



Dear Members of the Kent State University Community,

I write to share the news that one of our current international students and three recent graduates with Optional Practical Training (OPT) post-graduate work permits have had their visas revoked by federal authorities.

Our colleagues at several other Ohio universities are reporting similar occurrences.

We are working to connect with each of these individuals to ensure they are aware of this change in their status. Kent State was not given advanced notice nor specific reasons for these decisions.

Kent State values its international students. They are a part of our community. They are Golden Flashes. We celebrate them at events throughout the academic year, and especially at Commencement. We are deeply committed to working with our current students to devise degree completion options, and with our recent graduates to assist with their situations. Our dedicated professors and academic leaders are devoted to this work, and we thank them for making the best of unprecedented circumstances.

The Office of Global Education reminds international students to make sure they have a copy of their documents with them and additional copies with local friends and/or family members should those documents become necessary to produce.

In addition, if you are contacted in person or otherwise by a local, state or federal law enforcement official, it is strongly recommended that you do the following:

- Remain calm and professional at all times.
- Inform the law enforcement official that you've been directed to contact Kent State Police Services and Kent State's Office of General Counsel, both of which can assist you.
- Immediately contact Kent State Police Services at 330-672-2212 if on the Kent Campus or the [Campus Security Office if on a Regional Campus](#).
- Then immediately contact Kent State's Office of General Counsel at 330-672-2982, which will provide you with guidance and advice in addition to answering your questions.

There are many factors here beyond our control, but we will continue to engage with law enforcement and our campus partners to make sure our university community is informed with the latest guidance.

We realize for many, this news is upsetting. We encourage those in need to reach out to the Office of the Dean of Students at [odos@kent.edu](mailto:odos@kent.edu) or Counseling and Psychological Services at 330-672-2487.

Sincerely,

Todd Diacon

President