



Rules and Regulations International- F1 Visa Students

- **I-20:** Your I-20 Form is issued for two years. You may be given an extension on the I-20 dates if needed as long as you are continuously enrolled. Do not let your I-20 expire. If you need an extension on the I-20, you should contact us in a timely manner before the expiration date. If it expires, you will be out of the F-1 student status. It is your responsibility to check the I-20 form.
- **Passport:** Do not let your passport expire. You must possess a passport that is valid at all times. You should renew your passport six months prior to the expiration date at your country's Consulate in the United States or in your country.
- **I-94 Card:** Card issued to you at time of entry into the United States which documents your legal status, your initial entry date and port of entry. Should note F-1 and D/S (Duration of Status). This is your permit to stay in the U.S. and should be kept in your passport.
- **F-1 Visa:** This visa reflects the status given to you to enter the U.S. temporarily for the sole purpose of study. NOTE: If your F-1 Student Visa expires while you are in the United States, you may remain in the U.S. as long as you are in valid F-1 student status; you should update the visa the next time you travel to your home country.
- **Update** us of any address, phone or email changes.
- **Full-Time Enrollment:** Pursuing a full course of study is one of the cornerstones of maintaining F1 status; you must continue to pursue and maintain a full course of study throughout the entire time under an F-1 student status. If you are *not* enrolled full-time, we are required to report to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This will impact your continuing eligibility for a student visa and continued enrollment.
- **You MUST complete the following number of hours each semester:**
- Fall Semester – minimum 12 credits (4 classes)/ Spring Semester-minimum 12 credits
- Summer 1- optional/ Summer 2-optional
- **Withdraw**- If you withdraw, fail to maintain full-time status or otherwise terminate or interrupt your course of study without first obtaining approval, you will be considered out of status. Immigration only allows withdrawals under specific reasons. If you need to withdraw below the required hours, please contact us. You may or may not be eligible to withdraw below the required amount of credit hours legally.
- **Only 3 hours** of distance learning or on-line education courses may count towards the fulfillment of your full-time enrollment requirement for each semester.
- **On-Campus Work:** As long as you are in legal F-1 status, you are eligible to work on campus for up to 20 hours per week during the Spring and Fall semesters.
- **Off-Campus Work:** Working off campus requires special authorization and is available only in certain situations. You must be in F-1 status for at least one academic year. You will be out of status if you work without authorization.
- **Traveling outside the United States: I-20 Form-** Signature on third page is valid for ONE year. If any information has changed, you will need to get it updated. Also be sure to check the expiration date. You will not be allowed to travel or re-enter into the U.S. if the travel signature has expired. Valid Passport- your passport it should be valid at a minimum 6 months beyond your expected date of re-entry into the U.S.

***NOTE-** these are only some of the rules associated with your F-1 Student Visa- please see the International Student Advisor/Counselor for questions or concerns regarding your Visa