July 17, 2020

To Whom It May Concern
U.S. Department of State Consular Services
United States Customs and Border Protection

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: University of California, Berkeley Instructional Model Fall 2020 semester

This letter is to confirm that the University of California, Berkeley has made the decision to engage in an hybrid instructional model for the Fall 2020 semester. This information has been conveyed to SEVP as part of the Temporary Procedural Adaptation permitted to schools as a result of COVID-19. Accordingly, University of California, Berkeley has planned for a range of courses that allow students to choose to engage in in-person instruction or a combination of classes that are online as well as in-person.

Based on the latest guidance outlined by SEVP in its July 15th, 2020 update (https://www.ice.gov/doclib/coronavirus/covid19faq.pdf), there is no longer a need for institutions to issue to students an updated I-20 as indicated in the July 6, 2020 DHS directive to universities. This is an outcome of DHS withdrawing that directive during a court hearing (https://www.pacermonitor.com/public/case/35170570/President_and_Fellows_of_Harvard_College_et_al_v_United_States_Department_of_Homeland_Security_et_al) in Boston Federal Court, Massachusetts on July 14, 2020. Accordingly, all I-20s issued by the University of California, Berkeley to its students should meet the requirements for them to apply for and obtain a non-immigrant visa, and meet eligibility requirements for entry into the US.

Please be advised that we recognize that individual students may face difficulty in making an entry to the US prior to the official start of instruction. In acknowledgment of possible travel delays, UC Berkeley will allow new students in initial status to arrive up to 30 days after the start of instruction listed on the student’s form I-20 or DS-2019.

Sincerely,

Ivor Emmanuel
Director
Berkeley International Office
University of California, Berkeley