

# UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

## International Students and Scholars Office

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### MAINTAINING STUDENT STATUS F-1 AND J-1 VISAS

There are certain basic requirements for maintaining student status in the United States. Follow the guidelines below to insure that you remain in good standing with USCIS and can take advantage of the benefits allowed by your visa status.

#### F-1 Students

1. Keep your passport valid at all times
2. Attend the school that issued your I-20
3. Maintain full-time enrollment – 12 credits undergrad and IEP and 9 credits grad students
4. Do not go beyond the program end date on the I-20. If more time is needed, request a program extension **before** the program end date (application for program extension is available from ISS or on the ISS website)
5. If you change your major or degree level, obtain a new I-20 from ISS which reflects your current information within ten days of the change
6. If you wish to begin a new program at a new school, make sure the transfer is completed. Remember, you need to specifically request that ISS transfer your SEVIS record to your new school before the new school can issue a new I-20. This should be done only after you have been admitted and made the decision to definitely attend the new school.
7. Do not work without seeking proper employment permission from ISS or USCIS. Limit employment, on-campus, to 20 hours per week while school is in session. Off-campus employment allowed only with special permission from USCIS or through CPT. Do not work off campus without permission!
8. Report a change of address, telephone number or email address to ISS within 10 days.

#### J-1 Students

1. Keep your passport valid at all times
2. Attend the school that issued your DS-2019
3. Maintain full-time enrollment – 12 credits undergrad and IEP and 9 credits grad students
4. Do not go beyond the program end date listed on the DS-2019. If more time is needed, request a program extension **before** the program end date (application for program extension is available from ISS or on the ISS website)
5. Do not change your major or degree level without consulting with your sponsor\*
6. Do not begin a new program at another school without first consulting with your sponsor\*. If you wish to begin a new program at a new school, you need to specifically request that ISS transfer your SEVIS record to your new school before the new school can issue a new DS-2019. This should be done only after you have been admitted and made the decision to definitely attend the new school.
7. Report a change of address, telephone number or email address to ISS within 10 days.
8. Do not work without seeking proper employment permission from your sponsor\*. Limit employment, on-campus, to 20 hours per week while school is in session. Off-campus employment allowed only with special permission from USCIS or through CPT. Do not work off campus without permission!

**\*NOTE: YOUR J-1 SPONSOR IS THE ORGANIZATION OR AGENCY THAT ISSUED YOUR DS-2019.**