Subject: Important Update on H-1B Visa Proclamation – Support and Guidance Available Hello.

On September 19, 2025, the U.S. government issued a proclamation titled "Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers," which introduces a new one-time \$100,000 fee for companies filing certain H-1B petitions. Understandably, this has caused confusion and concern among H-1B visa holders both inside and outside the U.S.

On the afternoon of September 20, 2025, USCIS issued clarifying guidance, summarized below:

- 1. The proclamation takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on September 21, 2025.
- 2. It only applies to new H-1B petitions, ones that have not yet been filed.
- 3. It does not apply to:
  - Petitions filed before the effective date,
  - Beneficiaries of currently approved petitions,
  - Individuals holding valid H-1B visas.
- 4. Current H-1B visa holders can continue to travel internationally and re-enter the U.S. as usual.
- 5. Those currently outside the U.S. with valid H-1B visas will not be charged the \$100,000 fee upon re-entry.

An H-1B FAQ is now available - <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/articles/2025/09/h-1b-faq/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/articles/2025/09/h-1b-faq/</a> - to help clarify what the proclamation does and does not cover.

## PLEASE NOTE:

- Until further guidance is issued, we strongly advise against international travel if your H-1B visa stamp has expired. We are awaiting clarification on how the proclamation applies to individuals seeking new visa stamps abroad.
- The proclamation does not mention H-1B extensions, changes of employer, changes of status, or amended petitions filed within the U.S. for individuals maintaining lawful H-1B status.

We understand that this development is unsettling. Please know that we are here to support you. If you have questions or are considering travel outside the U.S., we encourage you to contact our office so we can provide the most current information and guidance.

For assistance, please reach out to Lindsey Hill at <a href="whill@clemson.edu">whill@clemson.edu</a>.

Thank you,

## **Lindsey Wallace Hill**

Director International Services Clemson University

230 Parkway Drive, E-307B Martin Hall Clemson, SC 29634 864.656.3614 International Services

