International Flag Policy

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Policy owner: Office of International Students and Scholars

Date of initial publication: June 16, 2022
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SECTION I. PURPOSE

The University of St. Thomas would like to bring awareness to and celebrate its global community by using international flags at certain university-wide events throughout the year. This policy is intended to ensure that students have an opportunity to carry or request their flag at these university-wide events and ensure the process is equitable.

SECTION II. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This policy governs the selection and conduct of students who carry or request international flags at university-wide events such as March through the Arches, commencement, inaugurations of St. Thomas presidents, and other, similar events that impact the broader community. In university-wide events where international flags will be present, a U.S. flag will also be present.

SECTION III. DEFINITIONS

When used in this policy, the following terms have the following meanings:

a. ***Non-immigrant visa*** means any visa type without the intention to immigrate to the United States (F1, H1B, H4, L1, etc.).

b. ***OISS*** means the Office of International Students and Scholars within the university's Global Learning and Strategy unit.

c. ***SEVIS*** stands for the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, which is managed through the Department of Homeland Security and tracks international students and scholars during their stay in the United States. All countries and territories whose citizens legally may study in the United States are included in SEVIS.

SECTION IV. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO CARRY AN INTERNATIONAL FLAG

A. Eligible Students

Current international students studying at St. Thomas on a non-immigrant visa are eligible to carry or request an international flag of their home country or territory.

B. Eligible Countries and Territories

Flags may be carried or requested for any country or territory listed in the SEVIS system (see Appendix A).

SECTION V. SELECTION AND CONFIRMATION OF FLAG-BEARERS

Only one student per country or territory will be allowed to carry that country's or territory's flag. The following selection process will be followed to select the flag-bearer for the following events: March through the Arches and inaugurations of St. Thomas presidents. Other events may follow a different selection process but will utilize the same eligibility criteria contained in Section IV.

A. Promotion

1. Recruiting of potential flag-bearers will be done by OISS during International Student Orientation and/or via the OISS Newsletter.
2. Recruiting of potential flag-bearers may also be done via social media platforms utilized by OISS.
3. All promotion will be done in advance, stating the time the online sign-up will go live.

B. Sign-up

1. Online sign-up will be offered starting at a time when classes are not in session to allow for students to have time do it.
2. Sign-up will avoid major religious holidays.

C. Event Management

1. Student ID must be provided on the date of the event to confirm the registered person is carrying the flag.
2. Flags must be treated with care.
3. All students participating are expected to be respectful of other flags.

Appendix A to International Flag Policy

SEVIS List of Approved Countries

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SEVIS LIST OF APPROVED COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

AKROTIRI

ALBANIA

ALGERIA

ANDORRA

ANGOLA

ANGUILLA

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

ARGENTINA

ARMENIA

ARUBA

ASHMORE AND CARTIER ISLANDS

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRIA

AZERBAIJAN

BAHAMAS, THE

BAHRAIN

BANGLADESH

BARBADOS

BASSAS DA INDIA

BELARUS

BELGIUM

BELIZE

BENIN

BERMUDA

BHUTAN

BOLIVIA

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

BOTSWANA

BOUVET ISLAND

BRAZIL

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

BRUNEI

BULGARIA

BURKINA FASO

BURMA

BURUNDI

CAMBODIA

CAMEROON

CANADA

CAPE VERDE

CAYMAN ISLANDS

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

CHAD

CHILE

CHINA

CHRISTMAS ISLAND

CLIPPERTON ISLAND

COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS

COLOMBIA

COMOROS

CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE)

CONGO (KINSHASA)

COOK ISLANDS

CORAL SEA ISLANDS

COSTA RICA

COTE D'IVOIRE

CROATIA

CUBA

CURACAO

CYPRUS

CZECH REPUBLIC

DENMARK

DHEKELIA

DJIBOUTI

DOMINICA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

EGYPT

EL SALVADOR

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

ERITREA

ESTONIA

ETHIOPIA

ETOROFU, HABOMAI, KUNASHIRI, AND SHIKOTAN ISLANDS

EUROPA ISLAND

FALKLAND ISLANDS (ISLAS MALVINAS)

FAROE ISLANDS

FIJI

FINLAND

FRANCE

FRENCH GUIANA

FRENCH POLYNESIA

FRENCH SOUTHERN AND ANTARCTIC LANDS

GABON

GAMBIA, THE

GAZA STRIP

GEORGIA

GERMANY

GHANA

GIBRALTAR

GLORIOSO ISLANDS

GREECE

GREENLAND

GRENADA

GUADELOUPE

GUATEMALA

GUERNSEY

GUINEA

GUINEA-BISSAU

GUYANA

HAITI

HEARD ISLAND AND MCDONALD SLANDS

HONDURAS

HONG KONG

HUNGARY

ICELAND

INDIA

INDONESIA

IRAN

IRAQ

IRELAND

ISLE OF MAN

ISRAEL

ITALY

JAMAICA

JAN MAYEN

JAPAN

JERSEY

JORDAN

JUAN DE NOVA ISLAND

KAZAKHSTAN

KENYA

KIRIBATI

KOSOVO

KUWAIT

KYRGYZSTAN

LAOS

LATVIA

LEBANON

LESOTHO

LIBERIA

LIBYA

LIECHTENSTEIN

LITHUANIA

LUXEMBOURG

MACAU

MACEDONIA

MADAGASCAR

MALAWI

MALAYSIA

MALDIVES

MALI

MALTA

MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARTINIQUE

MAURITANIA

MAURITIUS

MAYOTTE

MEXICO

MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF

MOLDOVA

MONACO

MONGOLIA

MONTENEGRO

MONTSERRAT

MOROCCO

MOZAMBIQUE

NAMIBIA

NAURU

NEPAL

NETHERLANDS

NEUTRAL ZONE

NEW CALEDONIA

NEW ZEALAND

NICARAGUA

NIGER

NIGERIA

NIUE

NORFOLK ISLAND

NORTH KOREA

NORWAY

OMAN

PAKISTAN

PALAU

PANAMA

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PARACEL ISLANDS

PARAGUAY

PERU

PHILIPPINES

PITCAIRN ISLANDS

POLAND

PORTUGAL

QATAR

REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)

REUNION

ROMANIA

RUSSIA

RWANDA

SAINT BARTHELEMY

SAINT HELENA, ASCENSION, AND TRISTAN DA CUNHA

SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

SAINT LUCIA

SAINT MARTIN

SAINT PIERRE AND MIQUELON

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

SAMOA

SAN MARINO

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

SAUDI ARABIA

SENEGAL

SERBIA

SEYCHELLES

SIERRA LEONE

SINGAPORE

SINT MAARTEN

SLOVAKIA

SLOVENIA

SOLOMON ISLANDS

SOMALIA

SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS

SOUTH SUDAN

SPAIN

SPRATLY ISLANDS

SRI LANKA

STATELESS

SUDAN

SURINAME

SVALBARD

SWAZILAND

SWEDEN

SWITZERLAND

SYRIA

TAIWAN

TAJIKISTAN

TANZANIA

THAILAND

TIMOR-LESTE

TOGO

TOKELAU

TONGA

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TROMELIN ISLAND

TUNISIA

TURKEY

TURKMENISTAN

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

TUVALU

UGANDA

UKRAINE

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

UNITED KINGDOM

UNKNOWN

URUGUAY

UZBEKISTAN

VANUATU

VATICAN CITY

VENEZUELA

VIETNAM

WALLIS AND FUTUNA

WEST BANK

WESTERN SAHARA

YEMEN

ZAMBIA

ZIMBABWE