



Office of International Students & Scholars

F-1 Program Extension

F-1 students are admitted to the United States for “duration of status” (D/S). Duration of status means that the student is maintaining status and making normal progress toward completion of his/her educational objective.

An F-1 student who does not expect to complete his/her educational objective by the expiration date noted on the student’s I-20 (see #5 on I-20) must apply for *Extension of Stay*, within **the 30 days** before the expiration date, in order to maintain legal status.

Who is eligible for an Extension of Stay?

An F-1 student who has (1) continually maintained status or (2) has a compelling academic or medical reason for not completing the educational objective by the expiration date on the I-20 is eligible for an *Extension of Stay*. A “compelling academic or medical reason” may include a change of major research topic, unexpected research problems, or a documented illness.

How do I apply for an Extension of Stay?

Submit the following to the Office of International Student & Scholars (OISS):

Current I-20

Passport

Unofficial Transcript

Current Registration

Account Summary

Request for Extension of Stay form from Academic Advisor

Verification of funds for the new extension dates (OISS can help with the amount):

Any of the following are acceptable:

- US Bank Statement showing personal funds
- Bank Statements from your country where the account is in your name
- Bank statement and a letter from a private sponsor indicating that the funds are available to you.
- If you receive an assistantship and/or tuition waiver from your department, then get a letter on USU department letterhead indicating the amount and the period of time it is available.

What happens if a student is not eligible for an Extension of Stay?

An F-1 student who is not eligible for *Extension of Stay* as determined by DHS rules is considered to be in violation of legal status and must apply to DHS for reinstatement before the program extension can be granted.

Reinstatement:

For information of the reinstatement procedure, see Reinstatement Packet in the forms cabinet of the Office of International Student and Scholars Office.



Office of International Students & Scholars
Request for Extension of Stay

NOTE: This form (to be completed by department) may be filled in below or a written letter on department letterhead. Please be sure to include the information below.

To: Office of International Student & Scholars _____ **Date:** _____

From: _____
(Professor) (Department)

Student Name: _____ **A #:** _____

Please explain the reason for the need of Extension:

Possible reasons may include:

- Illness (must be accompanied by a doctor's letter)
- Academic Reason (provide valid academic reason as to why student's program was not completed in the allotted time)
- Change of Major
- Unexpected Research problems

Expected date of completion: _____
(Month/Year)

Professor's Signature: _____