

# MIT Export Control

Protecting MIT's open research policy and the free interchange of information among scholars while complying with U.S. Export Control Law

**Subject: Course Migration to On-line Format, and Export of Course, UROP, or Project Tangible Items**

**Date: 23 April 2020**

**Background:** The current virus pandemic has caused MIT students and staff to work remotely. In many cases, this means operating from a foreign country. Export Control regulations come into play whenever technology, tangible items, or services are exported. The new operation may necessitate exporting material to carry out research or projects as well as accessing classes on-line from within a foreign country. Please find information regarding these new conditions below.

## **Shipping Items Internationally for Online Courses/Projects**

- U.S. export control laws apply to all shipments of physical goods from the U.S. to another country, so you need to ensure that what you are sending is permissible for shipment to the destination country. If you have questions about the restrictions on a particular item, please contact [exportcontrolhelp@mit.edu](mailto:exportcontrolhelp@mit.edu).
- To the extent feasible, having items shipped directly from the retailer/supplier to an international recipient will help ensure MIT's compliance with U.S. export control laws.
- Before arranging for the shipping (whether directly by MIT or through a retailer/supplier) to a recipient in Iran, Cuba, Syria, North Korea, or the Crimea region of Ukraine, please contact [exportcontrolhelp@mit.edu](mailto:exportcontrolhelp@mit.edu) as additional restrictions apply to transactions involving those countries.

## **Taking MIT catalog courses on-line**

- There is an exemption for transactions "necessary and ordinarily incidental" to activities authorized under some student visa categories. The US Government has not formally commented on its application to normal in-resident catalog courses transitioning to on-line format in this emergency situation. In general, there are some restrictions to exporting services, such as on-line learning to the embargoed countries/regions. If you have any questions, please contact the Export Control Officer, Janet C. Johnston, at [exportcontrolhelp@mit.edu](mailto:exportcontrolhelp@mit.edu).