

TO: University of Massachusetts Medical School community

FROM: Michael F. Collins, MD, Chancellor
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Resources

DATE: January 30, 2017

SUBJECT: Executive Order on Immigration

We are writing to reassure each and every member of the UMass Medical School community that a broad coalition of leaders and content experts are diligently working to understand and analyze the potential ramifications of the President's executive order on immigration, which imposes a 90-day ban on residents from seven countries from entering the United States. The Medical School continues to be in close contact with the University of Massachusetts General Counsel to monitor the impact of this order on our international faculty, students, employees and visiting scholars.

Today, we convened a kick-off meeting of the UMMS Task Force on Immigration, which will be co-chaired by James Healy, JD, associate vice chancellor for management, and Deborah Harnois, MS, MBA, JD, associate vice chancellor for human resources. This task force will monitor and offer counsel on this rapidly-evolving and complex issue.

The Medical School is enriched by the ideas, expertise and experiences of our colleagues and students who come here from 80 countries around the world. To be clear, we value your contributions to our academic community, and we will stand by you during this period of uncertainty.

This past weekend, University of Massachusetts President Marty Meehan issued a statement regarding the executive order, which can be read here:

<http://bit.ly/2kMXRXr>

If faculty, students or staff have specific questions about their own immigration status, travel plans or work authorization, Vanessa Paulman, the Medical School's director of immigration services, can be reached at vanessa.paulman@umassmed.edu.

In addition, our efforts include:

- Ongoing communication with the University General Counsel on immigration changes that may impact the international campus community;
- Continuing outreach from the Immigration Services Office to specific faculty, staff, students, and departments that may be immediately impacted by the executive order;
- Detailed, timely communication to the Academic Administrators Group, Graduate Schools and Graduate Medical Education will be provided as more information is available;
- An updated Immigration Resource document for students and employees can be found here:
<http://www.umassmed.edu/globalassets/human-resources/documents/immigration/umms-immigration-resources.pdf>
- An upcoming Brown Bag briefing on *Immigration Law & Recent Updates* is scheduled for Feb. 9 at 11:30 a.m. in Amphitheater I (S2-102). This event is part of our existing immigration discussion and Q&A forums available to campus community members each fall and spring.

At this time, please note that:

- If you do not hold a U.S. passport, we recommend you contact the UMMS Immigration Services Office if you intend to travel overseas.
(https://umassmed.edu/hr/immigration_services/contact-us/).
Remember, there is no need to travel to renew an expiring visa stamp if your underlying status documents are valid.
- Department of Homeland Security adjudication of certain benefits may be impacted by federal reallocation of resources and processing times slowed. *Be attentive to the expiration dates on your immigration/status/work authorization documents and plan accordingly.*

In closing, please do not hesitate to contact Vanessa or your immigration specialist with specific questions about the impact of this executive order.