



The Reformed University USA

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Immigration Regulation

All F-1 visa students must fully comply with the following regulations in order to maintain legal status. Failure to comply with these regulations will mean the loss of the F-1 student status. Falling out of status may result in deportation or severe penalty under Immigration and Nationality Act § 237(a)(1)(C)(i).

**Note: The regulation may change at any time. It is the student's responsibility to remain in contact with the school registrar to keep abreast of current regulations.*

All F-1 visa students must fully comply with the following regulations:

Passport

F-1 visa students must always maintain a valid passport throughout your stay in the US. The passport must be valid at least 6 months into the future. To extend or replace a lost passport, immediately contact your home country's embassy or the nearest consulate.

I-20

You must attend the college or university that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has authorized you to attend. Your I-20 must be valid at all times while your stay in the United States. If you cannot complete your studies by the end date on item #5 of your I-20, you must apply for an extension of stay PRIOR to its expiration. If you need the extension, make sure to request at least 30 days prior to the program's end date on your I-20. If you fail to do so, you may become "out of status."

Change in Student Profile

Make sure to report if there is a change of address or legal name within 10 days of any change. Changes in major/field of study, dependant information, financial support, home country address, program completion date, and/or immigration status must be also reported.

*The address should not be P.O. Box.

Travelling

If you are going on a trip to other country or countries other than the United States, you need to request Travel Authorization on your I-20 and obtain it while you are outside of the United States. This authorization is need when you reenter the United States after traveling overseas.

Course of Study

** You must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 all the time to avoid academic dismissal.

Full Course of Study

All F-1 visa students must register in and complete a minimum of 12 units for each academic term. Remember that a “WP”/”WF” grade notation on your record does not count toward the units required to maintain full-time status.

Reduced Course Load

If you are planning to register on a part-time basis or drop below 12 units, you need to meet an school officer for approval in advance. Students who drop below 12 units without prior authorization will be considered “out of status.” *You can obtain an approval for limited reasons.

Early Withdrawal

Early withdrawal is authorized when a student suddenly needs to stop his or her intended education and/or program and leave the United States due to unforeseen circumstances. Only the F-1 students who are authorized for an early withdrawal may remain in the United States for up to 15 days following the withdrawal. However, if you just stop attending classes without any prior approval and fail to maintain your legal status, you are no longer eligible for any grade period. You can stay zero days in the United States and will lose your status right away.

Health Insurance

The Reformed University requires that F-1 students to have health insurance throughout their stay in the United States.

Employment

All F-1 students’ employment must be pre-authorized. Unauthorized employment is a violation of F-1 student visa status. Students may work on campus, and work up to 20 hours per week. During the semester, hours of employment cannot exceed a total of 20 hours per week, and full-time employment is only allowed during official summer and winter break. Students may work off campus only if they have authorization from school and the USCIS. For more information, see student advisor.

OPT

OPT is authorized to work in your field of study for 12 months after the completion of an Bachelor’s Degree, Master’s Degree, and Doctor’s degree at The Reformed University. F-1 students may apply for OPT up to 90 days prior to completion and up to 60 days after completion of your program/field of study requirements. See student advisor for more information.

Transferring

If you plan to transfer to another school, you must inform school within 60 days of the end date of your last semester at The Reformed University. The request to transfer your SEVIS record must be made within 10 business days prior to the end date. Before the transfer, you must pay all the obligations. Fail to do all the above will cause you to lose your legal status to stay in the United States.

Completion of Program

Once you complete all the requirements for your program, even if your I-20 has not expired, you have only 60 days to either leave the U.S., change to another visa status, or begin a new program of study (this requires a new I-20).