

INFORMATION ABOUT RETURNING HOME FOR THE REST OF THE SPRING-2 SESSION:

We have received information that **ELI students can return to their home country to finish the Spring-2 Session. Students will remain in status IF they remain enrolled in classes and complete their coursework online.**

If you are enrolled in classes, that means that the **tuition payment deadline is before 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 24th**. If you drop your class(es), fail your class(es), or do not complete assignments, this will have a negative effect on your immigration status, so please think carefully about what you plan to do.

Here is information you must understand if you plan to travel home and finish the Spring-2 Session online in your home country:

- Are you able to access the technology used at the U of U for online coursework in your home country (e.g., Canvas, UMail, Zoom, etc.)? Will you require a VPN to access it?
- Do you have textbooks so you can complete your course(s) successfully?
- Have you thought about the difference in time zones between Utah and your home country?
 - For example, if your teacher chooses to use Zoom to have a “live” class, you will still need to participate at the time and date of your regular class. Talk about these concerns directly with your teacher, and find out more information before you travel.
- Is your passport valid for a return in May if you are returning for Summer? Your passport must be valid for 6 months beyond your return date to the U.S.
- Is your visa still valid for a return in May?
 - Be mindful that some US Embassies and Consulates in some countries are currently CLOSED and that we anticipate significant delays in renewing your visa. Be prepared that more embassies/consulates could shut down during this time in more countries.
- Does your I-20 have a recent travel signature that has been signed AFTER September 1, 2019? **Please check page 2 of your I-20 to find it you have a valid travel signature.** If not, you need to have a new travel signature from our office. Contact the ELI Office as soon as possible to determine how to get a signature. If Spring-2 is your last session, you do not need a travel signature.
- Is Spring-2 your last session at ELI? If so, please contact the ELI Office so we can discuss the next steps.
- Have you reviewed the University's [COVID-19 webpage](#)?
- Did you know that the [CDC](#) and the [University of Utah](#) are strongly recommending suspending/cancelling nonessential international and domestic travel?
- If you live in the dorms, you are able to cancel your housing without a penalty and receive a refund on the days remaining in the session. Have you looked at

Housing and Residential Education's website to see how to cancel your housing contract? <https://housing.utah.edu/coronavirus/>

- **Have you discussed the potential risks associated with travel with your family back home?**

PLEASE BE AWARE: We do not know how long these travel restrictions will last and what additional countries may be added to the restrictions already in place. If you decide to travel, be prepared, understand the risks, and be advised that you might not be able to return to the U.S. for an unknown period of time, your trip could be disrupted, or you may be quarantined upon your return.

If you have further questions please review our online webpage in regards to COVID-19 [<https://eli.utah.edu/covid19.php>]. As well, our office is open and available to answer your questions through phone or email. Please call us at 801-581-4600, or email us at eli@utah.edu if you have further questions or concerns.