



"Ignorance is not Bliss" - How what you don't know can hurt you

Maintaining Status as an F-1 Student

As an F-1 student, you are required to abide by the following rules:

- Report to OISS upon arrival to campus to be registered in SEVIS;
- Limit on-campus employment to 20 hours per week;
- Refrain from off-campus employment without authorization;
- Report a change of your local US address to OISS within 10 days of the change;
- Make sure that your immigration documents are valid and/or unexpired;
- An unexpired foreign passport valid at least six months into the future;
- An I-94 card marked "F1 D/S" or "J1 D/S";
- An unexpired I-20 (for F-1 students) or DS-2019 (for J-1 students) that has been stamped by an immigration inspector;
- Undergraduates should register for and complete a full course load of 12 credits for each semester;
- Depending on the program, graduate students should register for and complete a full course load of 12 or 9 credits for each semester;
- Make normal progress toward your degree;
- Obtain PRIOR authorization from your Designated School Official BEFORE dropping below full course of study, withdrawing from classes, or taking a leave of absence;
- Follow proper transfer procedures;
- Follow proper procedures for change in educational level;
- Abide by the F-1 grace period rules;
- Report change of address to OISS within 10 days of that change;
- Work only on campus for 20 hours a week when school is in session;
- Abide by any special registration requirements;



How you can lose your F-1 Status

The following list details violations that would cause an F-1 student to lose his or her Immigration status. This list is **not an exhaustive list**:



- Failure to enroll for classes by the SEVIS Deadline.
- Unauthorized withdrawal.
- Unauthorized employment.
- Unauthorized drop below full course load.
- Change of status denied.
- Expulsion from the University.

What are the consequences if a student fails to maintain status?

A student's record in SEVIS is updated at specific intervals during the academic year or at the time a student commits a technical violation of the regulations. Students who fail to maintain their status can lose the privileges of their F-1 student status. Specific consequences may include:

- Inability to work in the U.S;
- Inability to move to the next level of education;
- Denial of requests for Practical Training;
- Denial of requests to change visa status;
- Denial of re-entry to the U.S;
- Potential deportation and possible denial of future visas.