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PRACTICE RESOURCES

Practice Alert: Trump Administration Issues Travel Bans

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On June 4, 2025, President Trump issued [Presidential Proclamation Restricting the Entry of Foreign Nationals to Protect the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Threats](#).

The administration invokes national security and public safety as its justification for these sweeping restrictions. Specifically, the Proclamation states that the President “considered various factors, including each country’s screening and vetting capabilities, information sharing policies, and country-specific risk factors — including whether each country has a significant terrorist presence within its territory, its visa-overstay rate, and its cooperation with accepting back its removable nationals.”

The travel ban takes effect Monday June 9, 2025, at 12:01 am EDT.

Full Travel Ban: The ban will fully suspend entry for immigrant and nonimmigrant nationals from these countries:

- Afghanistan
- Burma
- Chad
- Republic of Congo
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Haiti
- Iran
- Libya
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Yemen

Partial Travel Ban: The ban suspends entry for immigrant, B-1, B-2, B-1/B-2, F, M, and J visa holders, and reduces the of validity for other nonimmigrant visas (presumably to reciprocity schedule minimum) for the nationals of the following countries:

- Burundi
- Cuba
- Laos
- Sierra Leone
- Togo
- Turkmenistan
- Venezuela

Possible Future Suspension:

- Egypt: the proclamation asks the Attorney General, DHS Secretary, and Director of National Intelligence to review conditions in Egypt due to recent conditions.

Scope:

- Only applies to those outside the U.S. on June 9, 2025, at 12:01 am EDT who are not in possession of a valid immigrant or nonimmigrant visas as of that date. No immigrant or nonimmigrant visa issued before June 9, 2025 will be revoked pursuant to this proclamation.
- Does not apply to:
 - Permanent Residents (presumably including immigrant visa holders already admitted to the U.S.);

- Dual nationals of a non-listed country (as long as the unaffected passport is presented);
 - Those with the following visas: A-1, A-2, C-2, C-3, G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, NATO-5, or NATO-6;
 - Athletes and coaches in World Cup, Olympics, or major sporting event;
 - Immediate relative immigrant visas (IR-1/CR-1, IR-2/CR-2, IR-5) with “with clear and convincing evidence of identity and family relationship (e.g., DNA)”;
 - Adoptions (IR-3, IR-4, IH-3, IH-4);
 - Afghan Special Immigrant Visas;
 - Special Immigrant Visas for US Government employees;
 - Immigrant visas for ethnic and religious minorities facing persecution in Iran;
 - Individuals granted asylum;
 - Refugees admitted to the U.S.; and
 - Individuals granted withholding of removal under the CAT.
- The Proclamation does not limit the ability for individuals to seek asylum, refugee status, withholding of removal, or protection under the CAT.
 - The Attorney General and Secretary of State can make case-by-case exceptions if travel would advance a critical U.S. national interest, including to participate in criminal proceedings as a witness. As with prior bans, these exceptions may be made by a designee (presumably consular staff) and likely provided in very limited circumstances. The precise criteria and procedures governing these exceptions remain ambiguous, leaving the scope and their consistency of their implementation open to interpretation.
 - Within 90 days of the proclamation and every 180 days thereafter, the Attorney General, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of State, and Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report recommending the continuation, termination, modification, or supplementation of the suspensions.

A second proclamation was also issued on June 4, 2025, entitled “[Enhancing National Security by Addressing Risks at Harvard University](#).” The proclamation:

- Suspends entry of F, J, and M students who attempt to begin attending Harvard after June 4, 2025;
- Directs the Secretary of State to consider revoking, in his discretion, visas of current Harvard students in F, M, or J status;
- Allows for a national interest exception as determined by Secretary of State or DHS or their designees;
- Will be reviewed as to whether it should be extended in 90 days.
- The Proclamation relates to “foreign nationals who seek to enter the United States solely or principally to participate in a course of study at Harvard University or in an exchange visitor program hosted by Harvard University.” It does not appear to apply to individuals who will principally attend [other institutions](#).

Implementation Concerns:

Though styled as an entry ban under INA 212(f), the proclamation will likely affect both immigrant and nonimmigrant visa applicants (i.e., consular posts may cancel existing appointments and prevent future appointment scheduling for the restricted nationalities or categories), as well as those who already have an immigrant or nonimmigrant visa and seek entry after the ban takes effect.

AILA will be carefully monitoring the implementation of these travel bans at Ports of Entry and Consulates. Please share the experiences of your clients with the [CBP National Committee](#) and the [DOS National Committee](#).

Special thanks to Nell Barker and Zabrina Reich, CBP Committee Chair and Vice Chair, and Steven Heller and Claire Pratt, DOS Committee Chair and Vice Chair, for their contributions to this practice alert.