

Dear International Students and Scholars,

We understand that the current changes surrounding visa policies and the uncertainty they bring can cause significant anxiety and stress. Please know that the Dashew Center is here to support you during this challenging time and our team is committed to providing guidance and ensuring your well-being. The purpose of this communication is to offer general guidance and clarity on the nature of the information shared between UCLA Dashew Center and government agencies, ensuring transparency in the process. While the flow of F-1 and J-1 student and scholar data related information remains consistent, this document seeks to outline the types of data that are communicated, the purpose of these exchanges, and how universities and government entities maintain the privacy and security of student and scholar information.

Universities and government agencies have long shared information and F-1/J-1 student and scholar data as part of their ongoing collaboration to support educational policy, funding, and regulatory requirements to ensure continuity of university's visa programs. This exchange of data for status compliance is not new, nor has this process changed over time. However, as concerns about data privacy and transparency continue to evolve, we recognize the importance of providing clear and open communication regarding these practices.

Through this transparency, we aim to build trust and facilitate a more informed dialogue about the handling of student and scholar data, provide guidance ensuring that the international population is well informed and supported by our university.

List of Government Agencies receiving information from UCLA and Dashew Center:

- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)
- U.S. Custom and Border Protection (CBP)
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
- U.S. Department of State (DOS)
- Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)

Which type of Information is shared?

[F-1 Visa Students](#)

[J-1 Visa Students & Scholars](#)

Guidance and Resources for International Students and Scholars:

We would like to take a moment to provide some important guidance on potential interactions with federal enforcement agencies. It is crucial to remind international students and scholars of the importance of remaining truthful and cooperative when engaging with U.S. federal authorities. Furthermore, it is important to recognize and emphasize that the primary purpose of a student or scholar visa is to pursue academic studies and research. Any involvement in arrests or misconduct could have serious visa implications, potentially leading to visa termination.

We know that it is essential to stay connected to reliable sources of information, such as government guidelines, legal experts, and institutional support networks. Please see below a list of UCLA support departments and essential resources for international students and scholars:

UCLA Legal Resources:

- [Laws to Know](#)
- [Attorney List](#)
- [UCLA Student Legal Services](#)

UCLA Case by Case Support, Wellness, and Psychological Support:

- [Counseling and Psychological Support\(CAPS\)](#)
- [RISE Center](#)
- [Case Management](#)
- [Economic Crisis Response Team \(ECRT\)](#)

In addition to these, the Dashew Center is planning to offer resource spaces with representatives from Dashew, Case Management, RISE, and CAPS. An announcement with more details, times and location will be shared soon.

More information on the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP), and SEVIS can be found in the links below:

- <https://oig.justice.gov/reports/INS/e0303/index.htm>
- <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/students/>

UCLA and Dashew Center is committed to ensuring that our international student and scholar population is well supported and consistently informed. Our goal is to foster an inclusive and welcoming environment where international students and scholars can thrive academically, socially, and professionally. Please do not hesitate to [Contact Us](#) to us if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Sam Nahidi
Director
[UCLA Dashew Center](#)

A Department of Student Affairs