Dear International Students,

On August 10, 2020, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) revised its Protocols for Institutes of Higher Education to be consistent with guidance from the California Department of Public Health. This guidance restricts counties with high levels of community transmission of COVID-19 from resuming in person classes and activities for colleges and universities. The communication from Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Emily Carter earlier today describes the restriction on in-person class offerings at UCLA in detail.

Among the updated directives, the following requirements will affect enrollment for all UCLA students:

- In-person and hybrid instruction will now be restricted to certain advanced courses that provide training for students in the final stages of preparing for essential workforce jobs, and which cannot be conducted remotely.
- All other academic instruction will be offered via remote learning.

Class locations on student study lists and the schedule of classes will be updated next week to reflect these changes.

Given the above information and to ensure university compliance with U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) directives, we are recommending that unless newly admitted international students are required by their major or field of study to enroll in one of the aforementioned advanced on-campus courses that must be offered in person, they should remain in their home countries where they can still enroll for fall-quarter courses, engage in remote instruction, and make progress toward their degrees.

Certain restrictions on remote learning apply to students who are currently subject to Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) license requirements. We encourage students who are subject to this restriction to contact their academic departments to discuss options.

As a newly admitted UCLA student, if you are unable to enroll in an in-person course for fall quarter, you should not attempt to enter the U.S., even if you currently hold a valid F-1/J-1 student visa for fall quarter, as you will be in violation of your student visa conditions upon arrival to the U.S. Consequently, UCLA will be unable to validate your F-1/J-1 status. Please see the FAQ on the Dashew Center’s COVID-19 Updates page for more information about the DHS in-person class enrollment requirement for the fall term.

Continuing UCLA international students who are in the U.S. in valid F-1 or J-1 status do not have an in-person course enrollment requirement, and may enroll in all online classes for the fall term without impacting their immigration status.
If you have accepted an on-campus housing offer for the fall and do not qualify to enter the U.S. due to the DHS in-person enrollment requirement, please visit UCLA Housing’s COVID-19 information page for further information on your options.

We understand that this update will be disappointing to many Bruins who were planning to join us on campus this fall. We are disappointed too, but understand the importance of adhering to health mitigation measures from our local health authorities to reduce the spread of COVID-19 within our campus community and local area.

We urge you to review the FAQ our COVID-19 Updates page and contact us if you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Sam Nahidi
Director