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July 8, 2020

Dear current or prospective CWU F-1 international student,

You may have already heard about the [updated guidance](#) from the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) regarding the Fall 2020 quarter. We know you may be wondering what it means for you.

**At this time, OISP (Office of International Studies & Programs) is actively working to apply SEVP's new guidance to CWU's current and prospective students.** The guidance issued by SEVP leaves several outstanding issues, and we are working with our SEVP liaison to ensure accurate application of the guidance to our students.

For now, please note the following issues have already been brought to our attention:

- This guidance **DOES** allow for new international students to enter the U.S. this fall to enroll in at least one in-person or hybrid course towards their academic degree program.
- This guidance **DOES** allow for certain accommodations to the usual limit on online classes for international students.
- This guidance **DOES NOT** mean that all international students must depart the U.S. As long as you are enrolled in at least one in-person or hybrid course towards your academic degree program, you may remain in the U.S.
- This guidance **DOES NOT** affect students currently participating in Optional Practical Training (OPT).
- This guidance **DOES** allow students to take online classes in your home country; however, you may be required to apply for a new student visa, receive a new I-20, and pay a new SEVIS I-901 fee if and when you intend to return to the U.S. to resume in-person classes. This may also affect OPT eligibility.

In the next few weeks, we will provide you with information **YOU** need for **YOUR** specific situation. And, very soon, we will hold a virtual information session where we can share information with you through a discussion and answer common questions. We will be in touch with you to let you know when the virtual information session is scheduled.

**Office of the Provost/Vice President for Academic and Student Life**

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This is an electronic communication from Central Washington University.

Current students with questions and concerns should contact their International Advisor, either **Roslyn Moes at Roslyn.Moes@cwu.edu** or **Caitlin Lawson at Caitlin.Lawson@cwu.edu**. Newly admitted and prospective students should contact the International Student Recruiter **Kimberly Valenti at Kimberly.Valenti@cwu.edu** or **Stacy Soderstrom at Stacy.Soderstrom@cwu.edu**.

We expect more than 400 international students to attend CWU in the fall. We will work individually with each student to ensure their in-person, hybrid, and/or online classes meet federal requirements for their F-1 visas. Our goal is to make sure you can start or continue working toward earning your degree. You are a very important and valuable part of our CWU family.

Sincerely,



Michelle DenBeste  
Provost/Vice President for Academic and Student Life



Ediz Kaykayoglu,  
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Executive Director, Office of International Studies & Programs