

I-20 Program Extension Request Form

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requires F-1 students to complete their academic program by the program end date listed on the Form I-20. This date is set to reflect the standard amount of time needed to finish all degree requirements. If, during your studies, additional time is needed, you may be eligible to request an I-20 program extension. Our office can issue extensions for students who meet the eligibility criteria and submit their request before the current I-20 end date.

Eligibility

To qualify for a program extension, you must demonstrate that you have continuously maintained F-1 status and that additional time is required due to compelling academic or medical reasons, change of major or research topic, unexpected research problems, or a documented illness. An I-20 cannot be extended after the program end date has passed. If your program end date has already expired, or if you do not meet the eligibility criteria for an extension, you will need to apply for reinstatement to F-1 status with USCIS, which requires paying a substantial fee.

Required Documentation

The following documents must be completed and submitted to a DSO in the Immigration Compliance & Services office:

- Academic Advisor's Recommendation for Extension form (page 2)
- Graduate Dean's Extension Recommendation form (page 3, graduate students only)

Academic Advisor's Recommendation for Extension of Time in F-1 Status

This form facilitates communication of information required by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regulations in order for an international student in F-1 status to have an extension of their academic program. Program extensions may only be granted for compelling academic reasons, and unnecessary extensions can place the student in violation of federal regulations and jeopardize the university's ability to host international students. Questions may be directed to the Immigration Compliance & Services office at (806) 743-1749.

*This form should be filled out by the student's **academic advisor**.

Student Name:

Student R Number:

I anticipate that this student will complete all requirements for the current academic program on or about (month/day/year):

This student has not yet completed the current program of study due to (check all that apply):

- Delays caused by a documented illness
- Delays caused by a change in major field of study
- Delays caused by a change in research topic
- Delays caused by unanticipated research problems
- Other: _____

Please sign below to recommend that this student's program be extended:

Academic Advisor's Signature: _____

Academic Advisor's Name and Title: _____

Department: _____

Date: _____

Graduate Dean's Recommendation for Extension of Time in F-1 Status

This form facilitates communication of information required by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regulations in order for an international student in F-1 status to have an extension of their academic program. Program extensions must be based on compelling academic reasons and unnecessary extensions could result in the student violating federal regulations and jeopardize our ability to host international students. Questions should be directed to Immigration Compliance & Services office at (806) 743-1749.

*This form should be filled out by a representative at **the graduate dean's office**.

***Undergraduate** students are **not required** to submit this form.

Student Name:

Student R Number:

I recommend that this student's program be extended.

Graduate Dean's Office Signature: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____