EXECUTIVE ORDER OVERVIEW

On March 6, 2017, President Trump issued a revised Executive Order titled “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States” (the “Order”). The new Order expressly revoked Executive Order 13769, the previous entry ban executive order dated January 27, 2017 (“EO 13769”). EO 13769 had been stayed by a federal court order.

The revised Executive Order was scheduled to go into effect on March 16, 2017 but has been temporarily stayed by a federal court order. If implemented, it will bar citizens and nationals from Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen from entry into the United States, for ninety (90) days. The Order does not include citizens or nationals of Iraq in the ban, a change from EO 13769. The Order contains a number of limited exceptions to the total entry ban. While the new Order has been modified in distinct ways, there are still implications for University of Nebraska students, faculty and staff.

NU RESPONSE

[The President and Chancellors of the University of Nebraska had released a statement regarding EO 13769, and those sentiments are echoed regarding the new Order as well:

“About 150 members of our university family, including both students and faculty, come from the countries named in the ban. We have been working diligently to communicate with those individuals and to offer them critical guidance and support. We’re advising them to delay travel outside of the U.S. for the time being and to contact their campus international affairs office for assistance.”

“Our pledge to you is that the University of Nebraska will keep working every day to be the kind of place where all feel welcome, valued and safe. Where each student has access to an excellent education and our faculty and staff are able to pursue their world-class work.”]

INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXECUTIVE ORDER

Q: What types of visas are affected by the Order?

A: The Order will impact citizens and nationals from the designated countries who are applying to receive a visa for the first time. It is not drafted to affect those who currently have valid visas, and those who are already in the United States. This is in contrast to EO 13769, which banned entry to the United States even for those individuals who had valid visas.
Q: How long will the Order be in effect?

A: The Order will take effect at 12:01 am ET on March 16, 2017, and the initial duration of the entry ban is ninety (90) days. During that time, the Secretary of Homeland Security, Secretary of State and Director of National Intelligence will conduct a review of what, if any, additional information will be needed from the designated countries to determine whether citizens and nationals of that country will be allowed to seek admission to the United States. The restriction for each county will be lifted or reevaluated based on whether or not the country is able to provide the requested information or develop an adequate plan to provide it. We will continue to monitor the developments in this area.

Q: Does the Order apply to lawful permanent residents (green card holders)?

A: No. The Order expressly exempts from coverage lawful permanent residents.

Q: Who else is exempt from the Order?

A: The Order also exempts from coverage:

a. foreign nationals admitted to or paroled into the United States on or after the effective date of the Order

b. foreign nationals who have documents other than a visa, valid on the effective date of the Order or issued after, such as an advance parole document

c. dual nationals if the individual is traveling on a passport issued by a non-designated country

d. foreign nationals traveling on diplomatic visas, and

e. foreign nationals who have been granted asylum

Q: Are there any other exceptions under the Order?

A: Yes. The Order includes a waiver provision where citizens or nationals from the designated countries can be granted admission on a case-by-case basis. This requires a consular officer, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, or the Commissioner’s designee, determines, in his or her discretion, to authorize the issuance of a visa if denying the issuance of the visa would cause undue hardship and that the national or citizen would not pose a threat to national security and it would be in the national interest.
INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND SCHOLARS

Q: What does the University of Nebraska recommend for students from the designated countries who have valid visas or are already in the United States?

A: The University recommends that students from these countries review the type of visa you hold. If you are in the United States in possession of a valid single entry visa, the University recommends that you do not travel outside the United States at this time since you would need to obtain a new visa to authorize readmission to the United States. If you are in the United States in possession of a valid multiple entry visa, you may travel to and from the United States, so long as your visa remains valid and you are otherwise admissible. The Department of Homeland Security has stated that no visa will be revoked solely because of the Order, although DHS has broad authority to revoke visas.

Additionally, the University recommends that students from these designated countries maintain their status in the United States and continue to comply with established immigration law and the requirements of their campus office that supports international students and scholars. Students who have questions or need to discuss any personal situation are encouraged to speak with an international advisor on their campus. The following offices are the best contacts for international students:

UNK: International Education, Welch Hall, Phone: 308-865-8953
UNL: ISSO, Seaton Hall 201, Phone: 402-472-0324
UNMC: International Health and Medical Education, 4230 Building, Phone: 402-559-8449
UNO: International Studies & Programs, Arts and Sciences Hall 241, Phone: 402-554-2293

Q: What does the University recommend for faculty, staff or scholars from the designated countries who have valid visas or are already in the United States?

A: The University recommends that faculty, staff and scholars from these countries review the type of visa you hold. If you are in the United States in possession of a valid single entry visa, the University recommends that you do not travel outside the United States at this time since you would need to obtain a new visa to authorize readmission to the United States. If you are in the United States in possession of a valid multiple entry visa, you may travel to and from the United States, so long as your visa remains valid and you are otherwise admissible. The Department of Homeland Security has stated that no visa will be revoked solely because of the Order, although DHS has broad authority to revoke visas.

Additionally, the University recommends that faculty members, staff and scholars maintain their current status in the United States and continue to comply with established immigration law and the requirements of the University. Individuals who have questions or need to discuss any personal situation are encouraged to speak with someone on their campus. The following are the best contacts for faculty, staff and scholars:

UNK: Human Resources, Founders Hall 1200, Phone: 308-865-8426
UNL: ISSO, Seaton Hall 201, Phone: 402-472-0324
UNMC: Steve Daubendiek, International Health and Medical Education, 4230 Building, Phone: 402-559-8449
UNO: Cecil Hicks, Human Resources Director, Eppley Administration 205, Phone: 402-554-2321
Q: What does the University recommend for any individual from the designated countries who currently holds a green card and is currently working in the United States?

A: The Order does not affect lawful permanent residents of the United States. Individuals who have questions or need to discuss any personal situation are encouraged to speak with an international advisor in the International Students and Scholars Office on their campus.

Q: What does the University recommend for individuals from the designated countries who have valid visas and are currently working or studying abroad?

A: The Order should not affect those individuals with valid visas and there should not be any issue gaining admission to the United States after the Order goes into effect. However, the University recommends that, if you are able, you return to the United States before 12:01 am ET on March 16, 2017 to avoid any unforeseen issues or major delays.

Q: What does the University recommend for individuals from the designated countries who have been admitted to one of the University of Nebraska’s campuses (Kearney, Lincoln, Medical Center or Omaha) but who have not received a student visa?

A: The University encourages admitted students to be patient while the U.S. Government conducts the reviews specified in the Order. The University will inform you with new information as it becomes available in the future.

Q: What should a student or scholar from one of the designated countries do if their visa expires before this review is completed?

A: The University recommends that students and scholars speak with an international advisor or with a representative of the Human Resources Department on their campus to discuss their specific situation. Contact information appears on page 3 above.

Q: What does the University recommend for international students from other countries that are not included in the Order?

A: At this time, the University does not anticipate any problems with students from other countries. As before, students should maintain their current visas or lawful permanent resident status in the United States and continue to comply with established immigration law and the requirements of their campus office that supports international students. Students who have questions or need to discuss any personal situation are encouraged to speak with an international advisor on their campus. Contact information appears on page 3 above.
Q: What does the University recommend for international faculty, staff and scholars from other countries that are not included in the Order?

A: At this time, the University does not anticipate any problems with faculty, staff or scholars from other countries. As before, these individuals should maintain their current visas or lawful permanent resident status in the United States and continue to comply with established immigration law and the requirements of the University’s Human Resource office on each campus. Individuals who have questions or need to discuss any personal situation are encouraged to speak with an advisor from the Human Relations Department on their campus. Contact information appears on page 3.

Q: How long will the Order remain in place?

A: The Order will begin at 12:01 am ET on March 16, 2017 and will remain in effect for ninety (90) days, at least until June 14, 2017. We will share more information as it becomes available.

INFORMATION FOR UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS

Q: What does the University recommend to its undergraduate, graduate and professional programs regarding accepting application documents and admitting students from the designated countries for future semesters?

A: At this time, there is no restriction on admitting students to a U.S. college or university. We recommend that you proceed as you normally would with the application and admission process until further notice.

Q: What does the University recommend when it comes to each campus recruiting and communicating with prospective students from the designated countries?

A: At this time, we recommend that you continue to communicate with all students, including prospective students from the designated countries affected by the Order. The University of Nebraska follows the immigration laws of the United States, but there are no restrictions regarding admitting students to a United States college or university, and the University of Nebraska welcomes the inquiries of interested students from all over the world.