

Dear Fulbrighter,

As you embark upon your exchange visit to the United States, please remember to carry the following documents with you on the airplane as you travel internationally. **Do NOT place them in your checked baggage.**

- Passport with J-visa
- DS-2019
- Relevant university correspondence related to the in-person aspects of your Fulbright research and/or teaching program at your U.S. host university
- Fulbright grant document and any amendments
- University Letter of Invitation
- Proof of Approved Vaccination against COVID-19 (see [here](#) for the policy)
- All travelers must complete and present this attestation form during travel  
<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/combined-passenger-attestation-p.pdf>

### **COVID-19 Testing Requirements**

On Friday, June 10, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that international travelers to the U.S. (including Americans) no longer require a COVID test for entry. You can read the announcement here: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0610-COVID-19-test.html>

To stay informed of real-time developments, please continue to consult the CDC website ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)).

### **COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements**

The U.S. government has announced that beginning on November 8, 2021, all non-U.S. citizens (including J visa holders) traveling to the United States will be required to show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19. For purposes of entry into the United States, the accepted COVID-19 vaccines are those vaccines that are currently approved either by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or by the World Health Organization. Keep up with the latest list of approved vaccines at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/proof-of-vaccination.html# covid-vaccines>.

Individuals will be considered fully vaccinated if they receive the required number of doses of these vaccines (or combinations of the approved vaccines) and have completed the required two-week waiting period for the vaccine to become fully effective after receiving the final dose. Prior to departure to the United States, airlines will collect proof of vaccination which can be paper or digital. You can read more about these travel rules, including the very limited exceptions to the vaccine requirement, at: <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/order-safe-travel/technical-instructions.html>

Prior to travel to the U.S., Fulbrighters should also continue to verify individual airline policies and procedures and any associated documentation required for boarding flights, as airline policies may differ from the CDC requirements. It is the financial and logistical responsibility of the participant to arrange any required testing prior to departure for the United States. Please reach out immediately to your [IIE advisor](#) and the Fulbright Office in your home country should your plans for arrival in the U.S. change for any reason or if you have difficulty meeting the new requirement for entry to the United States. As a reminder, J-1 visa

regulations permit entry to the U.S. up to 30 days before the program start date as listed on your most recent DS-2019 form.

### **Other Considerations**

It is very important that you bring sufficient personal funds to cover your expenses as you settle in and set-up a U.S. bank account, particularly if you will be under a state or university required quarantine, which does not allow you to leave your accommodations.

Should you have any issues at the U.S. border upon arrival, you can contact IIE's Visa Sponsorship team at +1-929-310-3046. For non-visa emergencies after normal business hours, you can contact +1-212-984-5332.

Please remember that you **MUST** provide your U.S. address information to IIE within 10 days of your arrival in the United States – even if you are still arranging for permanent housing. Your arrival and ongoing participation in the Fulbright Program must be confirmed in order for you to remain in compliance with U.S. non-immigrant regulations. Failure to contact IIE within 10 days of your arrival in the United States may result in the termination of your J-visa status.

To report your arrival, please follow the arrival instructions detailed in your welcome email from IIE.

We look forward to supporting you during your Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program.

Best regards,

### **Greta Scharnweber**

Director, Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program

Institute of International Education

One World Trade Center, 36<sup>th</sup> Floor • New York, NY 10007

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