

Registration Forms

Required to update SEVIS

- All F-1 and J-1 students MUST be registered in SEVIS each semester
- · Be sure the ISS office has a copy of your passport, visa, I-20 or DS-2019, and I-94

Important Documents

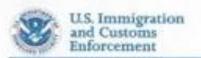
- Passport
- I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Non-Immigrant Student)
- Visa
- I-94 Arrival/Departure Record

I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility)

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ICE Form 1-20 (3/31/2018) Page 1 of 3

I-20 Signature Page



Redesigned Form I-20 SEVIS Fact Sheet

F-1 Form Changes - Page Two

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I-94 E-Retrieval



https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/consent.html or Google "**Get My I-94**"

Department of Homeland Security



U.S. State Department

 There are U.S. Embassies and Consulates worldwide



- Issues visas in passports of a given length, and a certain number of entries to apply to enter the U.S.
- There are no U.S. Consulates within the U.S. Impossible to renew your visa in the U.S.

SEVIS

- Stands for "Student and Exchange Visitor Information System"
- U.S. Government tracking system for students and scholars
 - Monitored by SEVP (part of ICE)
 - 。 All I-20s are generated from SEVIS
- Schools have Primary & Designated School Officials
 (P/DSO) that are required to update specific information
 within certain deadlines

Visitor Information System

Who are your DSO's? (F-1)



Keith Davis, PDSO



Michaela Luedke, DSO





Ethan Lehman, DSO

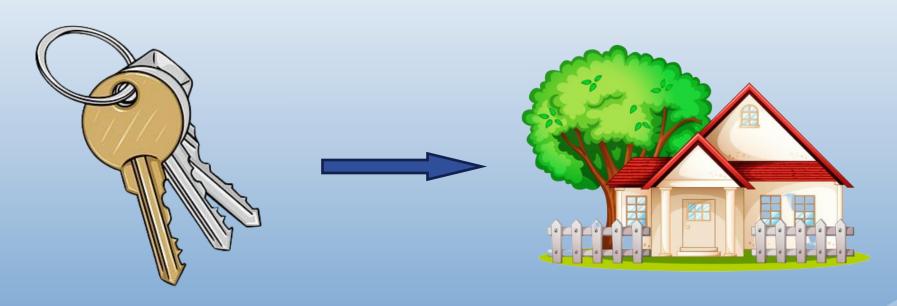


Ellen Miller, DSO

Visa vs. Status

- A Visa is an eligibility sticker that students can take to apply to enter the U.S.
- Once admitted, students are given their "status"
- Status determines length of lawful stay in U.S. not visa
- F-1 Students are given until "D/S" to stay in the U.S. as indicated on the I-94 Form
- D/S means "Duration of Status"
- You are allowed to remain in the U.S. until you complete your program (including OPT) plus an additional **60 day** "grace period" to depart the U.S.

A visa is like a house key...



You need a key to open the locked door and go in but you do not need the key to leave.

Status is your being welcome...



OR



If you are not good and behaving by the rules, you will be uninvited.

Maintaining F-1 Status

- Have a valid passport at all times
- Have an unexpired Form I-20
- Report a change of address to the ISS Office within 10 days of your move and update Web Banner
- Do not work off campus without Authorization
- Be enrolled full-time
- Attend classes

Full Time Course Load

- Undergraduate- must be enrolled in 12 credits or more in Fall and Spring semesters
- Graduate must be enrolled in 9 credits or more in Fall and Spring semesters
- Summer term is optional
- Withdrawals (W) are <u>not</u> recognized
- "F"s are recognized

Full Time Course Load cont.

- May only take 1 class or up to 3 credits of "online" courses as part of 12 credits
- Exceptions to Full-Time Requirement:
 - Documented Medical Condition
 - Last Semester of Studies
 - Initial Academic Adjustment Difficulty

Must get DSO permission from ISS **before** you drop below full-time

What if I violate the rules of my status?

- P/DSOs are required to update SEVIS based on your program status. If certain dates pass for example without required updates, SEVIS will automatically terminate your record.
- A Termination will subject you to deportation and future exclusion to the U.S.

What if I violate the rules of my status?

 Apply for Reinstatement to the USCIS to regain your status

OR

If you do not apply for Reinstatement, you will be expected to leave the country immediately. You can then apply for an "Initial Attendance" I-20 to return to the U.S.

Employment

- On-Campus SSN required
- Co-Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
 - P/DSO approval required
- Optional Practical Training (OPT)
 - P/DSO approval required
- SSN required
- Economic Hardship

On-Campus Employment

- Students are allowed to work part-time (up to 20 hours/week) while school is in session.
 - 27 hours/week is allowed during Summer or during school breaks
- No USCIS approval needed <u>but Social Security</u>
 <u>Number (SSN) is required</u>
- Best place to look- Handshake/Eagle Connect
- BASC, IT, Campus Rec (look for "Temp" jobs)

Off-Campus Employment

- Optional Practical Training (OPT)
 - Must have valid F-1 status for 1 academic year (2 semesters)
 - Must apply to USCIS
 for an Employment Authorization Document (EAD)
 - Available for 1 year at each educational level

Off-Campus Employment

Severe Economic Hardship

- Must prove to USCIS that employment is necessary due to severe economic hardship caused by circumstances beyond your control with documentation
- Must have valid F-1 status for 1 academic year
- Must apply to for a Employment Authorization Document (EAD)
- Job does not have to be related to course of study

Travel and Re-Entry

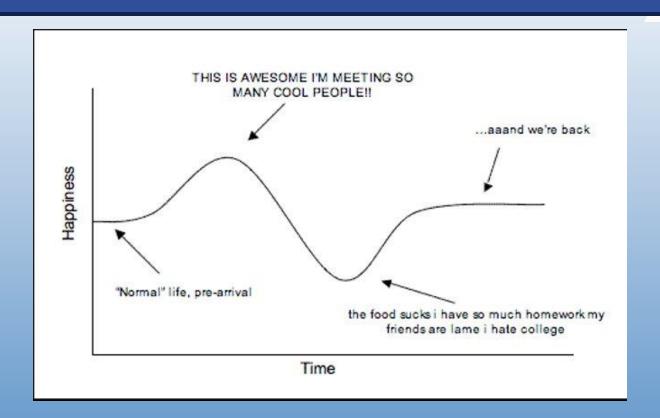
- If you wish to travel outside the U.S. during your studies, and reenter after a temporary absence of <u>5 months or less</u>, you will need the following:
 - A valid passport (and valid for 6 months)
 - A valid U.S. visa with more than 1 entry remaining.
 - Your I-20 with a current signature from a P/DSO.
 - We recommend you get a travel endorsement each semester.
- Additional Recommended Documentation:
 - Transcripts or Tuition Receipts
 - Name and Contact information of P/DSO

Recommended to travel with passport, and I-20 even if staying within the U.S. You should take photos of all important documents on your cell phones for quick access!

Completing your Program/Transferring

- 60 Day Grace Period after the last day of the semester
- Final Semester Come to the ISS Office to complete a Final Semester Form
- Transfer Students need to bring an acceptance letter from next school to the ISS office
- Must start next term, within 5 months
- SEVIS Record must be released within grace period to maintain status

Homesickness



Ask for Help

- If you are having difficulty adjusting to your classes OR are experiencing mental or physical health issues, please talk to someone in the ISS office.
- We can:
 - . Help you find resources
 - Explore course reduction options



Thanks for listening!

Email <u>iss@brockport.edu</u> with visa questions.

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