

Research Security & Safety

The Stony Brook University community has many valuable resources to protect. These bulletins are meant to provide quick facts, best practices, and key University contacts.

Hosting Visitors

Our goal is to assist and advise departments campus wide on the appropriate documents required to host foreign researchers in salaried appointments, engaged in observation, or as volunteers.

Why do I Need Permission to Host Foreign Researchers?

A visa indicates that a foreign researcher is eligible to enter the country for a specific purpose. A foreign national refers to anyone who is not a U.S. person. A "U.S. person" includes the following categories: U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident (green card holder), or a "Protected Person" (e.g., someone granted political asylum).

In certain cases, a foreign researcher may not have access to proprietary information based on their country of citizenship or institutional affiliations.

[Screening should be conducted](#) to confirm if the foreign researcher is from an institution on a restricted parties list issued by the government.

Best Practices

- If you are unsure of the appropriate visa status for your potential visitor, contact vis_scholar@stonybrook.edu
- Report all changes which include but are not limited to work locations, title, salary, and early departure.
- Make sure the foreign researchers have the appropriate documents for the activity, including volunteer appointments.
- Do not give your foreign workers permission to work remotely without contacting Visa and Immigration Services
- Unpaid employment is still considered employment, please ensure your international students have the correct work authorization.
- When hiring an international employee that does not require sponsorship through SBU, contact ovpr_exports_admin@stonybrook.edu for advance screening to ensure compliance with export controls.



Whom to Contact

[Visa and Immigration Services](#)

[Department Administration and Caseloads by Advisor](#)

Review our [Out of Country Policy](#)

[Office of Postdoctoral Affairs](#)

Related University Policy

[Guests and Visitors Policy](#)