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U.S. to revoke visas for Chinese students

Trump policy could disrupt major source of income for universities

Costas Pitas, Michael Martina and Jasper Ward REUTERS

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced May 28 that the United States will start "aggressively" revoking visas of Chinese students, including those with connections to the Chinese Communist Party or studying in critical fields.

If applied to a broad segment of the hundreds of thousands of Chinese university students in the United States, the move could disrupt a major source of income for American schools and a crucial pipeline of talent for technology companies in the United States.

The Trump administration has sought to ramp up deportations and revoke student visas as part of wideranging efforts to fulfill its hard-line immigration agenda.

In a statement, Rubio said the State Department will also revise visa criteria to enhance scrutiny of all future visa applications from China and Hong Kong.

"The U.S. State Department will work with the Department of Homeland Security to aggressively revoke visas for Chinese students," he said.

China's foreign ministry spokesperson in Beijing on May 29 condemned the move and said it had lodged protests with Washington, while Chinese students with offers from U.S. universities expressed despair at the crackdown.

The Chinese foreign ministry previously vowed to "firmly safeguard the legitimate rights and interests" of its students overseas, following the Trump administration's move to revoke Harvard University's ability to enroll foreign students, many of whom are Chinese.

China is also at the epicenter of Trump's global trade war that has roiled financial markets, upended supply chains and fueled risks of a sharp worldwide economic downturn. The decision to cancel Chinese student visas comes despite a recent pause in the U.S.-China trade dispute.

International students - India and China together accounting for 54% of them – contributed more than \$50 billion to the U.S. economy in 2023, according to the Commerce Department.

The State Department has broad authority to issue and revoke visas. The administration cited Harvard University's ties to China as among several reasons for revoking its ability to enroll foreign students, a move temporarily blocked by a U.S. judge.

Rubio's statement did not offer details on how extensively the visa revocations would be applied. Even a relatively small number could disrupt the flow of Chinese students seeking out higher education in the U.S. that began in the late 1970s from China.

Recent decades saw the United States become the destination of choice for many Chinese students looking for an alternative to China's intensely competitive university system and drawn to the strong reputation of U.S. schools. Those students typically come from wealthier families able to afford the high cost of U.S. universities

Many of those have stayed after graduating and have been credited with contributing to merican research capacity and the U.S. workforce.

The number of Chinese stude. United States dropped to about 277,000 in 2 wever, from a high of around 370,000 in 2019, pur growing tension between the world's two



Students gather May 21 on the day of Columbia University commencement ceremony at the school's main campus in New York. Recent decades saw the United States become the destination of choice for many Chinese students. JEENAH MOON/POOL/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

economies, heightened government scrutiny of Chinese students and the COVID-19 pandemic.

As the geopolitical rivalry with China has escalated into what many analysts consider a new form of cold war, U.S. agencies and Congress have stepped up scrutiny of China's state-sponsored influence and technology transfers at American colleges and universities.

Washington has become increasingly concerned that Beijing uses open and federally funded research environments in the United States to circumvent export controls and other national security laws.

Greater scrutiny and uncertainty over visas has led more Chinese students to opt for schools in Europe, and more graduates now return to China to ply their

Yaqiu Wang, a human rights researcher who came to the United States from China as a student, said Beijing had indeed taken advantage of U.S. academic openness to engage in espionage and intellectual property theft but called Rubio's announcement deeply concerning.

"Broad revocations and blanket bans would not only jeopardize the rights and livelihoods of Chinese students studying and working in the U.S., but also risk undermining America's long-standing position as

the global leader in scientific innovation," she said. During President Donald Trump's first administration, then-Secretary of State Mike Pompeo led a drive to rid university campuses of Chinese governmentfunded Confucius Institute cultural centers, saying they worked to advance China's "global propaganda and malign influence" and to recruit "spies and collaborators.

As a result, many institutions cut ties with the cen-

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On May 27, Reuters reported the State Department had halted new appointments for all foreign student and exchange visitor visa applicants, according to an internal cable.

The Trump administration has expanded social media vetting of foreign students and is seeking to ramp up deportations and revoke student visas as part of wide-ranging efforts to fulfill its hard-line immigration agenda.

NOTICE OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING **Board of County Commissioners of Martin County, Florida,** to Consider the Amendment of the Waterside Community **Development District**

DATE: June 17, 2025 9:00 a.m. LOCATION: **Commission Chambers** 2401 SE Monterey Road Stuart, Florida 34996

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, a public hearing will be held by the Board of County Commissioners of Martin County, Florida, to consider an ordinance to adopt an amendment to Ordinance No. 1175 and amend the boundaries of the Waterside Community Development District.

The District is comprised of 179.983 acres, more or less, generally located south of Southwest 96th Street, northwest of Southwest Kanner Highway, and east of Southwest Citrus Boulevard, entirely within Martin County, Florida. The District has submitted a petition to amend the boundary of the District by adding 40.227 acres, more or less, and removing 3.840 acres, more or less, for an amended total of approximately 216.371 acres, more or less.

Copies of the petition, department reports and proposed ordinance are open to inspection at the office of the Martin County Growth Management Department, 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996; Telephone: (772) 219-4923 or email: pwalden@martin.fl.us.

All interested persons and affected units of generalpurpose government shall be given an opportunity to appear at the hearing and present oral or written comments on the petition. Any persons or affected unit of general-purpose local government, who wish to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this public hearing will need a record of the proceedings. For that purpose, the person or unit of general-purpose local government may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made that includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Florida Statutes, Section 286.26, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the County ADA Coordinator by phone (772) 320-3131 within 2 working days of your receipt of this meeting notification; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.



CA utility sees more interest from centers

Laila Kearney REUTERS

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, California's largest electric utility, has seen a jump of more than 40% this year in requests for power supplies from data center developers across the northern part of the state, an executive with the company told Reuters on May 27.

California's Silicon Valley is one of the world's largest and oldest data center markets, but analysts have widely said that pricey land and costly electricity will limit the state's ability to capitalize on the current wave of demand for artificial intelligence data centers, which is concentrated in the middle of the country.

PG&E, however, said it is seeing signs that the state still has room to run.

In April, PG&E, which delivers power and natural gas to about 16 million people in northern and central California, including Silicon Valley, launched a process for data center developers interested in connecting to the utility's system.

The so-called cluster study yielded 4.1 gigawatts of interest, on top of the 8.7 gigawatts announced during the company's most recent earnings call in late April, said Mike Medeiros, PG&E's vice president of South Bay Delivery.

Not only did the pipeline of prospective data centers being built within PG&E grow, but the size of the projects has also jumped significantly since the previous year's cluster study, Medeiros said.

In 2024, the typical data center wanting to power up through PG&E had 50 to 100 megawatts in capacity. Current proposals are for projects of 500 megawatts to as much as 1,000 megawatts.

"We're seeing quite a change in what customers are looking for, and some of that might be based on land availability or just scale and the efficiencies of building bigger," Medeiros said.

Unlike earlier data centers, those for AI are used primarily for training the large language models, like ChatGPT, and can be further away from city centers. Not all of the data centers making inquiries are ex-

pected to ultimately connect to PG&E. Some of the top challenges in data center expansion for the utility include meeting the tight timelines by developers and operators and backlogs in the equipment needed to build out the grid.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE EXPANSION OF THE

The Martin County Board of County Commissioners will conduct a public hearin on June 17, 2025, at the County Administrative Center, 2401 SE Monterey Road Stuart, Florida 34996, beginning at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the iten may be heard to consider the elements of a Petition filed by KL Waterside, LLC to expand a community development district in Martin County known as the Waterside Community Development District. The information presented at the hearing will be used by the Board of County Commissioners in making its determination to grant o deny the Petition as set forth in Section 190.046, Florida Statutes, and also to afford the petitioner, affected units of local government, and the general public a fair and adequate opportunity to appear at the hearing and present oral and written comment relevant to the expansion of the Waterside Community Development District (CDD The proposed CDD expansion is approximately 40.277 acres of land located within the unincorporated area of the Martin County, Florida, as shown on the map below



If the Petition is granted and an ordinance adopted, it would amend the Waterside Community Development District designated land area to be served. The amendme of such a district pursuant to Chapter 190.046, F.S., is not a development order with the meaning of Chapter 380, Florida Statutes. All planning, permitting and other regulatory requirements pertaining to development within the land area shall be in

constructing, operating and maintaining all or a portion of the infrastructure and community facilities needed by district property owners, including, among other things the surface water management system, water distribution system and wastewater collection and transmission facilities. The CDD will make use of non-ad valorem assessments levied on all property owners in the CDD and will make use of user fees for bond retirement, maintenance, etc. These CDD assessments and fees will be over and above County taxes. The full text of the "Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs for the Proposed Waterside Community Development District" is available from the Growth Management Department. The specific legal authority for this action is Section 190.046, F.S. All affected units of general-purpose local government and the general public shall be given an opportunity to appear at the hearing and present ora

If any person who decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matte considered at the meetings or hearings of any board, committee, agency, counci or advisory group, that person will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which record should include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal i

For further information, including copies of the agenda item materials, please call the Growth Management Department at (772) 288-5495. Prior to the public hearing, written comments should be sent to Brian Elam, <u>belam@martin.fl.us</u> or 2401 SE Monterer Road, Stuart, FL 34996. This notice is published pursuant to the requirements o Chapter 190.005(1)(d), Florida Statutes.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Within five working days of receipt of this notice, please contact the County's ADA Coordinator, at (772) 320-3131.