

Pledge of Compliance with U.S. Immigration Laws & Regulations: The Role and Responsibility of the International Student

Compliance with U. S. immigration regulations is critical in order that international students in F-1 visa classification maintain their legal status in the United States. Students must be aware of and fully comply with the following:

- You must maintain a valid passport at all times, unless exempt from passport requirements.
- You must attend the college/university that the USCIS has authorized you to attend.
- You must complete an official immigration transfer whenever you change educational institutions. You must notify your current institution of your intent to transfer, obtain a Form I-20 from the new institution, and report to the Designated School Official at the new school within 15 days of the program start date listed on the Form I-20.
- You must complete a full course of study during normal enrollment periods (Fall & Spring Terms). If you will not be enrolled full-time (12 credits), you must receive authorization/permission from a Designated School Official in advance. You and your academic department must complete the form, "Request for DSO Authorization for Reduced Course Load," and submit it to the Office of International Student Services prior to registering for less than a full course load or prior to dropping below a full course load.
- You must apply for an extension of your program of study prior to the expiration date on your Form I-20 if you cannot complete your program by that date. Requests for extensions should be submitted 30-60 days prior to the expiration date of the Form I-20 so that the extension process can be completed prior to the expiration date on the document.
- You must obtain a new Form I-20 before changing your academic program from one degree level to another (e.g., from English Language Program to Associate's, from Associate's to Bachelor's, from Bachelor's to Master's level, etc.), or from one major/field of study to another (e.g., from Chemistry to Biology). You must receive authorization/permission from a Designated School Official.
- You are NOT allowed to work in the United States without authorization. F-1 students are allowed to work on campus up to 20 hours per week when school is in session. Full-time on-campus employment is permissible during holidays and summer breaks. You may work off-campus only under special circumstances and with prior approval. Talk with the Office of International Student Services.
- You must report any change of address or residence and/or any change of name directly to the Office of International Student Services within 10 days of the change. The OISS will then electronically notify the USCIS of the change, via SEVIS, as required by the regulations.
- You must notify the Office of International Student Services prior to traveling outside the U.S. so that the Form I-20 can be endorsed for travel or a new form can be issued, if required.
- You must notify a DSO/RO of any accompanying dependents in F-2 or J-2 status and provide biographical information (e.g., full name, address, country of birth, etc.) and immigration information (e.g., passport information, visa information, etc.) regarding those dependents.

I have read the information above about maintaining my legal status in the United States and understand that I must comply fully with these regulations in order to remain in legal status. I further understand that this information is not exhaustive and that I should direct any additional questions or concerns about my legal status to a Designated School Official.

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____