Before We Begin

- Session will be recorded – link to the recording will be sent to registered participants
- Powerpoint will be made available over our web site
- Microphones are muted – please use the Q&A function to submit your questions
- Information presented in this forum is valid as of date of presentation – check back frequently as changes and developments may occur rapidly.
Agenda

1. Opening Remarks
2. Quick Announcements
3. COVID-19 Developments
4. International Travel
5. New or Newly-Arriving Students
6. Current and Completing Students
7. International Center Portal
8. Scholar and Employment Issues
9. Q&A
Opening Remarks

• Opening Remarks

• International Services for Spring / Summer / Fall 2021
  • Still remote for Spring 2021, Summer 2021
  • TBD for Fall 2021

• Contact Information
  • Email us at internationalcenter@tufts.edu
  • Check our web site at https://icenter.tufts.edu
  • Make an online advising appointment at https://icenter.tufts.edu/appointments
Quick Announcements

• **Grab-n-Go Event for Undergraduate Students** – next Wednesday (March 24th) at 1pm at the International Center, 20 Sawyer Avenue

• **International Center Graphic Contest** – April 30, 2021 deadline
  • Go to our web site at [https://icenter.tufts.edu](https://icenter.tufts.edu) for details

• **We’re on Instagram!**
  @tuftsinternationalcenter

• **Next Forum**
  • Friday, April 16 at 9am EDT
  • Look for announcement on our web site
COVID-19 Developments

• COVID-19 situation continues to evolve rapidly due to vaccinations but also resurgent cases in different regions
• US – wide variance in state approaches to COVID
• Massachusetts – Travel Advisory in effect March 22\(^{nd}\)
  • [https://www.mass.gov/alerts/travel-order-notice#1820506](https://www.mass.gov/alerts/travel-order-notice#1820506)
• Continued need for masking, physical distancing, and other protections
• Watch for University announcements and go to [https://coronavirus.tufts.edu](https://coronavirus.tufts.edu) for comprehensive information about Tufts’s COVID policies
International Center Updates on COVID-19

This page contains immigration updates and planning resources relating to the COVID-19 coronavirus situation and the Fall 2020 semester. It has been issued for the information and benefit of the Tufts international student, scholar, and employee community. This information is regularly updated.

International Center Open Forum Resources

Frequently Asked Questions

- Spring 2021 Enrollment Requirements
- Spring 2021 Instructional Plans by School
- Tufts @ BNU Program - Spring 2021
- Questions about Practical Training (CPT / OPT)
- FAQs about Housing, Health, and Campus Operations
- Information for Schools and Departments

Travel and Arrival

- Traveling to Massachusetts Checklist
- COVID-19 US Entry Suspensions
- Executive Order Travel Bans

Tufts COVID-19 Sites

- Tufts COVID-19 Information Hub
- Tufts COVID-19 Testing
- Tufts COVID-19 Dashboard

Current Announcements

- COVID-19 Entry Suspensions for Brazil, Schengen Area, UK / Ireland Reinstated; South Africa Added
- January 25, 2021 Update
- On January 25, 2021
- President...

- Executive Order on COVID-19 and Travel
- Dear International Students and Scholars:
- On January 21, 2021,...
- Please click here for a complete list of
International Travel

- Travel is still heavily restricted - COVID-19 entry bans still in effect
  - Possible relaxation of certain travel bans (Europe, Brazil, Canada / Mexico) by mid-May
  - No news on China, Iran
- US visa operations resuming in some countries, limited to closed in others
- COVID-19 test requirements for international travel, including entry into US
New Students or Newly-Arriving Students

- I-20/DS-2019 issuance (Visa Document Request) process for remote students making initial arrival, and for new students
- Fall 2021 arrival protocols
  - What we know about testing and quarantines – still under review
  - Orientation
- Off-campus Housing Searches
  - https://offcampus.tufts.edu
  - Additional resources from International Center available in mid-April
Current and Completing Students

- **OPT Filing Season**
  - 113 applications processed so far for Spring 2021 graduates
  - Apply asap! USCIS processing times between 3-5 months
  - Attend an upcoming OPT and/or STEM Extension workshop (go to Calendar on our web site)
  - Reminder: Must be in US to apply

- **CPT requirements**
  - One full academic year in F-1 status
  - Students who started program remotely may not be eligible yet – contact us if you are not sure!

- **Tax Season**
  - Filing deadline of April 15 for anyone who was in the US in calendar year 2020 *EVEN IF NO INCOME*.
  - Sprintax information sent to all students, contact us if not received

- **Summer 2021 On-Campus Housing**
  - Hardship application process will be sent out to students this month
  - If you cannot return home due to issues with visa, travel restrictions, cost, etc. and think you might need housing, apply.
International Center Portal
(icenterportal.tufts.edu)

• Used to update student personal and employment information
• International Center Portal is active once a student deposits and activates their SIS record and Tufts email
• For all technical issues (difficulty with log in, password, or file uploads) please contact us at InternationalCenter@tufts.edu with your Student ID number
• New students receiving a "SIS record not found" error upon login should email Patrick.Himes@tufts.edu (Medford and Cummings campuses) or Neriliz.Soto_Gonzalez@tufts.edu (Boston campus)
Scholar and Employment Issues

• H-1B entry ban in effect through March 31 (only applies to new H-1B applicants)
• Immigrant visa ban has been revoked by the Biden Administration
• COVID-19 entry suspensions apply to H-1, J-1s although entry may be possible for urgent circumstances through the national interest exception process
• Limited visa operations may impact travel
• Take note of Tufts Travel Policy
Q&A Time
Thank You for Coming!

Office of the Provost
International Center