

## Important Message from the International Scholars Office (ISchO)

Dear DLC HR Administrators and Contacts,

It is undoubtedly a stressful time for you and the international scholars in your areas. We appreciate your efforts to work closely with ISchO while we all make our way forward. Of course, our scholars' greatest concern is their health and safety and that of their family members near and far. We are working to providing answers to questions as they arise and we hope you will continue to forward questions to us.

**Effective immediately our office is closed to walk-ins**, and staff will be working remotely as much as possible. Please ask any newly arrived scholars to contact ISchO email at [ischo@mit.edu](mailto:ischo@mit.edu). They will be provided with instructions to “register” electronically. ISchO will accept documents and packages from the DLCs via interdepartmental mail, postal mail, Fedex and scans.

- **No new visa requests will be accepted by IScho for non-faculty/instructional staff positions** until further notice. Start dates for incoming scholars who already possess visa documents but have not yet arrived should also be postponed until further notice.
- **For detailed information about the disposition of documents and invitations already made, visa sponsorship policies going forward, scholars working remotely, scholar travel outside the US, changes in academic appointments, and other topics please see the [IScho Q&A](#) and the [IScho Continuity Plan](#)**
- **ISchO’s priorities in continuing to provide advising and visa services are:**
  - Incoming international faculty and other instructional staff
  - Extensions of stay and changes of status for *current* international scholars
- The latest updates to government travel restrictions, government visa processing, and **other news** will posted in [Announcements](#) on the ISchO web page.
- Updates about campus [research activities and related human resource policies](#) were sent to the MIT community on March 14 and can be found on the [MIT Covid-19 Response website](#).

We understand you may also be working remotely, under unusual circumstances, and that logistics of visa processing may be challenging. We greatly appreciate your patience and collaboration in the midst of all of this. Please do not hesitate to contact me or the ISchO advisors if you have concerns or suggestions. We will continue to provide information as it becomes available. An email similar to this will be sent to all current international scholars and will be shared with you.

***This information could change at any time. We will keep you informed of any updates.***

Regards,

Penny Rosser  
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