

**Florida Atlantic University ~ Division of Student Affairs ~ International Student and Scholar Services**

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**Acknowledgment of Immigration Responsibilities for F-1 Students**

During your stay in the U.S. with an I-20 issued by Florida Atlantic University, the International Student and Scholar Services Office (ISSS) is responsible for maintaining your electronic F-1 immigration record in the Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). The advisors at ISSS are here to assist you in understanding your benefits and responsibilities as an F-1 student. It is your responsibility to maintain valid F-1 status and to comply with all immigration regulations pertaining to your visa status while pursuing your educational objectives. Violating the terms of your F-1 status can have serious academic and personal consequences.

**F-1 Student Immigration Responsibilities**

- Provide the ISSS Office with updated copies of your immigration documents.
- Possess a valid passport, I-20, and I-94 card (marked F-1, D/S) at all times.
- Inform ISSS of any changes in your personal information, program of study, financial support sources, or any other information that alters the content of the I-20 document and the SEVIS record associated with the I-20.
- Report any change of address to ISSS and to BANNER (via MyFAU) within 10 days of occurrence.
- Enroll in a full course of study at all times\*:
  - Undergraduate students: 12 credit hours each academic semester (fall and spring)
  - Graduate students: 9 credit hours each academic semester (fall and spring)
  - Students entering FAU in the summer you must also enroll full-time during the summer term (12 credit hours for undergraduate students starting in Summer I & Summer II and 6 credit hours for students starting in Summer III; 6 credits for graduate students)

*\* Enrollment below full course of study may be authorized by ISSS for a specific and limited number of reasons. Students must discuss their options with ISSS prior to obtaining this authorization.*

- Register for no more than three (3) credits of a fully on-line course to count toward the minimum full course load requirement per semester.
- Maintain good academic standing and make normal progress towards completion of degree.
- Know your I-20 completion date and obtain an extension from ISSS prior to the I-20 expiry date.
- Obtain travel signature and verify the validity of all your immigration documents (I-20, passport, visa) prior to traveling outside the U.S.
- Complete an official immigration transfer if you wish to change educational institutions.
- Obtain proper work authorization prior to engaging in any type of employment (paid or unpaid) and work within the limitations of F-1 visa status. Working without employment authorization is a serious violation of status and can result in deportation.
- Inform ISSS of any potential changes in immigration status.
- Seek advice from ISSS regarding immigration issues. If the questions are beyond the expertise of the ISSS staff, seek advice from an immigration attorney.
- Update information related to your F-2 dependents.
- Comply with the mandatory medical insurance requirement (which meets FAU and Florida Board of Governors guidelines) and provide proof of insurance to ISSS.