

## **Center for International Education and Global Engagement Important FAQs**

*Please note: This information is for general reference only. Individual students' circumstances may be different.*

### **General**

#### **Will offices on campus, including the Center for International Education and Global Engagement, remain open for the rest of Spring Semester?**

All college campuses, including the District office, are currently closed. Please continue to monitor your email for updates from the Chancellor's office and the International Center.

### **Education Abroad**

#### **What is the status of the College's study abroad programs?**

All study abroad programs for the remainder of 2020 have been cancelled. The College is committed to maintaining study abroad programs and anticipates offering opportunities in 2021.

### **F-1 Students**

#### **Do I have to return to my home country?**

No, you may choose to remain in the U.S. and continue your courses online.

#### **Can I return to my home country?**

Yes. If you do decide to leave the U.S., remember that you do not need a travel signature on your I-20 to leave, only to reenter. If you require a signature, please contact the Center for International Education and Global Engagement for further assistance.

#### **What are some of the things I should consider when deciding if I should return home and complete my Spring Semester courses there?**

It is ultimately your decision whether to return to your home country or to remain in the U.S. However, the college recommends that you consider the following when making your decision:

1. Are you able to access the technology used by Pima Community College District for online coursework in your home country (e.g., MyPima, D2L, Canvas, Google Hangouts, Zoom, etc.)? Will you require a VPN to access it?
2. Have you considered the time difference between Arizona and your home country? For example, your instructor may conduct your class virtually, such as on Zoom, at its regularly scheduled time in Arizona's time zone (*i.e.*, GMT/UTC - 7h). That could be several hours earlier or later for you, depending on the location of your home country, and you will likely still be expected to fully participate in class, just as if you were physically present. . The College recommends that you consult with your instructors about those issues before making your travel plans.

**What about my immigration status if PCC moves my in-person classes to an online format for all of the remaining Spring Semester?**

If you are enrolled as a full-time student (12 or more credits) for this Spring semester, then you are still considered in good immigration status. This does not change even though courses are moved to online, since an exception is being made for international students to complete their Spring courses in an online format. Please note that you must remain enrolled in your Spring semester classes. If you choose to withdraw from any of your classes, and you drop below full-time enrollment, your immigration status could be impacted negatively. Contact the Center for International Education and Global Engagement for further assistance.

**What happens if my passport and/or visa have expired or will be expiring?**

If you remain in the United States due to COVID-19, and your passport expires, you should contact your home country's embassy or consulate to identify options for passport extension or renewal. If you decide to leave the United States, you will not be eligible to apply for admission until you renew your passport and/or visa . If you have an expired visa and are now currently outside of the United States, be mindful that some US Embassies and Consulates in some countries are currently CLOSED, and we anticipate significant delays in visa renewals. Please be aware that more U.S Embassies and Consulates in other countries could be shut down during this time.

**I'm considering withdrawing from classes for the semester. What should I do?**

We strongly recommend that you **not** withdraw from classes this semester. At this point, you will not receive a refund for any classes you withdraw from. We would also need to terminate your I-20. Please contact the Center for International Education and Global Engagement for further assistance.

**I don't feel well. How can I access my insurance card?**

To retrieve your electronic insurance cards, please log in to [www.lewermark.com/pima](http://www.lewermark.com/pima). You will need to log in using your identified credentials in order to access your account. If you have any questions regarding coverage, please contact LewerMark directly at 1-800-821-7710, or email [lewermarksupport@lewer.com](mailto:lewermarksupport@lewer.com) Monday through Friday, 8am-6pm Central Standard Time.

**PLEASE BE AWARE-**We do not know how long these travel restrictions will last and what additional countries may be added to the restrictions already in place. If you decide to travel, be prepared, understand the risks, and be advised that you might not be able to return to the U.S. for an unknown period of time. Your travel could be disrupted, or you may be quarantined upon your return to the United States.

**For the most up-to-date information, please visit the following websites:**

[US Department of State](#)

[US Department of Homeland Security \(DHS\)](#)

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[US Citizenship and Immigration Services \(USCIS\)](#)