

Travel to the United States for Newberry College International Students

(updated 7/2/2020 – Canadian information at end of document)

The United States has established travel restrictions for people traveling from specific countries- which include, but not limited to, almost all of Europe (Schengen area, United Kingdom, and Ireland), Brazil, Iran, and China. Countries included: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>

The United States is not allowing foreign nationals (including international students) to enter directly into the United States if they have physically been in one of the “restricted countries” for any time period within 14 days prior to their arrival in the US.

Example: this means that if you have been in a restricted country like France, you can't directly enter the United States. You need to have been somewhere “unrestricted” for at least 14 days before entering into the United States.

There are ways and exceptions for an international student to possibly be allowed into the United States: United States Custom & Border Protection (the gate keepers and decisions makers of who enters the United States and who doesn't) stated that international students currently have 2 possible options:

Option 1. Travel to a Non-restricted country prior to entering the United States:

This is the most recommended option by Customs & Border Protection Services:

The student travels to a *non-restricted country* and remains in that country for more than 14 days and then travels to the United States.

Example: a student from Germany could travel to non-restricted country (stay for more than 14 days) and then travel to United States.

- Students are responsible for checking with the embassy in each country to make sure they will be allowed to enter that particular country. (Example: Australia, a non-restricted country, may have its own incoming travel restrictions in place).
- Students must be aware of how their health insurance will work in each country
- There is NO guarantee that if you choose this option- you will be allowed to enter the United States.

Option 2. Possible Travel Waiver from US Consulate/Embassy:

The student works with the US consulate/embassy in their home country to try to obtain a **travel waiver**. Students must contact the consulate located in their country and work directly with that office to see if this is a possibility for them.

Important Reminders:

- Not every United States Consulate/Embassy in every country is open. Students will have to check on this. Check your consulate webpage first.
 - Locating the US Embassy or Consulate in your country: <https://www.usembassy.gov/>
- Newberry College does not know time frame for appointments, wait times, or procedural logistics for consulates/embassy
- Newberry College will provide letter of support to help the student in their process, but this does not guarantee the student will receive a travel waiver.

- Determination of qualified visa holders for the travel waiver process is not determined by Newberry College- this is a decision made solely by the US Embassy/Consulate

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The travel situation/current restrictions can change daily. Countries can be added or removed at any point by the CDC, US government, or other international governments.

CDC- Updated June 15, 2020- Travelers Prohibited Entry to the United States:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/from-other-countries.html>

United States government: Homeland Security- DHS Responds – Arrival and Airport Restrictions

<https://www.dhs.gov/coronavirus/protecting-air-travelers-and-american-public>

Travel Proclamation 9984 from White House- January 31, 2020:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-suspension-entry-immigrants-nonimmigrants-certain-additional-persons-pose-risk-transmitting-coronavirus-2/>

Locating the US Embassy or Consulate in your country:

<https://www.usembassy.gov/>

CANADIAN STUDENTS:

As of June 16, 2020- Canadian students are encouraged to drive across the border, into the United States. Currently, Canadian students *could be* considered “essential travel” between Canada and US when **driving** across the border.

From FAQ- United States Consulate in Canada:

Q: Who is considered an “essential” traveler?

A: Individuals traveling to attend educational institutions.

Q: What will this mean for airline travel and other travel across the border?

A: This action does not apply to entry into the United States from Canada via air, rail, or sea travel at this time, but does apply to commuter rail and ferry travel.

UPDATE: based on a 7/2/2020 conversation with US Customs and Border Protection Services-

Canadian citizens (student and family members accompanying the student) should be able to enter the United States by **air travel** with valid passport and current I-20 documentation. Travel restrictions should not apply to them.

Canadian students can contact US Customs and Border Protection Services directly with any additional questions or to confirm any travel information: 202-325-8000 (outside the US)

Webpage – contact info: <https://www.cbp.gov/contact>