

Student Visas - Possible Loss of Status for On-Line Courses

Minutes before an initial court appearance in a lawsuit brought against it by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) withdrew the proposed student visa policy changes it announced just days before.

The principal feature of the proposed new ICE policy announced on July 6, 2020 would have terminated F-1/M-1 student visa status for students attending school in all on line classes.

Public and private colleges and universities all over the United States, and nearly half of all state governments, joined in similar legal efforts to prevent the proposed ICE action. In addition to litigation, many schools had begun preparing to help their students from abroad to retain their status, even if the proposed new ICE policies had gone in to effect.

This is very good news for the approximately one million young people from all over the world who are studying in US colleges and universities. But, with the current US administration in power, can they afford to feel too secure?