

F-1 Program Extension Application

Program extension procedure for F-1 students

Extending Your F-1 Status

When you enter the United States (U.S.) to study full-time as an F-1 student, you receive a Form I-20 which specifies an expected date that you will complete your program of study. For academic programs, this date is 36 months (three years) from your program start date; for Intensive English Program study only, this date is 12 months (one year) from your program start date.

In some instances, you may not complete your program of study by the end date listed on your I-20. If your Form I-20 will expire before you complete your studies, you must request an extension of your F-1 visa status. Extensions are granted based on your anticipated graduation date. Extensions are granted for valid academic reasons only and are not granted to pursue a non-degree course of study.

It is essential that you submit your application for an extension at least 60 days prior to the expiration of your I-20.

If you fail to apply in a timely manner, you may face various immigration-related problems, including being ineligible for on-campus employment and practical training. Remember, it is your responsibility to maintain your F-1 visa status. The Center for Global Engagement is not responsible for your failure to request an extension in a timely manner.

Applying for an Extension

Please complete the following steps to apply for an extension. There is no fee to apply for an extension.

1. Complete Part 1 of the attached F-1 Program Extension Application.
2. Request an appointment with your International Academic Advisor by calling the Academic Advising Office at 847-214-7390. The International Academic Advisor needs to complete Part 2: Academic Certification.
3. Collect the following documents for your appointment with the Center for Global Engagement:
 - Updated educational plan
 - Current Form I-20
 - Unofficial ECC transcript
 - Updated bank statement certifying availability of funds for a year of study at ECC. Check elgin.edu/international for current rates.
 - Completed and signed Affidavit of Sponsorship from your sponsor(s) – available at www.elgin.edu/international.
4. Once you have collected all of the documents listed above, please contact the Center for Global Engagement at 847-214-7809 to schedule an appointment.

F-1 Visa Extension Application

Federal regulations allow an F-1 student to apply for an extension of their F-1 visa status. Please complete the following information, collect all documents for your extension request and bring them with you to your appointment with the Center for Global Engagement.

Part 1: Student Certification - To be completed by the student

Name: _____ Student ID: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Program of Study: _____ End Date on I-20: _____

Please explain why you are requesting an extension of your F-1 visa status:

- Change in major
- Pursuing a second degree
- Medical reasons
- Need more time in ESL
- Other (please specify): _____

Student Signature

Date

Part 2: Academic Certification - To be completed by the International Academic Advisor

The above student is eligible for an academic extension due to the following reason(s):

The student's anticipated graduation date is: _____

I certify I have met with the above-named student and completed an updated educational plan. This information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Name of Academic Advisor

Signature

Date

For office use only:

Approved: Yes No

Approval Date: _____

Documentation Attached: Yes No

DSO Approval Signature: _____