

Agreement to Maintain F-1 Student Status

While studying in the United States, it is important to maintain your F student status. Your status relates to the purpose, or reason for why you want to come to the United States. The U.S. Department of State issues you your visa based on your intended purpose.

If the Department of State issues you an F student visa, this means that you are coming to the United States to study. You should not take any action that detracts from that purpose. Maintaining your status means:

- ✓ Fulfilling the purpose for why the Department of State issued you your visa.
- ✓ Following the regulations associated with that purpose.

I understand that, to maintain my F-1 student status, I must:

- ✓ submit the on-line "Change of Address" form within 10 days of an address change;
- ✓ submit the on-line "Add, Drop or Change Major" form within 10 days of updating my major in TitanWeb;
- ✓ enroll in a minimum number of credits at the beginning of every 14-17 week session (excluding authorized break periods):
 - 12 credits (bachelor's) or
 - 6 credits (master's /with assistantship) or
 - 9 credits (master's/no assistantship) or
 - 18 hours (English language training);
- ✓ enroll full-time in summer courses during my first summer or depart the U.S. during my first summer only if I started taking my first courses at UWO in the spring semester;
- ✓ submit the paper "Request to Reduce Course Load" form to **request approval**, if I feel I meet federal requirements for dropping below a full course of study;
- ✓ submit the "Request to Extend Program" form at least 30 days prior to the Program End Date on my I-20 to **request approval**, if there is a delay in completing my program and if I feel that the delay meets federal requirements;
- ✓ notify my Immigration Advisor if I intend to transfer out of UW Oshkosh;
- ✓ notify my Immigration Advisor if I intend to complete another level of education at UW Oshkosh (if I move from English language training to the bachelor's level, from bachelor's to master's, or from master's to doctorate);
- ✓ **request a Social Security letter** from my Immigration Advisor at least 1 week before the first day of my first on-campus job;
- ✓ **request approval** from my Immigration Advisor at least 2 weeks before the first day of each off-campus job during my studies;
- ✓ limit employment to 20 hours per week when school is in session;
- ✓ **request approval** from my Immigration Advisor and from the Department of Homeland Security at least 3 months before my graduation date, if I want to work in the U.S. in a field related to my major after graduation;
- ✓ depart the U.S., transfer to another school, or apply to change my immigration status within 60 days of the Program End Date on my I-20.

I understand that my Immigration Advisor may not give approval if my request is not consistent with federal regulations.

I understand that if I do not follow the federal regulations associated with my visa status, I will be "**out of status**" and must depart the U.S. immediately or immediately pay to apply for "**reinstatement**". Other consequences of being "out of status" include:

- ✓ potential deportation if I fail to immediately leave the U.S. or apply for reinstatement;
- ✓ potential denial of re-entry to the U.S.;
- ✓ potential inability to move from undergraduate to graduate status;
- ✓ potential denial of requests for practical training;
- ✓ potential denial of requests to change visa status; and/or
- ✓ potential denial of all future visa applications.

Office of International Education immigration advisors are required by federal law to report status to the federal government.

I understand that if I **travel** outside the U.S., I must have proper documentation with me so that I can re-enter the U.S.

- ✓ I will check my I-20 for an unexpired travel signature before each trip outside the U.S.
- ✓ I will review uwosh.edu/oie/iss/degree/current/immigration "Travel Outside the U.S." prior to each trip.

I understand that my **Immigration Advisor** is available to advise me on options as they pertain to my F-1 visa status. Therefore, it is in my best interest to notify my Immigration Advisor:

- ✓ upon re-entry into the U.S., if the expiration date on my I-94 does not match the expiration date on the entry stamp in my passport;
- ✓ of a change in sources of financial support;
- ✓ of a change in academic status;
- ✓ prior to traveling outside the United States;
- ✓ upon applying for change of nonimmigrant status;
- ✓ upon approval of an adjustment to my status; and
- ✓ about changes in dependent status (if I have dependents on F-2 visas).

I understand that all **forms and written advising** resources are available from uwosh.edu/oie/iss/degree .

I understand that, if I need a **second opinion** about immigration regulations and their effect on me, I must rely only on professionals experienced in immigration advising. I agree not to rely on advice from friends.

For a second opinion, I will contact the Federal Government by email at sevp@ice.dhs.gov . In my email, I'll describe my situation and include my questions. The Federal Government provides responses on a first-come, first-served basis. Answer times may vary depending on the current number of inquiries.

Name (print)

Signature

Date