



Network of Academics with Disabilities and Chronic Conditions Statement on the U.S. Immigration Ban

The Chronically Academic network acknowledges an executive ruling enforced by United States immigration officials preventing individuals from seven Muslim-majority countries entering the United States in a temporary ban will have unidentified negative consequences for disabled students studying at universities.

The order assessed as interfering in “research partnerships, international studies, academic conference participation, field visits” and personal relationships would also undermine funding. Students with disabilities typically lack adequate funding in higher education to cover health related costs and continuation in academic programming is disproportionately threatened.

Physical and mental health of disabled students may be placed at risk as well. Mental health issues are an already recognized concern affecting PhD candidates and university faculty due to a combination of inadequate funding, long working hours, pressures to publish, job insecurity among non-tenure track faculty, administration/faculty /student conflicts, and isolation in research.

Chronically Academic supports the call from the American Association of Universities, other University Associations, and university officials themselves to end the ban on mobility of disabled and non-disabled students from Muslim majority countries. The network supports free mobility of students, faculty, and staff from around the world. Disabled students are recognized as contributing to innovation in research, teaching, etc., and the global economy.

As a group, we endorse diversity in all levels of education. For more information on our mandate and activities visit <https://chronicallyacademic.org/index.php/en/>.

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