New Travel Restrictions for Travelers from Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe

President Biden has issued a proclamation [1] imposing a new COVID-19 public health travel ban on foreign nationals who have been in Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, or Zimbabwe in the past 14 days.

These new travel restrictions take effect at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on November 29, 2021. All foreign nationals who have been in any of these countries in the 14 days preceding their planned arrival will be denied entry to the United States after these restrictions take effect. There are some exceptions, which are described in Section 2 of the proclamation [1]. For example, permanent residents of the U.S. are not affected. However, those who qualify for exceptions to the new ban will still be required to comply with the vaccination and testing requirements [2] that became effective for international air travel on November 8, 2021.

If these new restrictions will delay your scheduled arrival on campus, please contact the International Center at icenter@umich.edu [3] to arrange updates to your immigration documents if necessary. If you are an active F-1 or J-1 international student or scholar who is currently in Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, or Zimbabwe, please complete this Travel Registry form [4].

Details are still emerging and changes may occur. The University of Michigan is actively monitoring the situation. The International Center will post additional information as it becomes available.

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