

## FAQs

### **Q. Who can I contact if I have questions or concerns about my immigration status?**

A. Our office is available to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. Please feel free to schedule an appointment by emailing us at [ISSS@siue.edu](mailto:ISSS@siue.edu) or walk-in during open advisement hours on Tuesday from 9-11am.

### **Q. What precautions should I be taking during this time of uncertainty?**

A. We encourage you to take the following precautions:

- Carry photocopies of your immigration documents with you at all times, including:
  - Form I-20 or DS-2019
  - Passport
  - U.S. visa
  - I-94 record
- Carry proof of current enrollment at SIUE, such as a class schedule from CougarNet or [enrollment verification](#)
- Keep records of all U.S. residences where you have lived
- Ensure your contact information is up to date, including your local U.S. address and phone number in CougarNet
- Update your emergency contacts in CougarNet, so we have the most accurate information in case of emergency
- Use caution on social media and be mindful of how posts may be perceived, especially when discussing sensitive topics
- Exercise discretion when participating in political demonstrations or protests — while peaceful protest is a right, such activity can sometimes be misinterpreted and may carry risks to your immigration status
- Due to recent reports of visa revocations, we strongly recommend that you closely monitor the email address you used when applying for your U.S. student visa. The U.S. Department of State may send important communications to that account. Regularly check your SIUE email address and all other personal email accounts to ensure you do not miss important emails
- [Maintain your immigration status](#) and abide by all U.S. laws

### **Q. I am planning to travel internationally, what documents do I need to take with me?**

A. If you are planning international travel, please proceed with caution and review the travel guidance found on the [Travel website](#). We advise against international travel unless necessary.

Travel abroad may carry risks that could impact your ability to return to the U.S., particularly as international students are facing increased scrutiny at ports of entry. In addition, international travel may be affected by sudden travel bans or policy changes, which could prevent reentry into the U.S. for an unknown period of time.

If you must travel internationally:

- Ensure that all immigration documents are valid and unexpired
- submit a **Travel Signature Request**
- Obtain a travel signature on your Form I-20 or DS-2019
- Carry your original immigration documents (not just photocopies) while traveling
- Carry proof of enrollment
- Carry proof of financial resources

If you would like to discuss your travel plans, please email us at [iss@siue.edu](mailto:iss@siue.edu).

**Q. What do I do if I am contacted by Immigration Customs Enforcement on campus?**

A. Please refer to the protocols found on the [SIUE website](#).

**Q. What does it mean if my visa has been revoked?**

A. Revocation means that your visa is no longer valid and cannot be used to re-enter the U.S. Visas may be revoked at the U.S. government's discretion.

**Q. How will I be impacted if my visa has been revoked and I am planning to travel internationally?**

A. If your visa is revoked and you leave the U.S. to travel home or to another country, you will have to apply for a new visa prior to attempting to re-enter the U.S.

**Q. Who should I contact if I receive an email that my visa has been revoked?**

A. Email the Office of International Affairs at [ISS@siue.edu](mailto:ISS@siue.edu) to inform your DSO about any communications you have received from the U.S. government regarding a visa revocation. While the OIA has limited ability to assist you legally, we can confirm whether your SEVIS record has been terminated. Visa revocations are challenging and case specific. OIA suggests that students seek advice from an experienced immigration lawyer specifically one who specializes in deportation/removal cases if you need legal advice about your visa status, travel options, and eligibility for admission to the United States.

**Q. How do you know if the visa revocation impacts you?**

A. The Department of State is supposed to notify individuals in this circumstance; however, communication may not always happen. Therefore, it is best to assume that if you have been arrested or convicted of a DUI-related offense, this policy may apply to you. If you are still unsure, then you can contact the [U.S. embassy or consulate](#) that issued your visa directly as only they are able to verify the validity of your visa. Please continue to check your SIUE email address and all your personal emails including the email address you used to obtain your F-1 visa.

*Note: The government will not inform OIA or SIUE if your visa is revoked and we do not have any way to verify whether or not your visa was revoked.*

This is a reminder that if your visa is revoked and you leave the U.S. to travel home or to another country, you will have to apply for a new visa. As always, there is no guarantee that your visa will be approved.

**Q. I am experiencing mental health issues. What support resources are available to me as a currently enrolled student?**

A. We encourage you to download the TimelyCare app from the Apple Store or Google Play and register with your SIUE email. [TimelyCare](#) can provide trained interpreters in over 240 languages. You may also contact SIUE's [Counseling and Health Services Team](#) for support during difficult times.

**Q. Who can I contact if a situation arises such as visa revocations and SEVIS termination, and I need legal advice?**

A. It is strongly recommended that if you have questions, you should reach out to an experienced immigration attorney to discuss your individual circumstances. For a list of recommended immigration attorneys, reach out to [ISSS@siue.edu](mailto:ISSS@siue.edu). Students may walk-in during Tuesday mornings from 9-11am to meet with their DSO.

**Q. How do I know what my rights are?**

A. Additional Resources

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

- [Know Your Rights](#)
- [Immigrants' Rights](#)
- [What to Do If Stopped by Police or ICE – Video](#)
- [Know Your Rights: Immigration Enforcement and Warrants – ACLU of Northern California](#)

American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

- [Know Your Rights if ICE Visits](#) (in English, Haitian Creole, Chinese, Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese)

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

- [Red Cards for Asserting Your Rights](#)

National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

- [Know Your Rights: What to Do If You Are Arrested or Detained by Immigration](#)

NPR Report

- [NPR Report: What Are Noncitizens' Rights if Confronted by Law Enforcement](#)