November 4, 2021

Dear Exchange Student:

As we welcome you to California State University Los Angeles, we want you to know that the health, safety, and wellness of all our students is a priority, this includes all of our exchange students.

We want to share with you that the White House and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced details of the new vaccination policy that will soon go into effect for international travelers arriving in the United States.

Beginning November 8, 2021, all J-1 exchange visitor applicants (age 18 or older at the time of travel) will be required to show proof of vaccination prior to arrival in the United States, subject to limited exceptions.


Qualifying COVID-19 vaccinations as well as details on exceptions and on applying for humanitarian waivers to this requirement can be found at the following website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/proof-of-vaccination.html#faq-exceptions

Exceptions for J-1 exchange visitors include:
- J-1 exchange visitors under the age of 18
- J-2 dependents under the age of 18
- Persons with valid J-1 visas who are citizens of a foreign country with limited COVID-19 vaccine availability

Please see list of countries here: https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/order-safe-travel/technical-instructions.html#anchor_1635183089047.

Our campus policies and protocols around Covid-19 can be found on our health watch website: https://www.calstatela.edu/healthwatch and students return to campus information can be found here: https://www.calstatela.edu/fall2021

Starting on Oct. 1, a hold will be placed on your registration if you have not submitted verification of full COVID-19 vaccination. Please be sure to submit your verification of COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible to prevent enrollment delays. A hold will be placed on your registration and prevent you from enrolling in courses if you have not submitted verification of vaccination or requested a medical or religious exemption.

We apologize in advance if this seems like an overwhelming amount of information, but as mentioned above, our priority is your health and safety. We hope to provide you with enough information so that you can be better prepared to enter the U.S. and begin your studies at Cal State LA.

We are excited to meet you and we are looking forward to welcoming you to Los Angeles, in person.

International Programs and Global Engagement