



Email sent to international students on Wednesday, July 15

## GOOD NEWS! SEVP July 6 Guidance Rescinded and what it means for you

Dear international student,

We are extremely happy to share with you the good news!

Yesterday, July 14, 2020, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) agreed to rescind the guidance issued by the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) on July 6, 2020 effective immediately. DHS rescinded the Fall 2020 guidance in response to a lawsuit from Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and 179 other U.S. Schools which joined the litigation. Pace University joined the [amicus brief](#) as well as worked with New York congress members to oppose the policy. The decision to rescind the policy "will preclude the enforcement of the July 2020 policy directive and frequently asked questions on a nationwide basis."

What does it mean for you as an international student?

- **Continuing students who are currently in the U.S.** may continue to take classes online required towards their full course of study in the Fall 2020 semester. You may take in-person or hybrid classes since it is included in the Pace reopening plan. However, if your commute to campus presents a risk for your health and well-being, you may **take online classes entirely and remain in status**. Please work with your academic advisor regarding your course schedule.
- **Continuing students who are in the U.S. pursuing practical training or are engaged in non-coursework degree requirements** (e.g. students on OPT/CPT) can maintain an active SEVIS status as long as they are complying with F-1 regulations.
- **Students engaged in CPT/OPT remotely** may continue remotely.
- **Continuing students who are outside the U.S.** may take online classes and remain in status. However, we strongly recommend you discuss your classes with your academic advisor
- You **no longer need an updated I-20 with remarks verifying your status**, as it was mandated by a rescinded policy from July 6.

Please note: This temporary provision is in effect for the duration of the emergency. Due to the fluid nature of this situation, certain stipulations on the guidance might be subject to change. We will continue provide up-to-date information as soon as we receive it from the government.

**LAST BUT NOT LEAST:** These past 9 days have felt like a roller coaster and must have been incredibly stressful for all of you, as well as for us. We feel for you and are sorry that you have had to go through so much uncertainty amid these challenging times. Hope this news will reduce any anxiety you may have experienced during the past week. We want to remind you that Pace University is always here to support and advocate for you, we have your back!

All my best,  
Mira

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