

Greetings from CIEE!

Happy New Year! I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing to provide you with an update on CIEE's Work & Travel USA's program as we plan for 2021 and the future.

[Extended suspension of issuances of visas has no impact on CIEE Work & Travel USA](#)

As you may have seen in the [news](#), President Trump has extended the suspension on the issuance of visas in several categories including J-1 work-based visas, through the end of March. Because it is an extension on the existing proclamation, the October injunction is still in effect. **CIEE and our participants are not subject to the ban due to our membership in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.** Based on several reports we believe President-Elect Biden is likely to overturn the proclamation soon after he is inaugurated. We will continue to be in touch with you as the new administration and other elected officials transition into office in the coming weeks.

[Summer 2021 Next Steps/Reminders](#)

Recruitment and hiring is underway! As we start 2021, we are full steam ahead with recruitment and hiring for our summer program. While we anticipate some sending countries may be softer due to the pandemic, collectively participant demand remains healthy as we look to this coming summer. As the pandemic continues to impact our daily lives and businesses, we remain dedicated to operating programming that focusses on our participants' and your community's health, safety and welfare. **If you have not yet finalized your summer 2021 hiring strategy with CIEE please read more below and plan to complete these next steps in the coming weeks:**

1. Please review our [Summer 2021 Hiring Resources](#) in our Host Employer Resource Center for detailed next steps.
2. Please [schedule a call](#) with CIEE to finalize your hiring strategy around a time that is convenient to you – no more phone tag!
 - To best prepare, we ask that you please complete the “next steps” prior to your call with us by following the link above. If you get stuck anywhere along the way, we'll be happy to help you when we connect! Additionally, you can email us at hire@ciee.org with any questions.

As a reminder, we know the COVID-19 global pandemic continues to create an unprecedented rift of change in every facet of our lives, including how you operate your business and how we run our program. We remain committed to running high quality, risk adverse programming while being transparent, communicative and flexible with all our stakeholders. As always, thank you for your continued partnership. We are looking forward to what this new year may bring.

Kind Regards,
Cara

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