

Broadcast Message: DHS Designates Special Student Relief Employment Benefits to Ethiopian Students Experiencing Severe Economic Hardship

To: All SEVIS Users

Date: Dec. 9, 2022

Number: 2212-03

General Information

On Dec. 9, 2022, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) posted a [Federal Register Notice](#) announcing the suspension of certain regulatory requirements for F-1 nonimmigrant students from Ethiopia who are experiencing severe economic hardship as a result of the current crisis in Ethiopia.

This notice temporarily suspends applicable on-campus and off-campus employment regulations for eligible Ethiopian students. DHS will continue to monitor the situation in Ethiopia and will announce any additional modifications or extensions to this notice in the Federal Register.

The notice applies exclusively to F-1 nonimmigrant students who meet all of the following conditions:

- Are a citizen of Ethiopia regardless of country of birth (or an individual having no nationality who last habitually resided in Ethiopia);
- Were lawfully present in the United States in F-1 nonimmigrant status under section on Dec. 12, 2022;
- Are enrolled in a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified school;
- Are currently maintaining F-1 nonimmigrant status; and
- Are experiencing severe economic hardship as a direct result of the current crisis in Ethiopia.

The suspension of these requirements will remain in effect until June 12, 2024, for eligible Ethiopian students.

Please refer to the [Ethiopia Federal Register Notice](#) for more information regarding:

- The specific SSR action effective with this notice;
- Who is covered by this SSR action;
- Why DHS took this SSR action; and
- How to apply for employment authorization under this SSR action.

For more information about SSR and when eligible students may apply, please view the [What is Special Student Relief?](#) infographic in the Study in the States [Resource Library](#). If you have case-specific questions, please contact the SEVP Response Center at 703-603-3400 or 800-892-4829, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, except federal holidays.

Disclaimer

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