



March 6, 2020

International Students Attending HU on an F-1 Visa

International Students attending HU on a F-1 Visa that are not arriving from China, South Korea, Italy, or Iran, or who are not experiencing symptoms of the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), are expected to remain compliant with the conditions of their Visa regarding class attendance and course load.

However, if you are a new HU international student **who is currently outside of the United States and in China, South Korea, Italy, or Iran, or exhibiting symptoms of 2019-nCoV**, HU can delay your program start date and issue a new initial Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status."

For any HU students on an F-1 Visa who are **out of the country but currently studying at HU as an active student who are in China, South Korea, Italy, or Iran, or exhibiting symptoms of the virus**, you may be eligible for a medical reduced course load. You will need to provide to HU medical documentation from a doctor. Upon receipt of the documentation, HU's DSO will register you in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) for a medically reduced course load with no course load. However, you may not travel to the United States until you can re-enroll in a full course of study at HU consistent with the terms of your Visa. If your anticipated return from a temporary absence exceeds the five-month limit, HU will provide details to the SEVP Response Center. SEVP will resolve these on a case-by-case basis. Consequently, it is critical that you keep HU informed and updated if you will not be in attendance due to issues related to the virus.

If you are an international student **currently inside the United States, attending HU on an F-1 Visa, exhibiting symptoms of 2019-nCoV, and cannot enroll or continue studies due to your health**, you are eligible for a medical reduced course load. You will need to provide HU medical documentation from a doctor. Upon receipt of the documentation, HU's DSO will register you in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) for a medically reduced course load with no course load. During the period you are ill, please follow directions from the CDC for treating and containing the virus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/sick-with-2019-nCoV-fact-sheet.pdf>. If your anticipated return from a temporary absence exceeds the five-month limit, HU will provide details to the SEVP Response Center. SEVP will resolve these on a case-by-case basis. Consequently, it is critical that you keep HU informed and updated if you will not be in attendance due to issues related to the virus.

NOTE: DEPENDING ON CORONA VIRUS DEVELOPMENTS, HU INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WHO LEAVE THE UNITED STATES TO TRAVEL INTERNATIONALLY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RE-ENTER THE COUNTRY, OR MAY BE SIGNIFICANTLY DELAYED FROM DOING SO.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is the primary resource for up-to-date information on all diseases and biological threats. CDC information about this virus is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>.

Advisories concerning travelers' health based on location are available at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list>

Please keep HU informed of your status throughout this event if you are unable to attend classes to ensure that your Visa status remains compliant with federal law.

All questions regarding Visa status should be directed to HU's DSO Office.

Any HU student who is experiencing concerns such as anxiety, depression, or academic stress as a result of this issue should contact the BHS Student Assistance Program. You can login via the app/web, <https://portal.bhsonline.com>, or call 800-327-2251. The username is HarrisburgU. Outreach to BHS is confidential, and each student is assigned a master's level clinician as a care coordinator. BHS will provide HU students with quality, in-the-moment support.