

# **New International Graduate Student Town Hall**

ISEO + GEPA | June 26 and July 16, 2025

# Who we are

## ISEO

### International Services and Engagement Office

- Provide holistic support for UCSD international community
- Provide a full range of collaborative services and programs
- Foster an inclusive and welcoming environment

## GEPA

### Graduate Education & Postdoctoral Affairs

- Serve as main resource for graduate education and postdoctoral affairs
- Student Affairs and Financial Support
- Partner with programs to help scholars advance in their academic disciplines
- Offer innovative professional development

# You Should Know

*The information provided in this virtual presentation is for general informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Viewers are advised to seek professional legal advice or assistance regarding their specific circumstances.*

*Furthermore, the content presented in this virtual presentation **may be subject to change**, and while we make every effort to ensure the accuracy and timeliness of the information, we cannot guarantee that it is always up to date. Therefore, we do not accept any responsibility for any loss which may arise from reliance on information contained in this virtual presentation. Any action taken based on the information presented is at the viewer's own risk. By viewing this virtual presentation, viewers acknowledge and agree that the presenters and organizers are not liable for any direct or indirect damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from the use of the information presented.*

*As new developments unfold, it is important to consult with a qualified immigration attorney for individual advice regarding specific legal issues and to ensure you remain in close coordination with your graduate departments for any new changes to options, policies, and guidance stated in this presentation.*

# Topics to be Covered Today

- 1 Visa Issues: What We Know So Far
- 2 Residency and Employment Eligibility
- 3 Enrollment options
- 4 Responding to your Questions

## PLEASE NOTE:

*Questions may be submitted in the Q&A down below. This presentation was designed to answer the most common questions submitted via registration, so we will prioritize the submitted questions at the end of the presentation. We will neither take questions via the “raise your hand” feature, nor will this be recorded.*

# **We Look Forward to Welcoming You to the Triton Community**



# What we know so far

## Pause on Visa Appointments

- In late May, the U.S. Department of State ordered U.S. Embassies and consular sections paused the scheduling of any new F, M, and J visa appointments
- As of June 18, 2025 visa interviews have resumed, but with “enhanced” vetting measures in place
- Applicants are now required to adjust privacy settings on their social media accounts to “public” as part of vetting process
- Appointment availability will vary by location and slots may fill quickly. Monitor visa appointment availability frequently.
- ISEO now processing I-20 (F-1) and DS-2019 (J-1) documents within regular processing time

# What we know so far

## Travel Restrictions

- On June 4, 2025, travel bans were issued via Presidential Proclamation, which went into effect on June 9, 2025
- **Full entry restrictions:** Afghanistan, Burma (Myanmar), Chad, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen
- **Partial restrictions (suspension of B1/B2, F, M, and visas):** Burundi, Cuba, Laos, Sierra Leone, Togo, Turkmenistan, Venezuela
- Certain exceptions granted
- ISEO monitoring carefully for additional travel ban announcements

# The role of visas in eligibility for...

- **Entering the Country**

- A valid visa stamp is required. This is your “ticket” for entry. Can expire in U.S. without affecting F-1 or J-1 **status**.

- **Remaining in the Country**

- Must maintain F-1 or J-1 **status**. This is determined by U.S. entry record (I-94), valid I-20 or DS-2019, and adherence to rules and regulations (full time enrollment, employment with valid authorization, etc.). Not determined by visa stamp.

- **Employment**

- International students must physically be present in the U.S. in valid F-1 status to be eligible for employment, including as a Graduate Student Researcher or a Teaching Assistant.
- This employment might be the source of both a salary and payment of tuition and fees.
- Students who are not physically in the U.S. will need to consider other sources of funding, such as personal funding, if remote enrollment is an option.



# Fall Enrollment Options

Decisions about academic continuity will be made by your program. You can ask about:

## Deferring your Admission

- If you would like to request to defer your admission to a future quarter, reach out to your academic program directly with your request. Deferral approval is not guaranteed.
- You may request to defer for up to 1 academic year. i.e., Fall 2025 → Fall 2026. You may also request a deferral for one quarter (i.e., to start in the Winter quarter).
- Planning ahead is best. Please communicate with your program about deferral options, including the deadline. Deferrals cannot be made after classes start during the quarter you were originally admitted to. However, your program will likely have its own (earlier) internal deadline.

## The Potential for Remote Course Offerings

- Remote options are at the discretion of instructors, departments, and the faculty's Academic Senate. Remote coursework may have an impact on future employment options. We hope to have more information available soon.

# Looking ahead

- We expect to learn more later this summer.
- We will communicate updates to you as soon as we have them via **iUpdates.ucsd.edu**.
- We will share most of these slides with all registrants for the town halls.

# Additional questions?

## Type them into the Q&A feature

- We'll answer as many as we can, time permitting.
- You can also reach out to ISEO by visiting [iContact.ucsd.edu](https://iContact.ucsd.edu)

A dramatic sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright orange orb on the horizon, casting a shimmering path of light across the dark water. The sky is filled with heavy, dark clouds, some of which are illuminated from below by the sun, creating a mix of grey, blue, and orange tones. In the upper right, a paraglider is silhouetted against the sky, with a small boat visible further out on the water. The foreground shows the dark, rocky coastline of a beach.

**Thank you for joining us!**