

HOW TO MAINTAIN MY F-1 VISA STATUS



Maintaining your F-1 visa status is your responsibility, so it's important to educate yourself about F-1 visa regulations which include, but are not limited to:

Enrollment

- I must maintain full-time enrollment every semester (Fall & Spring). No more than 3 online credit hours can count toward the full-time enrollment requirements, which are:
 - **Undergraduates: 12 credit hours**
 - **Graduates: 9 credit hours**
- If I am starting, transferring, or changing program levels in Summer I or II, I must enroll in a minimum of **6 credits hours** in the summer.
- If I am underenrolled in my final semester, I will inform my DSO*. I also understand that I must be enrolled in at least one face-to-face class in my final semester.
- I will not drop classes which will put me below the full-time enrollment requirements.
- Concurrent enrollment at another institution must be pre-approved by my DSO.
- I must notify my DSO if I decide to withdraw from classes and leave the US.

Personal & Program Information

- I must maintain a valid passport. I will also report any passport or visa renewals for myself (and each dependent) to my DSO.
- I (and each dependent) must notify a DSO of any changes to address, name, and phone number within 10 days of the change.
- If I am unable to complete my program by the program end date on my I-20, I must submit a program extension request to my DSO prior to the expiration date.
- If I change majors or program levels, I must inform my DSO prior to the change. I must also report the completion of my program to my DSO.
- I must consult with my DSO about my intent to transfer out to a new university.
- TTU is **NOT** responsible for keeping my immigration documents. I am responsible for retaining copies of all my immigration documents including my previous I-20s.
- I will notify my DSO if my immigration status changes.
- I will review each new I-20 and ensure all information is accurate and up to date.

Travel

- I (and each dependent) must have a travel signature on my current I-20 before traveling outside the US. I must also retrieve my most recent I-94 upon re-entry and ensure all information on it is accurate.
- I will carry my current I-20 and I-94 with me at all times when I am on-campus, off-campus and traveling abroad.

Employment

- I am authorized to work on-campus at TTU for no more than 20 hours a week while school is in session and that this authorization ends upon completion of my program.
- I must have proper authorization to work off-campus. CPT, whether paid or unpaid, must be approved by my DSO and reflected on a new I-20 **BEFORE** I begin employment. OPT and other forms of off-campus work authorization require USCIS approval and an EAD before I can start working.

Other F-1 Visa Information

- Explore the buttons below for additional information and resources about F-1 visa status regulations:

Click the buttons to explore!



International Affairs Website

Save this in your browser! Everything you need to know as an F-1 student at TTU can be found on our website here.



USCIS Website

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is an agency of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and handles all immigration forms and processing.



Study in the States

Created by DHS, Study in the States provides free government resources that explain F-1 visa regulations and processes in the US.



I-94 Information

An I-94 form is an arrival-departure record issued to all non-US citizens by DHS. You can retrieve your most recent I-94 travel information here.

**TTU is required by federal regulations to report certain immigration related information to the SEVIS database from university records.*

**DSO is a Designated School Official, and also is referred to as an International Student Advisor.*