

International Flag Policy

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Policy owner: Office of International Students and Scholars

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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 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 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.

SECTION III. DEFINITIONS

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

- a. ***First-generation immigrant*** means an individual who has a parent from a country outside the United States.
- b. ***Non-immigrant visa*** means any visa type without the intention to immigrate to the United States (F1, H1B, H4, L1, etc.).
- c. ***Permanent resident*** means anyone on a green card, which could include those granted asylum or refugee status.
- d. ***OISS*** means the Office of International Students and Scholars within the university's Global Learning and Strategy unit.
- e. ***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 students are eligible to carry an international flag for their country of origin if they fall within one of the following eligibility categories:

1. International students born outside the United States and studying at St. Thomas on a non-immigrant visa.
2. Permanent residents including asylees, refugees and green card holders born outside the United States.
3. U.S. citizens born in a country outside the United States.
4. U.S. citizens who are a first-generation immigrant.

B. Eligible Countries and Territories

Flags may be carried 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, commencement, 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, via OISS Newsletter, the St. Thomas Newsroom, and OneStThomas (or their successor platforms).
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 | BELARUS | CAMEROON |
| AKROTIRI | BELGIUM | CANADA |
| ALBANIA | BELIZE | CAPE VERDE |
| ALGERIA | BENIN | CAYMAN ISLANDS |
| ANDORRA | BERMUDA | CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC |
| ANGOLA | BHUTAN | CHAD |
| ANGUILLA | BOLIVIA | CHILE |
| ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA | BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA | CHINA |
| ARGENTINA | BOTSWANA | CHRISTMAS ISLAND |
| ARMENIA | BOUVET ISLAND | CLIPPERTON ISLAND |
| ARUBA | BRAZIL | COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS |
| ASHMORE AND CARTIER ISLANDS | BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY | COLOMBIA |
| AUSTRALIA | BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS | COMOROS |
| AUSTRIA | BRUNEI | CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE) |
| AZERBAIJAN | BULGARIA | CONGO (KINSHASA) |
| BAHAMAS, THE | BURKINA FASO | COOK ISLANDS |
| BAHRAIN | BURMA | CORAL SEA ISLANDS |
| BANGLADESH | BURUNDI | COSTA RICA |
| BARBADOS | CAMBODIA | COTE D'IVOIRE |
| BASSAS DA INDIA | | CROATIA |

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| CUBA | GABON | ISLE OF MAN |
| CURACAO | GAMBIA, THE | ISRAEL |
| CYPRUS | GAZA STRIP | ITALY |
| CZECH REPUBLIC | GEORGIA | JAMAICA |
| DENMARK | GERMANY | JAN MAYEN |
| DHEKELIA | GHANA | JAPAN |
| DJIBOUTI | GIBRALTAR | JERSEY |
| DOMINICA | GLORIOSO ISLANDS | JORDAN |
| DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | GREECE | JUAN DE NOVA ISLAND |
| ECUADOR | GREENLAND | KAZAKHSTAN |
| EGYPT | GRENADA | KENYA |
| EL SALVADOR | GUADELOUPE | KIRIBATI |
| EQUATORIAL GUINEA | GUATEMALA | KOSOVO |
| ERITREA | GUERNSEY | KUWAIT |
| ESTONIA | GUINEA | KYRGYZSTAN |
| ETHIOPIA | GUINEA-BISSAU | LAOS |
| ETOROFU, HABOMAI, KUNASHIRI, AND SHIKOTAN ISLANDS | GUYANA | LATVIA |
| EUROPA ISLAND | HAITI | LEBANON |
| FALKLAND ISLANDS (ISLAS MALVINAS) | HEARD ISLAND AND MCDONALD SLANDS | LESOTHO |
| FAROE ISLANDS | HONDURAS | LIBERIA |
| FIJI | HONG KONG | LIBYA |
| FINLAND | HUNGARY | LIECHTENSTEIN |
| FRANCE | ICELAND | LITHUANIA |
| FRENCH GUIANA | INDIA | LUXEMBOURG |
| FRENCH POLYNESIA | INDONESIA | MACAU |
| FRENCH SOUTHERN AND ANTARCTIC LANDS | IRAN | MACEDONIA |
| | IRAQ | MADAGASCAR |
| | IRELAND | MALAWI |
| | | MALAYSIA |

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|---------------------------------|---|--|
| MALDIVES | NORFOLK ISLAND | SAINT PIERRE AND MIQUELON |
| MALI | NORTH KOREA | SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES |
| MALTA | NORWAY | SAMOA |
| MARSHALL ISLANDS | OMAN | SAN MARINO |
| MARTINIQUE | PAKISTAN | SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE |
| MAURITANIA | PALAU | SAUDI ARABIA |
| MAURITIUS | PANAMA | SENEGAL |
| MAYOTTE | PAPUA NEW GUINEA | SERBIA |
| MEXICO | PARACEL ISLANDS | SEYCHELLES |
| MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF | PARAGUAY | SIERRA LEONE |
| MOLDOVA | PERU | SINGAPORE |
| MONACO | PHILIPPINES | SINT MAARTEN |
| MONGOLIA | PITCAIRN ISLANDS | SLOVAKIA |
| MONTENEGRO | POLAND | SLOVENIA |
| MONTSERRAT | PORTUGAL | SOLOMON ISLANDS |
| MOROCCO | QATAR | SOMALIA |
| MOZAMBIQUE | REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) | SOUTH AFRICA |
| NAMIBIA | REUNION | SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS |
| NAURU | ROMANIA | SOUTH SUDAN |
| NEPAL | RUSSIA | SPAIN |
| NETHERLANDS | RWANDA | SPRATLY ISLANDS |
| NEUTRAL ZONE | SAINT BARTHELEMY | SRI LANKA |
| NEW CALEDONIA | SAINT HELENA, ASCENSION, AND TRISTAN DA CUNHA | STATELESS |
| NEW ZEALAND | SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS | SUDAN |
| NICARAGUA | SAINT LUCIA | SURINAME |
| NIGER | SAINT MARTIN | SVALBARD |
| NIGERIA | | |
| NIUE | | |

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|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| SWAZILAND | TROMELIN ISLAND | UZBEKISTAN |
| SWEDEN | TUNISIA | VANUATU |
| SWITZERLAND | TURKEY | VATICAN CITY |
| SYRIA | TURKMENISTAN | VENEZUELA |
| TAIWAN | TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS | VIETNAM |
| TAJIKISTAN | TUVALU | WALLIS AND FUTUNA |
| TANZANIA | UGANDA | WEST BANK |
| THAILAND | UKRAINE | WESTERN SAHARA |
| TIMOR-LESTE | UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | YEMEN |
| TOGO | UNITED KINGDOM | ZAMBIA |
| TOKELAU | UNKNOWN | ZIMBABWE |
| TONGA | | |
| TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO | URUGUAY | |