

## Inviting Family to Visit the United States

### Extended Family and Domestic Partners

International students who wish to assist their extended family (parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, etc.), domestic partners or friends, can facilitate the process of their visitor visa application by doing the following (optional):

- 1. Write a letter of Invitation**

Please refer to the template letter to prepare a customized letter. Include a statement of your status, the purpose of the visit, the relationship of the individual, and the length of time the family member(s) will be visiting the U.S. Mention if the individual has a job in the home country to which they plan to return. If you plan to provide for the family member's living and travel expenses while in the U.S., include this in the letter.

- 2. Copies of Documents**

Send a CSUF enrollment verification letter (available by request from Office of the Registrar) and copies of your immigration documents (passport, visa, I-94, I-20 or DS-2019) to your relatives for their visa application.

- 3. Commencement announcement**

If relatives are coming for commencement or graduation ceremony, it is a good idea to provide a document showing when the University commencement will take place, e.g. printout from CSUF website and an email showing you are approved as a candidate for graduation.

Providing family members with all of the above papers may improve their chances of obtaining a visa. However, there is no guarantee a visa will be issued. The success of the applicant's visa application is determined by the U.S. consular officer.

## INVITATION LETTER TEMPLATE

[Date]

U.S [Embassy or Consulate]

[Address, location of Embassy or Consulate]

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is [insert your full name]. I am a [your position: graduate or undergraduate student] at California State University, Fullerton in [F-1 or J-1] status, pursuing a [Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral] degree in [list major]. [If you are a student on post-completion Optional Practical Training or Academic Training you should state this here.]

I am writing this letter to confirm that I have invited my [name of person(s) being invited], [state relationship to you: father, mother, sibling, etc.], citizen(s) of [country], to visit me for a period of [number of weeks or months] in California. [Briefly state the purpose of the visit here.]

[Name of person(s) being invited] will be presenting this letter to you along with evidence to establish [his or her] ties to [country] and to assure you that they will return prior to the expiration of their stay in the United States. During [his/her] time in the U.S., I certify that I will be fully responsible for the cost of room, board, travel expenses within the U.S. (state this only if it is true).

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

(Student's Signature)

[Print Student's Name]

[Address]