July 17, 2020

Dear Customs and Border Protection Officer,

The University of Vermont will be on a hybrid academic plan for the fall 2020 semester and open to serve our students. This includes housing for residential students, academic and health services, etc. Students will enroll in a full course of study to make progress in their program. Students beginning new programs have been advised to enroll in some in-person coursework if they will come to the United States. As always, enrollment status and compliance with enrollment regulations will be monitored through our institutional systems once the term begins.

The University of Vermont has a careful plan to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the Fall 2020 semester. This includes screening upon arrival to campus, mandatory twice-weekly tests for all students, mandatory face mask use on campus, etc. These plans are in addition to the policies set by state leadership, such as Quarantines upon arrival.

For Travelers from Shengen Area, UK, and Ireland: We understand that the Department of State has declared that F-1 students from the Shengen Area, the United Kingdom, and Ireland with valid F-1 visas do not need to seek a national interest exception to travel and are automatically considered to meet that exception under Presidential Proclamations 9993 and 9996.

We appreciate your favorable support of this student’s request to return to the United States so that they can participate in their academic program. If you have questions about this student’s immigration status or other details in this letter, please contact us at 802-664-0053 (prior to August 17) or 802-656-4296 on or after August 17. Outside of office hours (Monday-Friday 8AM-4:30PM), please contact UVM Police Services at 802-6563473.

Thank you for your understanding and support of our student during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Emma Swift (PDSO)
Associate Director, Office of International Education
University of Vermont