



May 30, 2025

Hi Applicant,

Greetings from Portland! We are writing to inform you of an announcement made this week from the U.S. government, that it has paused scheduling new F-1 visa appointments while they consider a new social media screening process for international students.

Currently, there is little definitive information about the pause or how long it may last. Attorneys, schools, and organizations who work with international students in the U.S. are doing what they can to resume visa interviews as quickly as possible. Additionally, the [U.S. Department of State shared yesterday](#) that the pause is expected to be short and applicants should continue to look for open visa appointments.

If you do not have an interview scheduled already, try to schedule one, and if you are not able, check the embassy or consular website regularly to see when you can schedule one. When you are able to schedule a visa interview, complete the DS-160 form yourself, check your answers, and print them before you submit. The form must be accurate.

If you would like to share any information provided to you by the U.S. Consulate or embassy with us, please send emails or other notifications you receive to international@pcc.edu.

If you have a visa interview scheduled, still plan to attend. There is no indication that already scheduled appointments will be canceled and students with scheduled appointments are still receiving visas. In preparing for your visa interview, consider the following:

- Be honest and be clear about your plans
 - Fraud can lead to a visa denial and even a permanent ban from the U.S.
- Consider your [social media history](#)
- Review the tips provided in the [PCC Welcome Packet](#)
- Bring documents that may be useful
 - Birth/marriage certificate for dependents
 - Full resumes if you have work history

If you already have a visa, it is still valid. There is no indication that visas issued are being canceled. International students are still currently entering the U.S.

As you plan your travel, consider the following:

- Plan for longer time between connecting flights when you enter the U.S., when possible

- Arrive to the U.S. during business hours, when possible
- Stay in contact during travel with a friend or family member
- Learn about your [rights at the U.S. border](#) before you travel

We are excited to welcome you to PCC. We understand there has been a lot of news recently about international students in the U.S. Please know that at Portland Community College and beyond, we recognize the great value international students bring to our communities. Our current international students also look forward to meeting you and have shared their experiences in the U.S. in this recent [welcome panel](#).

We are here to support you and will continue to work to create a warm environment for you here in Portland!

If you have any questions, please email international@pcc.edu.

Thank you,
PCC International Admissions Team

Portland Community College
PO Box 19000
Portland, OR 97280



Copyright ©2023 Portland Community College. All rights reserved.