~Maintaining Student Status~
Partnering to Protect our Students

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Begin with the End in Mind

From here....

To here...

...in about four years
Status vs. Visa

• The student visa is the key to entry to the United States.

• If admitted, the student is granted lawful “status” in the United States, and may remain in the United States even if their student visa expires.

• Students must observe very specific rules in order to maintain their lawful status. Failure to do so, will result in one or more status violations.
Top 7 Status Violations

• Unauthorized drop below a full course of study;
• Failure to enroll or enrollment cancelled or withdrawn;
• Engaging in off-campus employment, internships, experiences (paid or unpaid) without written permission;
• Failure to extend prior to the program end date noted on the students I-20 or DS-2019;
• Engaging in too many “online” or digitally delivered courses;
• Engaging in on-campus employment > 20 hours per week while school is in session;
• Being dropped, suspended, or expelled from the University for any reason; and
• Disregarding important ISS emails.
Full Course of Study

• Complete a minimum of 12 credit or research hours every fall and spring semester.

• No more than 3 credit hours of “online” or digitally delivered coursework may count toward minimum full-time enrollment during ANY semester.

• If summer is the first or last semester of the student’s program, complete 6 credit or research hours during the summer session.

• Register for and complete the course or research credit associated with all Curricular Practical Training (internships) authorizations during the semester the student pursued the internship.

• During the student’s final semester, only courses remaining to complete degree requirements are required. At least one course must require the student’s physical presence for the entire semester.
Authorized Reduced Course Load

• Student may be granted temporary authorization to reduce his/her course load for the following reasons:
  • Medical necessity (maximum of 12 aggregate months per program);
  • Initial difficulty with English language or American Teaching methods (first semester only); or
  • Improper course placement (one time only).
  • Final semester of a student’s academic program.
Infractions – Entry Discretionary

• Forgetting the I-20 or DS-2019 when traveling abroad.

• Not having a valid travel signature on the I-20 or DS-2019 when returning from abroad.
  • CBP can use it’s discretion to grant temporary entry and instruct student to visit ISS as soon as they return to campus. However this is not a guaranteed option.

• Expiring passport within 6 months.
  • Students should never allow their passport to expire while inside the U.S.

• Failure to enroll in the University Sponsored Insurance plan, or to submit a waiver by the deadline.
Visa Revocation – No Entry

- Revocation Reasons
  - Ticketed for OWI/DWI;
  - Arrested or cited for possession of any illicit substance;
  - Using Marijuana (for medical or recreational purposes) in any form, even if it is legal in the state in which the student uses it; or
  - Any other reason the Department of State deems appropriate.

- Visa Revocation is not a revocation of status.

- Applicants applying for a visa after revocation, must overcome the reason for the revocation; which can include a lengthy and involved process.
Form DS-5535 Supplemental Questions for Visa Applicants

- Travel history during the last fifteen years, including source of funding for travel;
- Address history during the last fifteen years;
- Employment history during the last fifteen years;
- All passport numbers and country of issuance held by the applicant;
- Names and dates of birth for all siblings;
- Name and dates of birth for all children;
- Names and dates of birth for all current and former spouses, or civil or domestic partners;
- Social media platforms and identifiers, also known as handles, used during the last five years; and
- Phone numbers and email addresses used during the last five years.
Administrative Processing

• Six weeks to many months.
• Can occur during any visa application process, including renewal.
• Can occur more than once for the same individual.
• ISS nor Purdue can assist in expediting the process.
• If questions are asked about the academic program or research topic, the academic department or advisor should be contacted.
• Follow instructions provided by the Department of State
Avoiding Fraud and Loss

• U.S. officials will never contact a student via telephone demanding any personal identification numbers (Passport, Social Security) or cash.

• U.S. Officials will email students, but will never ask for personal identification numbers or cash via email. If your student receives an email from someone indicating they are a U.S. Official, they are welcome to engage with ISS.
  • Purdue officials may ask students for their Purdue ID Number or other identifying information in order to find the student record.

• If a student feels an immediate threat the student should dial 911 from any phone and be prepared to provide their current location and explain the threat.

• Students should never click on links or attachments unless they know the sender and know why the sender is sending them the link or attachment.
Avoiding Fraud and Loss

• Official U.S. government sites always end with .gov. Students should not be confused with .com sites pretending to be official government sites and offering services for a fee.

• Students should keep their valuables and important documents in a secure location.

• Students should carry their most current I-94 Record of Admission with them at all times.

• Students should not use their passport for verification of age for the purpose of purchasing alcoholic beverages and they should NEVER attempt to modify their official documents in any way.

• Students should not leave their unattended vehicle for weeks at a time (summer or winter break).
Questions and Resources

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