

From: Kelicia R Hollis <khollis@andover.edu>

Date: March 19, 2020

Cc: Linda C Griffith <lgriffith@andover.edu>

Subject: Further Guidance for International Students and Families

Dear International Students and Parents,

In this unprecedented time for our Andover community, we want to send a special message to our international families addressing some of the unique difficulties that many are facing. We want to thank you for your calls and emails, and for your patience as we address the many challenges our international families are facing with care and consideration. Principal among these concerns are F-1 visa status, online education, medical insurance, and I-20 transfers for graduating seniors. Please read the below information carefully as we seek to address these concerns.

F-1 Visa Status

All actively enrolled students who complete online coursework and other requirements as stipulated by the Academy during the spring term will be able to maintain active status as F-1 visa students for the spring 2020 term. This applies even if a family determines that returning home is the best option for their student. The Academy will support the student in remote learning for as long as necessary throughout spring term, even if on-campus learning resumes on or after May 1st.

Students are responsible for keeping up with their visa and passport expiration dates, and communicating any visa expirations that fall within the school year to Ms. Hollis. All F-1 visa students not on an official leave of absence should have in their possession an original I-20 form signed by Ms. Hollis that is valid until the signed date on page 3 of the document. For most students, that signature will be good until at least late September 2020. All students unable to locate their original I-20 documents should contact Ms. Hollis as soon as possible.

Online Education

All students are expected to start spring 2020 term classes online on March 30th. Information will follow within the next week on expectations for classes and course materials. Students who anticipate issues accessing PAnet, Canvas, email, or other online resources that may be utilized by the Academy and instructors should contact our Dean of Studies Office at registrar@andover.edu. We are committed to teaching our courses in an asynchronous (not live) manner so that all of our students in any time zone will have equal access to the material. There will also be opportunities to have synchronous (live) discussions with faculty and other people on a student's team during office hours which will happen at different times.

Medical Care

Health Insurance: Our international families who have signed up for school insurance are covered throughout the US. The coverage also extends worldwide for urgent/emergent issues

related to illness or injury outside of the student's home country. See the attachment for the plan summary. For questions or clarifications, please contact Jackie Delacruz, Wellness Center Operations and Insurance Specialist at jdelacruz@andover.edu or Cathy Golas, Wellness Center Administrative Director at cgolas@andover.edu.

Medications: The Sykes Wellness Medical Team has reached out to all known students/families who have a medication managed by Sykes. The team will coordinate how to transfer prescriptions, when possible, and urges families to seek care from their primary care physician or another established healthcare provider at home.

Off-campus appointments: Sykes will be cancelling all off-campus appointments scheduled through April 30th, and will reach out to families to have them reschedule these appointments at home. Please email sykeswellness@andover.edu if you have any questions.

Graduating Seniors with F-1 Visa Status

All graduating seniors with F-1 visas MUST directly email Ms. Hollis with the name of the college they will be attending, including any important links or documentation in that email. This is the only way to ensure that their I-20s will be transferred to their next institution. They should also be in regular communication with their college counselors with updates on the college admissions process as they hear back from schools in the coming weeks.

We understand that our international students are among the most vulnerable at a time when governments are taking various measures in the attempt to keep their citizens healthy and safe. Please know that Phillips Academy supports your decision to do what is in the best interest of your student. Currently, we have a few international students still in the United States, and we are checking on these students individually to ensure that their needs are accommodated. We are a resilient community, and the health and safety of our students and adults are of our utmost priority. Thank you for your patience, and please be in touch with any additional concerns.

Wishing you both health and safety,

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