# ACAA STATEMENT ON ICE POLICY ON INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND ONLINE LEARNING

July 10, 2020

The Accessible Campus Action Alliance (ACAA) decries the Trump administration and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) policy limiting international student access to online learning. This policy ignores the clear public health implications of campus reopenings and follows a long history of using anti-immigrant policies to harm disabled people, including international and non-international students and faculty who are at risk of severe complications from COVID-19.

In "Beyond High-Risk: Statement on Disability and Campus Re-Openings," the ACAA argued that universities should adopt "explicit policies for safe, equitable, and inclusive online-centric teaching during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic." ICE's policy change seeks to blunt the force of the immense, justice-driven, and coalitional work done to protect students, staff, and faculty from the harms of campus re-opening.

ACAA urges universities and colleges (including their faculty governance units) to resist this ICE policy on an institutional level, with legal tools and institutional power, to ensure access to teaching and learning in a variety of accessible and safe formats regardless of citizenship status. As universities craft responses to the policy change, as well as to COVID-19, concern for collective well-being must be paramount. ACAA rejects pressure for individual faculty to adjust their teaching plans to find loopholes to the policy. This individualized response recalls the harms of case-by-case accommodations policies, which fail to recognize the collective impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Regardless of citizenship status, disabled students and faculty have rights to accessible and safe participation in campus communities.