UC Davis International Student Extended Orientation

For F-1 Freshman & Transfer Undergraduates

Presented by

Tammy Silver, Assistant Director, International Students

Mary Clabaugh, International Student Advisor
By the end of the presentation, you will have a better understand of:

- Your documents
- Plagiarism
- Dismissals/Disenrollment & your immigration status
- Your I–20 & leaving the country for more than 5 months
- Reduced Course Loads & Part–Time status at UCD
- Work authorization
Visas, I–20s, Passports, Program Extensions, and Overstays
Important Vocabulary

- Visa
- I–94 online document
  https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/request.html
- Passport
- I–20
- Change of Status
- Duration of Status
- Full Course of Study
- Program Extension
- Grace Period
- Overstay
- 3/10 Rule
Visas can ONLY be issued outside the U.S. at U.S. Embassies/Consulates!

Allows a non-immigrant to request admission to the United States in a specific visa status.

Elements of your visa

- **Check that your passport number is correct.**
- **Check that your name is spelled correctly.**
- **Where your visa was issued.**
- **Check that your date of birth is correct.**

**“VISA”**

- **Issuing Post Name:** SEOUL
- **Traveller Given Name:** HAPPY
- **Passport Number:** 12345678
- **Birth Date:** 01 JAN 1960
- **Nationality:** KOR
- **Entry:** M
- **Visa Class:** R-1/B2
- **MRV and NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL:** 64784257

**“M”**

- **“M” means that you can seek entry into the U.S. multiple times. If there is a number here, you may apply for entry that many times.**

**“Annotation”**

- **“Annotation” may include additional information about your visa. For example, on a student visa, it will show your SEVIS number and name of your school.**

**“Expiration Date”**

- **“Expiration Date” is the last day you can use your visa to seek entry into the U.S. It has nothing to do with how long you may stay in the U.S. See “What is a Visa?”**
Think of your visa like a key

- Do you need a key to get into your house?  
  - Yes

- Do you need the key once you’re in your house?  
  - No

- Do you need a key to get back in after you have left the house?  
  - Yes

Your visa is like your key to the United States
What is the purpose of the I–94?

1. It shows the length of legal stay in the United States.
2. It shows the student’s status.
3. It provides an “Admission/Departure” number for the purpose of tracking – knowing when the person is in or out of the country.
Duration of Status (D/S)

The amount of time an F–1 student can stay in the US.

D/S is defined as the time that an F–1 student is pursuing a full course of study.
What’s a Full Course of Study?

- Requires at least 12 credit hours or units of instruction per academic term.

- **Must** lead to the attainment of a specific educational professional objective.
If F–1 students can pursue a full course of study for the duration of status (D/S), how do we know what that expiration date is?

- It’s located on the I–20
Remember to keep your I–20 current. If you need to extend the expiration date, see SISS. You will have to show proof of funding again.
Your Major:
You’ll need to request a new I–20 from SISS if you change your major.

Signature:
You must sign, print, & date every I–20.
Work authorizations listed here.

All other authorizations listed here.

Travel signature here.

Travel signature is valid for one year (except OPT is valid for only 6 months).
Keep all your I–20s
Travel with the most current
Notice to students who have any other type of visa & made a Change of Status in the United States

- If you leave the United States for ANY reason, you must go to the US Embassy in your country to get an F–1 visa before you will be allowed to re-enter in F–1 student status
Where do you go to extend your visa?

An American Embassy in your home country
Where do you go to extend your passport?

- Your country’s embassy or consulate in the United States (Washington D.C., Los Angeles, or San Francisco)
How many months should your passport be valid in the United States?

- At least 6 months
At least 6 months before the expiration date of your passport, contact your nearest embassy or consulate. You can obtain information online at:

http://www.state.gov/s/cpr/rls/fco/index.htm

[Click on the current year]
Grace Periods

PREPARATION FOR DEPARTURE

- An F-1 student who has completed a course of study and any authorized period of practical training following completion of studies will be allowed an additional 60 (sixty) days to prepare for departure from the United States, to transfer to another school, to change academic levels, to change your status, or to apply for OPT.
An “overstay” is when you stay in the United States longer than you are authorized.
You will have violated your status if you overstay.

The 3/10 Rule:
- If unlawfully present in the United States for a period of more than 180 days (6 months) but less than 1 year, you may not be able to receive another visa for 3 years after the date of departure from the United States, or
- If unlawfully present in the United States for one year or more, you may not be able to receive another visa for 10 years after the date of departure from the United States.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Expiration Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passport</td>
<td>A government issued document that enables a citizen of a particular country to travel abroad, subject to visa requirements, certifying identity &amp; citizenship: it entitles the bearer to the protection of his or her country &amp; that of countries visited.</td>
<td>Passport must be valid while in the United States for at least 6 months into the future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-20</td>
<td>Gives legal authorization for the student to attend that particular institution for the time specified on the document.</td>
<td>Field 5 designates the expected program completion date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visa</td>
<td>Enables the student to present him/herself &amp; supporting documents at the port of entry (POE) in order to be granted status. Like the “key” to the United States.</td>
<td>Students may lawfully remain in the US with an expired visa, but must renew the visa, in the home country, if s/he leaves &amp; intends to reenter as an F-1 student.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-94</td>
<td>Grants status, shows entry/departure dates.</td>
<td>Shows a specific date for some visa categories or D/S for students.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The documents we have been discussing are VERY important documents in your life as an F–1 student in the United States. We suggest that you photocopy/download your:

- Passport biographical page
- Visa page of passport
- I–94
- All I–20 pages
- Any receipts from USCIS
Checklist

- My Passport will expire _____________
- My Visa will expire_________________
- My I–20 will expire_________________
Yinghong just realized her passport is going to expire in 4 months. She’s planning to leave the United States for winter break, but she is not going to her home country. What should she do?

- B) Go to the nearest immigration office to renew it.
- C) Contact her country’s embassy or consulate and extend it before leaving the United States.
- D) Hire an immigration attorney for help.
Lyliana’s visa has expired. She needs to extend it in the United States.  
**Answer:** False

She needs to leave the United States immediately.  
**Answer:** False

**Bonus Question**
- Why not?
  - Because the visa is your key to the United States.

The purpose of a visa is **TO ENTER** a country. It is **NOT** necessary **TO STAY** in a country.
How does Akiko know how long she can stay in the United States as an F–1 student?

A) Everyone knows that! She just has to look in her passport.

B) No, no, it’s the expiration date here.

C) You’re both wrong. It’s on her I–20.

D) What are you kidding? She can stay forever; her I–94 says D/S!
How many days does Sangmook have to leave the United States after finishing his course of study?

- A) 12 days! Everything is 12 for F-1 students.
- B) 30 days. F-1 students have one month.
- C) What are you kidding? He can stay forever; his I-94 says D/S!
- D) You’re all wrong. He has 60 days.

Bonus Question: What is the 60 day period called?

Grace Period
Here’s where it gets confusing…

- You’re I–20 ending date is 6/9/2020. You finish your last course on 12/19/2018. When do you have to leave the United States?

No later than 2/18/2019 (60 days after you finish your coursework) even if your I-20 ending date is later, unless you’ve applied for work authorization (OPT).

This is especially important if you finish in winter quarter. Let’s see why…
Winter Quarter ends the last week of March every year. If you don’t apply for OPT, you have to leave in 60 days…

…which is the end of May

…and graduation is mid-June

Do you see the problem?
How do you update your address?
- *Through my SISWEB account.*

Which Address type?
- *SEVIS USA*

How much time do you have to update your address in your SISWEB account?
- *10 days from the time that you move.*

What information do I leave blank?
- *The ending date of your address.*
- *It is the second field.*
Plagiarism

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bFQrn9kMgj8
- http://cai.ucdavis.edu/plagiarism.html
The 5 month rule...

- $> = \text{more than}$
- $< = \text{less than}$

- *If you leave the United States and there is > 5 months from the last day you were enrolled and the next quarter start date, you will need a new I-20 to re-enter.*
Example

- Your last day of class is after Summer Session I, which is August 1st
- You leave the United States for whatever reason for the Fall quarter
- Winter quarter begins on January 2nd
- *Do you need a new I-20?*
- *Yes!*
> 5 months =

- New I–20, New SEVIS ID
- Another SEVIS fee
- Another SISS administration fee
- No entry to the United States more than 30 days before the new I–20 start date
- No off-campus work authorization for one academic year
How can this impact me?

- If you are dismissed or disenrolled.

- If you go on PELP and you have > 5 months between the last day of enrollment & the start date on the new I–20.

- If you withdraw and are out of the United States for > 5 months.
If you are dismissed or disenrolled

- Dismissal for low GPA or not making minimum progress.
- Disenrolled for not passing W57 in the time allotted.

You must talk to your Dean’s Office Advisors about how this impacts your student status at UC Davis.
How does dismissal/disenrollment impact my immigration status?

- From the day that the dismissal is posted, you will have *ONLY* 21 days to transfer to another institution or leave the country.

- Finding another institution is difficult because of admissions deadlines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dismissed in January</th>
<th>Transfer by February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dismissed in April</td>
<td>Transfer by May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dismissed in October</td>
<td>Transfer by November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dismissed in Summer</td>
<td>Depends on dismissal date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dismissed/disenrolled international students must transfer out within 21 days of the dismissal, and must start the new program of study within 5 months of the last date of attendance at UC Davis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dismissed/disenrolled/last day of class</th>
<th>Transfer by</th>
<th>Start by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in January</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in April</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in October</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in Summer</td>
<td>Depends on dismissal date</td>
<td>If August–January, If September–February</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is very important to meet with a SISS advisor in this situation!
PELP = Planned Academic Leave

• PELP allows students to take an academic leave without having to apply for readmission.
• It also allows students to maintain early registration privileges (Pass Times).

PELP = NOT in
(Except for Medical Reasons)

• When international students are on PELP (Planned Educational Leave Program), they are not allowed to remain in the U.S. unless it is for a valid medical reason.
• International students sometimes go on PELP if there’s a family emergency.
Challenges with PELP

- PELP is available to undergraduates ONLY ONE QUARTER EVER!

- If your plans change and you don’t return the next quarter, you will have to apply for readmission and request a new I–20.
12 units by the 12th day of class
Reduced Course Load (RCL)

There are a few exceptions to the full-time enrollment requirement:

- Medical – limited to 12 months
  - < 12 units down to 0

- Final term

Exceptions are allowed only with prior approval from SISS
If you will be studying 10 units or less, you are eligible for Part–Time status and a reduction in tuition.

Students are responsible for dropping classes (it’s not automatic).

For a full refund, you must submit the Part–Time Petition to the Registrar’s Office before the first day of class.

http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/registration/part-time.cfm
Work Authorization

- On-campus

- Off-campus
  - Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
  - Optional Practical Training (OPT)
On-campus employment

- Must be a full-time F-1 student in good status. No authorization needed.
- May work up to 20 hours a week while school is in session or
- May work up to 40 hours a week during holidays and breaks.
- Must have a Social Security Number (SSN) to get paid.
  - SSN only available with a job offer letter
Practical Training

- Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
  - Before completion of academic program

- Optional Practical Training (OPT)
  - After completion of academic program
What is Curricular Practical Training (CPT)?

- Employment which is an integral or important part of your curriculum or academic program.
- Internship or any other type of required practicum.
- Part-time during school
- Full-time during breaks
  - No limit to part-time CPT
  - 12 months of full-time CPT = no OPT
CPT Eligibility

- Full-time enrollment in good status for one academic year

- Maintain F–1 immigration status while on CPT

- Integral part of degree program
  - Related to major/minor
  - Required to graduate OR an internship unit related to your major/minor
  - Advisor’s recommendation
  - Employment offer letter
  - Authorization from an SISS Advisor (reflected on I–20)

- Required enrollment in course related to employment (such as an internship unit)
  - Summer CPT requires registration in summer session
What is Optional Practical Training (OPT)?

- Practical employment experience related to major field of study (major only)

- Twelve months for initial OPT eligibility
  - 17 month STEM Extension for certain majors

- Apply for approval through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
  - SISS advisor makes recommendation only
  - You will get another I-20
OPT Eligibility

- Successfully finish all coursework required to graduate. Not the graduation date.

- Employment must be directly related to major field of study.

A job offer is NOT required to apply for OPT!
How to relieve your stress

Sheetal Shah, Ph.D.
Community Counselor