March 16, 2020

Thank you for your patience as the ISS staff works diligently to get you the most up-to-date information about UW’s move to online only instruction for the remainder of the spring semester. Please continue to allow us time to send information out to you as we get confirmation of processes and what you need to do!

This email is for any student who decides to leave the US and finish the spring 2020 semester online from outside of the US. If you will remain in the US, you can disregard this email, but continue to watch for more information for international students.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will allow students to continue to maintain their current F-1 or J-1 student status, even if they return to their home country, as long as they continue to participate full-time in their on-line coursework. If you will leave the US, please complete the notification survey and ISS staff will issue an updated Form I-20 or DS-2019 with the outside-of-US notation and travel signature for your return later in the year. You may pick this up if you are still in Laramie, or we can mail it to you at home.

Please keep in mind that you MUST continue to participate full-time in your online coursework for the rest of the semester. Watch for email coming soon with details for enrollment and attendance for the rest of the semester.

Things to keep in mind before deciding to go home:

- Status of visa in your passport – will it still be valid later this summer/year? If consulates are closed for any period of time, it may be difficult to get a new visa if needed to return to the US.
- If you choose to leave the US, you may not be allowed to return to the US if more extensive travel restrictions are set by the US government.
- The UW President has already asked that anyone who travels to a “country currently at a CDC Warning Level 3 status should stay away from campus, and self-monitor and self-isolate for 14 days following their return”. This means that if you do return to the US during the semester, you should self-quarantine and self-isolate for 14 days before you return to the UW campus for any reason. You can find a list of country travel Warning Level notices at https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices.
• Consider any notifications you need to make before you leave the US such as your landlord (lease information), storage of belongings until your return, mail and notification of your banks, etc.

These are just some things to consider. ISS is working on an FAQ page on their website to address all kinds of questions. Please be patient as we work to get that up, and make sure to continue to read ALL emails from UW administration and ISS.

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GO POKES!