

ENTERING THE US

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE PORT OF ENTRY

NAVIGATING CUSTOMS & BORDER PATROL (CBP)

With recent increased screenings at the US border, it is important when entering that you are fully prepared. Here is an overview of what to expect:

ARRIVAL PROCESS

Be prepared with the following documents:

- **Passport & valid nonimmigrant visa** (*Canadians exempt*)
- Original form I-20 or DS-2019 with valid travel signature
- **Evidence of financial resources**
- **UC Berkeley admission** (new) or **enrollment** (continuing)
- **CBP Declaration Form** (be sure to declare appropriate items)

Don't bring restricted items - see CBP's website for rules regarding travel with medications, foods or pets: <http://tinyurl.com/TravelRules>

You may also be **fingerprinted** and/or **photographed**



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

If you are on **OPT/STEM OPT**, see <http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/travel-re-entry>

QUESTIONING & TIPS

- Officers may ask you questions about your reason for entering the U.S. or about your academic program. **If an officer asks about your academic performance, remain calm, answer honestly and succinctly.**
- CBP may also ask you questions about, or inspect your electronic devices. This may include your social media accounts. **For tips on how to prepare your devices visit: <http://tinyurl.com/DeviceSearch>**

ADDITIONAL SCREENINGS

An officer may determine you (and/or your luggage) require additional screening. **This is not uncommon.** You may be asked to go to an interview area called **Secondary Inspection** where they will verify information and ask you additional questions. You can expect:

- Long wait times (multiple hours)
- Additional, more substantial and specific questioning
- **Tip: Make notes of your experience, including officer name and badge number**

BE AWARE OF INCREASED SCRUTINY & POLICY UPDATES

Ongoing litigation regarding Executive Order travel bans may complicate travel for travelers from Libya, Iran, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

Everyone can keep up-to-date with travel alerts on BIO's Immigration Policy Updates and FAQs page: <http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/FAQ-trump>

Make sure you have **Berkeley International Office** contact info, and contact us as soon as possible if you encounter any problems: <http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/contact-us>