



Immigration Check-in Session: F-1 Students

Office of International Students & Scholars
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COVID-19 information

- **CDC Quarantine recommendations:** please check the CDC website for the most up-to-date information:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>
- **WSU Housing quarantine requirements for students living on campus only:** A resident who returns from travel or stopovers at any countries or areas with travel advisories set at CDC levels 2 and 3 , or who have been exposed directly to a confirmed case of COVID-19, must quarantine themselves for 14 days immediately upon return. <https://housing.wayne.edu/coronavirus/quarantine>



COVID-19 information

- Masks are no longer required for **fully-vaccinated individuals** when they are indoors on campus. Those who have not been vaccinated are still required to wear masks indoors on campus, except when eating or drinking. Masks are not required outdoors.
- **Vaccine appointments** are available at the Campus Health Center:
<https://health.wayne.edu/covid-vaccine-appointment/>



Fall 2021 OISS Office Hours

- **Office hours**
 - Monday – Friday: **8:30 am - noon** and **1:30 pm - 5 pm**.
 - The office will be closed daily between noon and 1:30 pm for lunch.
- **By appointment:**
 - Monday – Friday: **8:30 am - noon** and **1:30 pm - 5 pm**.
- **You can make an appointment by email** (oissmail@wayne.edu) or phone (313) 577-3422
- **Walk-In Advising**
 - Monday to Thursday, **9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** and **1:30 to 5:00 p.m.**
 - Friday – no walk-in advising and advising is by appointment only



Immigration documents

- **I-20 or DS-2019** issued by Wayne State University – it includes your SEVIS number
- **Passport** should always be valid for 6 months in the future
- **VISA** stamp in your passport
- **I-94** (Arrival/Departure Record) can be obtained on the CBP website after each entry (by air) into the U.S. at www.cbp.gov/i94



What is SEVIS?

- **SEVIS = Student and Exchange Visitor Information System**
- Government database - includes all the information related to your current immigration status
- Your I-20 is an immigration document that shows **some** of the information in your SEVIS record
- It includes your SEVIS # (upper left corner)



How to maintain your F-1 status

- Keep your passport valid (it must be valid for **at least 6** months in the future)
- Make sure your I-20 is always up-to-date (if any changes occur)
- Make sure your I-94 is valid at all times (it should say F-1)
- Be enrolled **full-time**
- Work only with **proper** authorization



Contact the OISS if...

- You would like to **transfer** your SEVIS record to another school in the U.S.
- You are **changing majors**
- You are **changing levels** (e.g. from Bachelor's to Master's or Master's to Doctorate)
- You are **returning home before completion of your degree**
- You would like to apply for a **dependent's I-20** (F-2)
- You need to apply for a **program extension**
- If you have any questions about **CPT or OPT applications**
- If you would like to **take classes at another school**



Full-Time Status

- **Undergraduate Students:**
 - Must be enrolled in a at least **12 credits** during Fall and Winter semesters.
- **Graduate Students:**
 - Must be enrolled in at least **8 credits** during Fall and Winter semesters.



Full-Time Status

- Full-time enrollment is **only required during the Fall and Winter semesters.**
- Full-time enrollment is required in Spring/Summer **only if it is your first or last semester**
- Full-time enrollment for Spring/Summer is **12 credits for undergraduate students** and **2 credits for graduate students**



Concurrent Enrollment

- You can take classes at another SEVIS-approved F-1 School while you are enrolled at WSU if:
 - You are taking at least half of your credits at WSU that semester (6 credits for undergraduates, 4 credits for graduates)
 - You have received the initial approval from you Academic Advisor
 - You have submitted an application to the OISS and received the **final approval from an OISS Advisor**



Online Courses

- For Fall 2021, per the SEVP COVID guidance, students on a new SEVIS record must be enrolled in **at least one course** that is coded as in-person or hybrid. The other courses you are taking can be online.
- Students who have transferred their SEVIS record from another institution can be enrolled in all online courses.



Exception to Full Time Enrollment

- Difficulty with reading, English language and American teaching methods
- Improper course placement
- Graduate teaching/research assistant
- Medical Condition
- Last Semester Exception

If you drop a course after the drop/add period, you will be out of status unless you qualify for an exception to full-time enrollment.



Employment

- **On-Campus Employment:**
 - As an F-1 student, you may work on-campus
 - **Up to 20 hours/week** during **Fall and Winter** semesters
 - **Up to 40 hours/week** during **all academic breaks**, including Spring/Summer semester
- **Off-Campus Employment:**
 - For questions about CPT (internships, clinicals or rotations) or OPT please contact the OISS



Social Security Number Application

- Required documents:
 - On-campus job offer letter (**you cannot apply for an SSN if you haven't received a job offer**)
 - Current I-20
 - Passport
 - I-94
 - OISS letter (you must request it on the OISS website: <https://oiss.wayne.edu/current-students/doc-request>)
- Once you have received the signed letter from the OISS, you can contact the closest Social Security Administration to make an appointment.



Driver's License Application

- You should make an appointment at the closest Secretary of State (SOS) office and bring the following documents:
 - Your SSN card (if you do not have one you should obtain a letter of ineligibility from the Social Security Administration Office)
 - Your passport
 - Your I-20
 - Your I-94
 - Proof of Michigan residency - 2 documents (if you cannot provide those documents you can request a letter from the OISS which can be used as proof of MI residency : <https://oiss.wayne.edu/current-students/doc-request>)
- Check this document for more information: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/DE40_032001_20459_7.pdf



Mandatory Health Insurance

- **Why do you need health insurance?**
 - WSU requires all international students who live in the U.S. to purchase Health Insurance because of the very high cost of healthcare in the U.S.
- **What insurance can you purchase?**
 - All international students and their dependents, residing in the United States, must enroll in the WSU-sponsored Student Accident and Sickness Plan administered by **Blue Cross, Blue Shield of Michigan**.
 - Coverage may be purchased either annually or each semester (2021-2022 Annual rate: \$1,220, Fall 2021 only: \$534)



Mandatory Health Insurance

- F1 students with health insurance provided through a **Wayne State University Fellowship** (including Rumble) or **Graduate Assistantship (GRA/GSA/GTA)** will automatically be enrolled in the repatriation plan each academic year. This coverage is mandatory for their F-2 (cost for 2021-2022 is \$6)
- **What does the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan plan cover?**
 - A local and nationwide network of doctors, hospitals and specialists
 - Routine health services covered at 100% when you visit the University's Campus Health Center
 - Coverage for a wealth of services including doctor's office visits, emergency care, dental
 - services and prescription drugs
 - Travel Assistance and Worldwide Unlimited Medical Evacuation and Repatriation



Traveling Outside the US

- Make sure your I-20 has been signed by an OISS Advisor (on page 2). The *Travel Signature* is valid for **1 year**. You must also submit an OISS Departure Form and your flight information.
- **Check that your passport will be valid** (not expired and valid for at least 6 months into the future when re-entering the U.S.)
- **Check that your U.S. visa will be valid** (not expired) on the day you are planning to reenter to the U.S.
- **Carry a Verification of financial support** (letter, bank statement or GRA/GTA contract demonstrating financial viability while in the U.S.)



Beware of scammers!

DHS/ICE/Social Security or the IRS **rarely** calls students. These agencies will **usually** send you all communications by a letter via the US Post Office.

You can tell if a call is a scam if the caller:

- **Asks for money or gift cards** to pay a fine or correct records
- **Requests personal information** (Social Security number, Passport number, or Alien Registration number)
- **Identifies unlikely problems with your immigration record and/or mentions deportation**

If you have been a victim of a telephone scam, please contact WSU Public Safety or OISS at oissmail@wayne.edu to report this and also report it to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).