

It's a new day and a new community is under attack. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is telling international students on F-1 and M-1 visas that if their school is conducting courses exclusively online, they must leave the country or transfer to an institution with in-person instruction — or they'll be deemed in the U.S. illegally and subject to deportation.

Dr. Chris Marsicano (@ChrisMarsicano) helped organize against the #GradStudentTax in 2017 and if you are on Twitter, you might have seen his new thread on how to organize against this #StudentBan. I will highlight 10 key aspects of the thread:

- 1) Call this decision what it is: a **#StudentBan**. If you use twitter, use #StudentBan every single time to get it trending
- 2) **Call members of congress** and tell them you oppose the #StudentBan. Focus especially on members of the Judiciary Committees in the House and the Senate. If you want to get super specific, call up the members of this House subcommittee: <https://judiciary.house.gov/subcommittees/immigration-and-border-security-116th-congress/>
- 3) While you are at it, **call the members of this Senate subcommittee** and tell them you oppose the #StudentBan. Committee members Ernst (IA), Tillis (NC) and Graham (SC) all have tough re-election campaigns and therefore may be more willing to take to your call: <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/about/subcommittees/subcommittee-on-border-security-and-immigration>
- 4) **Want to really do some damage?** Write like your students' lives depend on it (because, well, they do). To overturn the #StudentBan, **we need OpEds**. OpEds are actually one of the best tools around to beat the #StudentBan. They were a huge tool in opposing the #GradStudentTax in '17 and are shockingly powerful.
- 5) **Example of an OpEd** written by Dr. Chris Marsicano: <https://chrismarsicano.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/PerilsGradTax.pdf>
- 6) Why are **OpEds important**?
 - a. Members of Congress have staff that read their constituents' local newspapers every. single. day.
 - b. If you write an OpEd in your local paper on the #StudentBan. There is a guarantee a member of Congress or one of their staff members will see it.
- 7) **Be kind, not mean**. This includes no name-calling when you crank up your word processor and do what you do best - write.
- 8) When you write, **hit three key points**:
 - a. U.S. thrives when we bring the world's greatest minds to our shores.
 - b. International students subsidize domestic students.
 - c. The #StudentBan is just mean. (Seriously - the "be nice, not mean" argument carries WAY more weight than you may think).
- 9) The #StudentBan will face court battles. **We need those battles to last** at least until after the semester begins. Preferably they'll last past January 20, 2021. As long as the courts are fighting those battles, the status quo will likely stand.
- 10) **Help out** the organizations that fight these battles, like the ACLU.

Like any issue, if you care about something, and are eligible to vote - register and make your vote count. **International students can't vote against the #StudentBan so you must.** [Here](#) is a tool to make sure you are registered.