-20 from ISSO.**

In these unprecedented circumstances, we will continue to communicate updates on immigration policies that may affect you. If you have concerns about your immigration status or questions that arise as you weigh the decision to travel and the potential difficulty of returning to the U.S., please contact the International Student and Scholar Office at isso@unl.edu or via phone at 402-472-0324. Remote advising through Skype will be available starting Monday, March 16, 2020. Instructions for scheduling remote advising sessions will be posted on the [ISSO website](#).

I am extremely proud that our Husker family is a global one, and I believe that **each of you significantly add to the richness** that makes up the fabric of our institution. As University faculty and staff continue to work hard in responding to this global public health crisis, we are proud to have incredible students like you in our community. Whether you remain here at UNL, temporarily return home, or are soon to graduate—we are grateful you are part of our Husker family!

Go Big Red,



Josh Davis, J.D.

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& Senior International Officer*

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