

## Traveling While on F-1 Status

### **Traveling outside the U.S.**

- If you are planning to travel during any school breaks, come to OISS at least two weeks before you plan to leave to process your [travel endorsement application](#)
- We will not process travel endorsement on the same day!
- DO NOT make flight arrangements prior to contacting OISS, things might be more complicated than you might anticipate.
- If you plan to visit a country other than your homeland, check with that country's embassy for their policies on visa issuances. You might need to obtain a visa to enter that country

### **To reenter the U.S. you must have:**

- **Valid visa:** As long as the visa is F-1 visa type, and is not expired, the student does not need to apply for a new visa, if he or she plans to exit and reenter the U.S. with an I-20 to continue studies. If your visa expires while you are in the U.S., the next time you travel abroad you must obtain a new visa in order to be readmitted to the U.S.
- **Valid passport:** Your passport should be current at all times. If an expiration date is imminent it is important to get your passport renewed immediately.
- **Valid I-20:** Your I-20 must be endorsed by the PDSO within the semester you plan to travel.
- The PDSO endorses your current I-20 on page 3. However, if any of the information on page 1 of the I-20 has changed, you will need a new I-20 before traveling. This is why it is important to allow enough time for your request for travel endorsement!
- **Letter verifying attendance at Rutgers:** A letter will be written for you verifying full-time attendance at the university in case you are asked to provide verification of enrollment status.
- **Proof of course registration:** It is advisable to request a proof of course registration from the Registrar in case you are asked to provide verification of continued attendance at Rutgers.

### **Traveling within the U.S.**

If you plan to travel, within the U.S. you should consider doing the following:

- Take a photocopy of your passport with you and also your Rutgers I.D. card.
- Leave the other immigration documents and social security card at home in a safe place.
- You must carry proof of your immigration status at all times.