



INTERNATIONAL

March 13, 2020

Dear OPT & STEM OPT Participants:

Thank you for your patience and understanding regarding this late communication about the COVID-19 Coronavirus. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure all international students of our support, and to provide an update regarding the steps we are taking in the International Programs and Global Engagement (IPGE) office to help protect your health and safety, which is always our top priority.

Please read the following points:

- **Campus Plan:** Although there are no known cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in our University community at this time, we have implemented several other preventive measures per the guidance of our local public health officials, CDC, and WHO. Please keep monitoring the updates on the [Cal State LA COVID-19 website](#). The website provides information on steps you can take to reduce the spread of infection such as washing your hands often.
- **IPGE Office Advising:** The professional staff in our IPGE office are providing ongoing support and guidance to our all international students regarding visa and other related matters. "Virtual remote advising" has already been arranged for students who do not feel comfortable coming to campus during this transition time. Please use this link, <https://calstatela.zoom.us/j/2219438823>, to connect with our office during these hours:

Day	Time
Monday	10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Wednesday	2:00 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursday	2:30 to 4 p.m.
Friday	3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- **Travel - OPT & STEM OPT Students** We strongly advise international students to avoid traveling outside the U.S. While we cannot control where you may go, we remind you to take the necessary precautions for your own health and safety. In addition, you should consult with your employer's human resources department or your supervisor if you do plan to travel. If you do choose to travel internationally, there is risk that you won't be permitted to re-enter the U.S.

Please feel free to contact the IPGE office at (323) 343-3170 or email international@calstatela.edu. We are here for you during this unprecedented time. Please stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jimmy Solis
Director, International Programs and Global Engagement