



# INTERNATIONAL

March 13, 2020

Dear F-1 or J-1 Student:

Thank you for your patience and understanding regarding this late communication about the COVID-19 Coronavirus. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure all international students of our support, and to provide an update regarding the steps we are taking in the International Programs and Global Engagement (IPGE) office to help protect your health and safety, which is always our top priority.

Please read the following points:

- **Campus Plan:** Although there are no known cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in our University community at this time, we have implemented several other preventive measures per the guidance of our local public health officials, CDC, and WHO. Please keep monitoring the updates on the [Cal State LA COVID-19 website](#). The website provides information on steps you can take to reduce the spread of infection such as washing your hands often.
- **Home University Request:** Please notify us if your home university is requesting that you return.
- **IPGE Office Advising:** The professional staff in our IPGE office are providing ongoing support and guidance to our international students regarding visa and other related matters. We are moving to "Virtual remote advising" for students who do not feel comfortable coming to campus during this transition time. Please use this link, <https://calstatela.zoom.us/j/2219438823>, to connect with our office during these hours:

Day	Time
Monday	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Wednesday	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday	3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- **Remote Coursework:** On March 10, our University administration announced that we will be temporarily suspending face-to-face, in-person classroom instruction as a preventive measure, based on the guidance of our local public health officials. Please know that you are able to continue this semester's courses remotely without jeopardizing your immigration status. This means that you must

continue to be enrolled full-time and making normal progress toward your degree. Additionally, **F-1 students can attend classes in a virtual/online setting, per institutional mandates from within the U.S. or from abroad, while maintaining their F-1 status. Please review the SEVP statement [here](#).**

- **Travel - F-1 & J-1 Students:** We strongly advise international students to avoid traveling outside the U.S. While we cannot control where you may go, we remind you to take the necessary precautions for your own health and safety. If you do choose to travel internationally, there is risk that you won't be permitted to re-enter the U.S.

Please feel free to contact the IPGE office at (323) 343-3170 or email [international@calstatela.edu](mailto:international@calstatela.edu). **In addition, our staff will be available this weekend (March 14-15) to address your concerns.** We are here for you during this unprecedented time. Please stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jimmy Solis  
Director, International Programs and Global Engagement