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Information About Visas / SU International Communication / 16 March 2020

Dear Students,

On the 15th of March 2020, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced that “We (South Africa) are imposing a travel ban on foreign nationals from **high-risk countries such as Italy, Iran, South Korea, Spain, Germany, the United States, the United Kingdom and China** as from 18 March 2020. We have cancelled visas to visitors from those countries from today and previously granted visas are hereby revoked.” Additionally, the Department of Home Affairs has stated that “Any person who has applied for a visa abroad and is **currently** waiting for an outcome will not be issued with a visa.” This applies to all countries.

If you are already in South Africa:

There have been concerns regarding visas which will be revoked. Note that this will not affect students or visiting staff from these high-risk countries who **are already in South Africa** but relates to those who have applied for visas and **have not as yet entered the country**. These will be revoked. This is for the high-risk list of countries, however, please note that this list may be updated regularly and may impact staff and students from other countries. You are advised to check the list of high-risk countries identified, on a daily basis.

Leaving and Returning at a Later Stage:

Note that the above also applies to staff or students who leave South Africa during the holidays, with intent to return at a later stage. **Note that your visa may be revoked upon re-entry**. Students and staff are advised to be aware that in cases where your home country is not currently identified as a high-risk country, this status could change, and you may not be allowed to re-enter. Please consider this as you make your travel plans.

Extension or Renewal of your Visa/Study Permit:

If you are awaiting an extension or renewal of your visa and are already in South Africa, the normal process applies and you will not be impacted. The risk of having a visa revoked or refused only applies to those outside of the country applying for a visa.

Issued on behalf of Stellenbosch University International.



For any queries contact to immigration@sun.ac.za

Kind regards,

Sarah

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Sarah Jane van der Westhuizen (she/her) | BA PPE, BA Honours, MA Philosophy
Manager: Global Education Centre | Bestuurder: Global Education Centre
Stellenbosch University International | Universiteit Stellenbosch

e: sarahvdw@sun.ac.za | t: +27 21 808 2958 | a: RW Wilcocks Building, Cnr Victoria and Ryneveld
Street



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