International Student Services

Maintaining F-1 Status Quick Guide

For more detailed information on your responsibility to maintain F-1 status please visit Department of Homeland Security- Study in the States at https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/maintaining-status or Century College International Student Services at www.century.edu/iss.

Contact International Student Services (ISS) with any questions you may have at international@century.edu or 651-779-3344.

Enroll in and attend classes full-time each semester
- Register for 12 credits or more each semester. Exceptions for those who have an approved “Reduced Course Load.”
- An FW, FN, or W grade in a class means you have not maintained enrollment. If that reduction in credits puts you below 12 credits you are out of status. If this occurs, notify ISS immediately.
- 9 of the 12 credits must be on-campus, 3 may be online. You may take additional online courses above the 12-credit requirement.
- Summer enrollment is optional. You may choose to attend classes during summer.
- Note: You must pay your tuition in full each semester before you can register for the next semester’s classes.

Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Earn a cumulative 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) or higher.
- Complete 66.67% or more of registered credits each semester.

Purchase and maintain system-approved health insurance every year (annual payment due in July)
- Per Minnesota State Policy, all international students must purchase the system-approved health insurance, except those students whose sponsoring agency or government certifies that the student is covered under a plan provided by the sponsoring agency or government.

Have a valid passport at all times
- To renew your passport, search online for your country’s embassy location in the United States.
- Submit a copy of your new passport to ISS.

Update address changes with 10 days
- You must update your address in e-services and then notify ISS of the change by emailing international@century.edu

Adhere to employment regulations
- You cannot work off-campus nor online without prior approval from USCIS and/or Century College.
- If you are required to work or train off-campus to complete a course requirement you must first apply for Curricular Practical Training. Consult with International Student Services for more information before beginning the off-campus work or training.
- You are allowed to work on campus, no more than 20 hours per week while school is in session. You may work over 20 hours per week when school is not in session.

Complete your program of study (graduate) by the program end date listed on your Form I-20
- If you need more time to graduate you must request a later program end date by contacting your Academic Advisor/DSO at least one semester in advance.

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Additional Student Responsibilities

- Request an I-20 Travel Signature from ISS before traveling outside the U.S.
- Request permission from ISS before enrolling in courses at other colleges/universities.
- Consult with ISS before taking a break from school or withdrawing.
- Obey all state and federal laws.
- Depart the U.S. in a timely manner following end of program or withdrawal from school.
- Notify ISS if:
  - you change your major.
  - you are put on probation or suspended.
  - you intend to transfer to another college or university.
  - you apply for change of nonimmigrant status.
  - you receive approval of an adjustment of status.
  - there are any changes to your F-2 dependents, or if a child F-2 dependent is nearing age 21.