Information for College Employees holding non-immigrant visa statuses in the U.S., who are facing a termination of employment

Depending on the visa status, the loss of employment in the U.S. may have a direct or indirect impact on a person’s U.S. immigration status.

If you are aware that your employment at Dartmouth College is coming to an end, you should contact your immigration advisor in the Office of Visa & Immigration Services as soon as possible. You may also wish to contact an immigration attorney to explore your options as they relate to continued presence in the U.S.

In general, a loss of employment has the following possible consequences for the associated visa types:

- **H-1B**: Your visa status is directly tied to the maintenance of your employment as defined by the terms of your filed and approved H-1B petition. If the employment ends, then your legal status ends on the same date, unless you have taken one of the following actions:
  - You have transferred your H-1B status to a new employer, by having that new employer file a new “portability H-1B petition on your behalf.
  - You have filed a change of immigration status application with the U.S. government, and that application is either pending or approved.
  - You have departed the country on or before the last date of employment.
  - **IMPORTANT NOTE**: Your employer must offer to pay your airfare back to your home country, or your country of last legal residence, if the employment termination is in advance of the status end date, and at the employer’s behest.

- **J-1**: Your visa status is directly tied to your program activity as defined on your DS-2019 form. If your program at Dartmouth is ending prior to the end date on the DS-2019 form, your legal status ends on the same date, unless you have taken one of the following actions:
  - You have transferred your J-1 status to a new institution or organization, by having the OVIS transfer your SEVIS record to the new institution / organization.
  - You have filed a change of immigration status application with the U.S. government, and that application is either pending or approved.
  - You have departed the country on or before the last date of employment.
• **F-1 working on post-completion OPT:**
  - You may remain in the U.S. after the employment under OPT ends, only if you have not yet reached 90 days of unemployment since the start date on your OPT work card.
  
• Other visa statuses allow work in the U.S., and there can be different consequences to employment loss. Please contact an immigration attorney for details about your specific information.

You can reach me to discuss any concerns you may have by calling the office at 603-646-3474 or by email at Visa.and.Immigration.Services@dartmouth.edu. A list of good immigration attorneys is also available from our office.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have questions during this transition period.