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Immigration Services Office

SUPREME COURT RULING ON LATEST VERSION OF TRAVEL BAN

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On Dec. 4, 2017, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the most recent iteration of President Trump's "Presidential Proclamation" (aka "Travel Ban 3.0"). This specific travel ban was officially called a "Presidential Proclamation" on Sept. 24, 2017, but it underscored similar and specific travel restrictions that began in January 2017 and continued through September 2017, and were frequently referred to as *Executive Orders* or *Executive Actions*.

In the most recent and currently enforced travel regulation, citizens from the following countries have particular limitations until all further notice:

- **Chad:** No B-1, B-2 or B-1/B-2 visitor visas; no immigrant or diversity lottery visas.
- **Iran:** No nonimmigrant visas except F and M student visas and J exchange visitor visas; no immigrant or diversity lottery visas.
- **Libya:** No B-1, B-2 or B-1/B-2 visitor visas; no immigrant or diversity lottery visas.
- **North Korea:** No nonimmigrant, immigrant or diversity lottery visas.
- **Somalia:** Nonimmigrant visa applicants subject to heightened scrutiny; no immigrant or diversity visas.
- **Syria:** No nonimmigrant, immigrant or diversity lottery visas.
- **Venezuela :** No B-1, B-2 or B-1/B-2 visas for officials of designated Venezuelan government agencies. Other visa holders are subject to verification of traveler information. No restrictions on immigrant or diversity lottery visas.
- **Yemen:** No B-1, B-2 or B-1/B-2 visitor visas; no immigrant or diversity lottery visas.

It is particularly significant to note that travel remains restricted for Iranian citizens *except* for current holders, or applicants, of F, M and J visas (see above). *Existing F and J visas for Iranian citizens remain valid and travel is not banned for holders of F and J visas.*

As an institution, we continue to advise that those in our community who are citizens from the aforementioned countries please carefully consider the risks of any personal and professional international travel at this time.

Because everyone's situation is different, we recommend that if you have any upcoming international travel plans, and you are a current citizen of one of the aforementioned countries, please contact Vanessa Paulman of the Immigration Services Office (ISO) at vanessa.paulman@umassmed.edu to discuss your options. ISO can provide you with additional information and a thorough review of your UMMS-sponsored immigration status, as well as advising services for those affected.

If your upcoming plans involve domestic U.S. travel, and you are a citizen from one of the aforementioned countries, there are absolutely no restrictions or limitations on domestic U.S. travel, though it is always prudent to carry your passport and all other immigration documents, especially for air, train, bus and sea transportation.

Finally, as of the time of this writing, it is important to reiterate that there are currently no new changes that impact existing immigration benefits for citizens of any country. Examples of such U.S. immigration benefits include applications for employment authorization or applications to change to another immigration status from *within* the US.

Additional ISO contact information can be found on our [Contact Us](#) page. Additional updates on executive orders impacting immigration and resources for foreign nationals can be found on our [News Updates](#) page.