

DATE: March 6, 2020 (9:59 a.m.)

SUBJECT: Update on COVID-19

Dear Exchange Visitor Program sponsor:

The State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) continues to closely monitor and assess the impact of COVID-19 on our exchange programs. Thank you for your continued planning and managing during this time. ECA appreciates your continued diligence in reporting incidents that affect the health safety and welfare of your exchange visitors.

Due to the ongoing fluidity of international air travel and the continued disruptions caused by COVID-19, the below original guidance sent to all EVP sponsors on February 7, 2020, is now applicable to any exchange visitor currently affected by COVID-19. If you have an exchange visitor from a country outside of China being affected, please refer to the guidance issued below on February 7, 2020, and report it to the appropriate ECA email address that correlates with the exchange visitor's EVP category:

[AGalert@state.gov](mailto:AGalert@state.gov) (Government Visitor, International Visitor, Research Scholar, Short-Term Scholar, Specialist, University Student, and Professor Categories)

[HighSchoolExchanges@state.gov](mailto:HighSchoolExchanges@state.gov) (Secondary School Student Category)

[Teacher\\_Physician@state.gov](mailto:Teacher_Physician@state.gov) (Teacher and Alien Physician Categories)

[AuPairProgram@state.gov](mailto:AuPairProgram@state.gov) (Au Pair Category)

[CCSponsors@state.gov](mailto:CCSponsors@state.gov) (Camp Counselor Category)

[InternTraineeNotify@state.gov](mailto:InternTraineeNotify@state.gov) (Intern and Trainee Categories)

[SWTSponsors@state.gov](mailto:SWTSponsors@state.gov) (Summer Work Travel Category)

If you receive any 2019-nCoV/Coronavirus related press inquiries, please let us know and then refer them to the following contacts:

During regular business hours, journalists may contact the Office of Press Relations on (202) 647-2492 by email [PAPressDuty@state.gov](mailto:PAPressDuty@state.gov).

After regular business hours, journalists can reach a GPA Duty Press Officer through the State Department Operations Center: (202) 647-1512; or by email [PAPressDuty@state.gov](mailto:PAPressDuty@state.gov).

Routine questions about the exchange itself can be sent to: [ECA-Press@state.gov](mailto:ECA-Press@state.gov).

The Office of Private Sector Exchange