

Here are two templates to help you get started. But remember, to maximize the effectiveness of your comment, you will want to personalize and add to these templates as much as possible.

International Students:

I am submitting this comment in opposition to the DHS proposed rule to eliminate “duration of status” which would undermine the ability of those on F, J, and I visas to conduct their work and harm our entire university community.

I am an international graduate student and worker at **Michigan State University** and a member of the **Graduate Employee Union, AFT Local 6196**. I am currently in my **third** year of a PhD program for **Comparative Literature**. I am on an F-1 visa and have been admitted for “duration of status.” As such, I will be directly affected by this rule.

My current research is looking at the ways in which **X**. My research will benefit people in the U.S. and around the world by **X**. In addition, my program is as good as it is because of the involvement of international scholars. Over the last five years, we’ve had **X** international scholars come through our program. They’ve participated in research, symposiums, and teaching. For example, **X**.

Studies show that international students in the U.S. make major contributions to the economy and scholarship. For example, a NAFSA study showed that one million international students at U.S. colleges and universities contributed nearly \$41 billion to the U.S. economy and supported 458,290 jobs during the 2018-2019 academic year. If the rule is implemented, our university will lose so many of the benefits of global study and exchange, as will the U.S. economy.

This rule will also directly affect my finances, my career, my well-being, and my research. It would threaten my ability to complete my program. It could mean I would lose the **X number of hours and X thousands of dollars** I have invested in my study in the United States in reliance on the current F visa rules. If the current rule is made final by DHS, I may have to apply for a visa extension in order to complete my academic program and there is no guarantee I will receive it based on the narrow exceptions provided by the rule. I relied on the current rule in making my decision to study here. I would not have enrolled in my program if I knew that my study and research would be arbitrarily cut off.

This proposed rule is already creating major stress for international students. I am currently experiencing **X**. While I have loved my current program, if a final rule is implemented, I would consider transferring to another program, such as **X**. Additionally, colleague of mine in my home country have told me that they are concerned about applying to study in the U.S. because of the instability of the rules that apply to international students.

For the above reasons, I strongly urge to DHS to withdraw this proposed rule and stop the attacks on international students.

Other Student/Faculty:

I am submitting this comment in opposition to the DHS proposed rule to eliminate “duration of status” which would undermine the ability of those on F, J, and I visas to conduct their work and harm our entire university community.

I am a graduate student/worker/faculty member at Michigan State University and a member of the Graduate Employee Union, AFT Local 6196. I am currently in my first year of a PhD program for Chemistry.

Many international students and scholars are my dear friends and colleagues. They contribute to the academic, social, and intellectual environment on our campus. My program is as good as it is because of the many contributions of international students and scholars. Over the last five years, we’ve had X international scholars come through our program. They’ve participated in research, symposiums, and teaching. For example, X.

Studies show that international students in the U.S. make major contributions to the economy and scholarship. For example, a NAFSA study showed that one million international students at U.S. colleges and universities contributed nearly \$41 billion to the U.S. economy and supported 458,290 jobs during the 2018-2019 academic year. If the rule is implemented, our university will lose so many of the benefits of global study and exchange, as will the U.S. economy.

The DHS proposed rule drastically underestimates the negatives effects that this rule would have. This rule would harm our entire university community. It would undermine our ability to recruit talented international students and scholars, who are likely to go to programs in other countries rather than risk an arbitrary cutoff of their program. This would affect our ability to maintain our global competitiveness. It would affect our ability to collaborate, exchange, and innovate.

For the above reasons, I strongly urge to DHS to withdraw this proposed rule and immediately stop the attacks on international students and our universities.