



Ground Handling Procedure Alert

Effective date: 12JAN2026

PROCEDURE ALERT – RESTRICTING ENTRY OF FOREIGN NATIONALS TO THE USA

Introduction

We have received a Presidential proclamation from U.S. Customs and Border Protection, regarding restricting Entry of Foreign Nationals to Protect the United States from foreign terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats.

The following effective immediately:

U.S. Travel Restriction as of January 1, 2026		
Category	Countries / Entities Affected	Type of Restriction
Continued Full Restriction	Afghanistan; Burma (Myanmar); Chad; Republic of the Congo; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Haiti; Iran; Libya; Somalia; Sudan; Yemen	Full suspension of entry for immigrants and nonimmigrants
New Full Restriction	Burkina Faso; Laos; Mali; Niger; Sierra Leone; South Sudan; Syria; Individuals traveling on Palestinian Authority-issued travel documents*	Full suspension of entry for immigrants and nonimmigrants
Continued Partial Restriction	Burundi; Cuba; Togo; Turkmenistan (immigrants only); Venezuela	Partial suspension of entry includes B1, B2, F, J, and M nonimmigrants and all immigrants
New Partial Restrictions	Angola; Antigua & Barbuda; Benin; Côte d'Ivoire; Dominica; Gabon; The Gambia; Malawi; Mauritania; Nigeria; Senegal; Tanzania; Tonga; Zambia; Zimbabwe	Partial suspension of entry includes B1, B2, F, J, and M nonimmigrants

*Note - Only applies to travelers who present a travel document issued or endorsed by the Palestinian Authority on or after January 1, 2026



Exceptions

The Proclamation shall apply only to foreign nationals of the designated countries who were outside the United States and did not have a valid visa issued to them on or before December 31, 2025.

The full or partial suspension of and limitation on entry do not apply to:

- (i) any lawful permanent resident of the United States;
- (ii) any dual national of a country designated under sections 2 and 3 of the proclamation when the individual is traveling on a passport issued by a country not so designated;
- (iii) any foreign national traveling with a valid nonimmigrant visa in the following classifications: A-1, A2, C-2, C-3, G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, NATO-5, or NATO-6;
- (iv) any athlete or member of an athletic team, including coaches, persons performing a necessary support role, and immediate relatives, traveling for the World Cup, Olympics, or other major sporting event as determined by the Secretary of State;
- (v) Special Immigrant Visas for United States Government employees; and
- (vi) immigrant visas for ethnic and religious minorities facing persecution in Iran.

Document Validation

- Carriers participating in the Document Validation program, the R- Recommend No Board response may be returned for any in scope travelers who should not be boarded.
- Carriers who do not participate in Document Validation will receive notification via the RCLG for these travelers and should follow their boarding guidance.

Carriers that transport travelers within scope and not excepted by the Proclamation may be subject to a carrier fine for each traveler brought to the United States. Any questions concerning the scope or implementation of the Proclamation, including the authorization for any traveler to board an aircraft or otherwise travel to the United States to seek admission, should be directed to the appropriate Regional Carrier Liaison Group (RCLG) or other designated CBP official for adjudication prior to aircraft departure.

RCLG	SERVICE AREA	PHONE NUMBER
Honolulu	Asia , Pacific Rim	808-237-4632
Miami	Latin America, Caribbean	305-874-5444
New York	Europe, Africa, Middle	East 718-487-532

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