



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY COLLEGE • MESA COLLEGE • MIRAMAR COLLEGE • CONTINUING EDUCATION

February 2, 2017

Dear Students,

As you know, on January 27, 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order barring the entry of all refugees for 120 days, barring all refugees from Syria indefinitely, and placing a ban on the entry of immigrant and nonimmigrant nationals of Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen for at least 90 days. We all have concerns about the impact of this recent executive action on our international students and their families. We have been working individually with our international students that may be affected by these provisions to provide support. We are pleased to inform you that after the winter break all of our international students returned safely to the United States and are already attending classes at our colleges.

All of us in the San Diego Community College District remain steadfast in our commitment to our students. In an effort to provide students with information, we want to advise you of the following:

- The implementation of these immigration bans is unclear. Although the Executive Order specifically references *immigrants* (those with *green cards*), reports from White House representatives indicate that immigrants will be allowed to return to the United States. However, it is not clear whether immigrants or U.S. citizens will be subject to enhanced questioning at airports.
- Individuals from Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen, as well as Mexico **should not** leave the United States except in the most urgent circumstances since they may not be permitted to return.
- Individuals from other countries should check news sources to see if their country has been added to the list of banned countries.
- Individuals on temporary visas, including student visas, should avoid leaving the United States, if at all possible.
- Individuals needing to leave the United States should review their documents to assure that everything is in order before departing.
- Individuals with questions about their status should seek the advice of an immigration attorney or other professional.

Please be reminded that all students are required to follow the San Diego Community College District *Student Code of Conduct* at all times. If you experience or observe any violation of the *Student Code of Conduct*, please contact the Dean of Student Affairs Office immediately.

In an ongoing effort to support our students, City, Mesa, and Miramar Colleges, and San Diego Continuing Education will be hosting various information sessions on campus in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for additional information about these sessions.

We remain fully committed to providing high-quality educational opportunities, in an environment that is safe and free from intrusion, for all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, heritage, national origin, religion, immigration status, age, gender, gender identity, medical condition or disability.

Sincerely,

Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D., Chancellor, San Diego Community College District  
Denise S. Whisenhunt, J.D. Interim President, San Diego City College  
Pamela Luster, Ed.D. President, San Diego Mesa College  
Patricia Hsieh, Ed.D. President, San Diego Miramar College  
Carlos O. Turner Cortez, Ph.D. President, San Diego Continuing Education