

MAY 2026

NEW GREEN CARD VISA RULE



On May 22, 2026, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced a significant “green card” policy change that may require many immigrants currently residing in the United States to leave the country and complete their green card processing through a U.S. Consulate or Embassy abroad.

Previously, foreign nationals holding valid work, student, or spousal visas could apply to adjust their immigration status to lawful permanent residence while remaining physically present in the United States. Under the new policy, however, many applicants may now be required to return to their home country to finalize their immigrant visa processing.

This change could create substantial challenges for affected individuals. U.S. consulates and embassies often experience lengthy interview backlogs and delays. In addition, departing the United States may expose some applicants to reentry complications or prevent them from reentry, depending on their immigration and visa history.

The policy represents a major shift for many individuals, including international students and spouses of U.S. citizens. Rather than continuing to live and work in the United States while their green card applications are pending, applicants may now face disruptions to their employment, education, and family life as they await visa appointments abroad.

Given the significance and sudden nature of this policy change, it is strongly recommended that individuals consult with a qualified immigration attorney to assess how their specific visa category may be affected.

HT CELEBRATES LARGEST INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GRADUATION CLASS IN MAY 2026

In May 2026, HT proudly celebrated a historic milestone, its largest graduating class of international students to date. A total of 18 international students were eligible to walk across the stage during the May 16, 2026, graduation ceremony. This achievement reflects the institution's continued commitment to global engagement, academic excellence, and student success across borders.

At a time when international student enrollment in the United States has faced fluctuations, including a recent decline in new enrollments and shifting global trends, HT has remained a welcoming and supportive destination for students from around the world.

The graduating class of 2026 represents a wide range of countries (including The Bahamas, China, Congo (Kinshasa), Cote d'Ivoire, Nepal, and Nigeria), cultures, and academic disciplines. Their presence has enriched campus life, strengthened cross-cultural understanding, and contributed to the university's global outlook. These students have made a lasting impact on the HT community.



This milestone not only celebrates the achievements of these graduates but also signals HT's growing role in international education. As the university continues to expand partnerships and global opportunities, the success of this class sets a strong foundation for the future.

HT congratulates its international graduates and looks forward to their continued contributions as global leaders and ambassadors of the university.

HT'S TEAM WINS THIRD PLACE AT NATIONAL TECH INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Huston-Tillotson University (HT) earned national recognition as its student team, Team ABS, secured third place at the inaugural PROPEL Center Future of Tech Innovation Challenge National Finals, held in Austin, Texas, from April 15–17, 2026.

The competition brought together some of the brightest minds from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), challenging students to develop innovative, AI-powered solutions to real-world problems. The first-ever event attracted more than 1,100 applicants nationwide, with only about 70 finalist teams advancing to the national stage.

HT's Team ABS, comprised of **Anish Lamichhane, Biraj Lamichhane, and Sujal Pandey competition (All from Nepal)**, distinguished themselves among top competitors by showcasing creativity, technical expertise, and a strong commitment to solving real-world challenges through emerging technologies.



Their third-place finish earned national visibility along with a \$15,000 award, highlighting the university's growing presence in the innovation and technology space.

The Future of Tech Innovation Challenge emphasizes hands-on learning, collaboration, and the use of artificial intelligence to tackle issues in areas such as healthcare, education, cybersecurity, and media. The event culminated in a live showcase in Austin, where finalists presented their ideas to industry leaders and judges.

HT's achievement marks a significant milestone, reinforcing the university's commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and preparing students to lead in the future of technology.

THE 2026 HT CULTURE FESTIVAL

The HT Culture Festival, held on Tuesday, April 23, 2026, was a resounding success, bringing together students, faculty, and staff for a vibrant celebration of global diversity. The event showcased the rich cultural traditions represented on campus through food, music, performances, and interactive displays. Students proudly shared their heritage, creating an atmosphere of unity, learning, and appreciation.

Attendance was strong, and the energy throughout the festival reflected the campus community's enthusiasm and commitment to international engagement. From colorful cultural exhibits to dynamic performances, the event offered meaningful opportunities for connection and cross-cultural exchange. Many participants described this year's festival as one of the most memorable to date.



The students especially enjoyed a new addition to this year's Culture Festival – monetary prizes awarded for the Best Country Table Display. The winners were:

- Mexico – 1st Place
- China – 2nd Place
- Nepal – 3rd Place

Hong Wang, a Mass Communications major from China, shared, "This was more than just an event; it felt like the whole world came together on our campus. I've never been prouder to share my culture and learn about others at the same time."

The success of the HT Culture Festival highlights the growing spirit of inclusion and global awareness at HT. It also sets a strong foundation for future events that continue to celebrate and honor the diverse backgrounds that make the campus community unique.

ANTWOINE CUMMINGS

2026–2027 SGA PRESIDENT

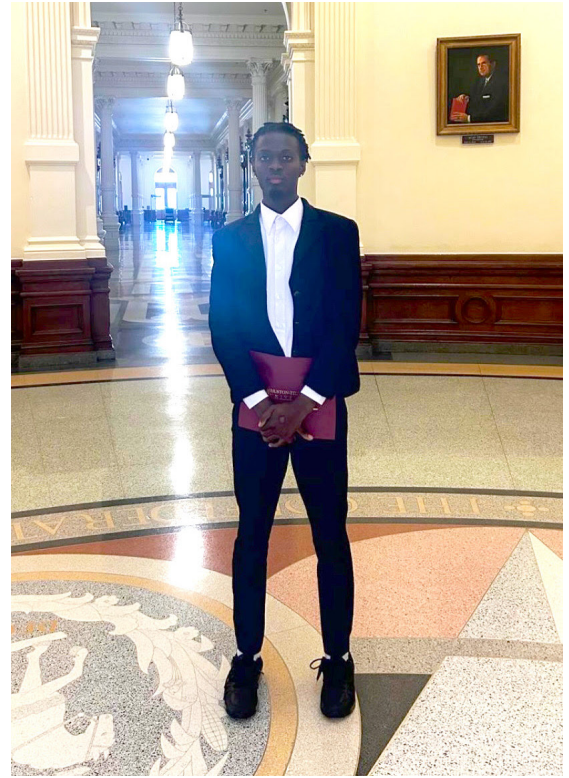
Antwoine Cummings, an international student from The Bahamas, was elected president of the Student Government Association (SGA) for the 2026–2027 academic year. His achievement reflects both his leadership ability and the growing impact of international students in campus governance.

As SGA president, Antwoine will serve as the official voice of the student body, working closely with university administrators to advocate for student needs, improve campus life, and promote inclusion. Student government leaders typically play a key role in representing student concerns and shaping policies that affect the broader campus community.

Antwoine's election is especially meaningful as it highlights the diversity of leadership on campus. Coming from The Bahamas, he brings a global perspective and a commitment to building connections among students from different backgrounds. His success also serves as an inspiration to other international students, showing that they can actively participate in leadership roles and make a lasting impact.

"I am honored to represent the student body," Antwoine said. "I hope to create a campus where every student feels heard, valued, and included."

With his vision and dedication, Antwoine's presidency is expected to strengthen unity and elevate student engagement across campus.



ANTWOINE CUMMINGS