

INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYEES

Final Proposal April 30, 2020

TTA
4/30/20

Section 1: As a leader in higher education, Columbia University is committed to attracting the best minds from around the world to support its mission of distinguished research and academics. Columbia's International Students and Scholar's Office (ISSO) provides support and advice on visa issues as they relate to the employment relationship with the University. The University does not provide legal advice to Employees, but ISSO can help refer Employees to attorneys if the Employee is in need of immigration advice unrelated to the employment relationship with the University.

Section 2: In cases where an Employee is unable to return to the United States as a result of the Employee's immigration status, and for reasons outside of the Employee's reasonable control (e.g., administrative processing), the University shall make reasonable efforts to arrange for the employee to continue to perform their duties remotely while outside the U.S., subject to legal restrictions. Any determination made under this section is not grievable.

Section 3: If the University is not able to lawfully employ or continue to employ an Employee as a result of the Employee's immigration status, the University shall hold the position open for sixty (60) days in order for the employee to obtain work authorization or immigration status that permits them to work as an employee. If lawful status is obtained thereafter, reemployment shall depend on several factors, including, but not limited to, availability of lab space and research funding. Any determination made under this section is not grievable.

Section 4: Employees shall have the right to reasonable time off without loss of pay in order to attend visa and immigration proceedings for the themselves or their spouse or children. Employees shall make such requests with as much advance notice possible and, if requested, provide supporting documentation to the University. Requests shall not be unreasonably denied.

Section 5: If an Employee who possesses the requisite visa documentation and work authorization to lawfully enter the United State is barred entry through no fault of their own, the University and the Union will use best efforts to assist the Employee where possible.

Section 6: The University will make best efforts to timely complete work authorization documentation for which the University is responsible, so that employees do not experience delayed start dates, paychecks or benefit coverage.

The University reserves the right to add to, delete or modify these proposals at any time during bargaining.