



Immigration Check-in Session: F-1 Canadian 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 (only applies to travelers entering the U.S. by air): <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/>



U.S/Canada Border Closure

- Students who are in possession of a **valid I-20** can enter the U.S.
- **Per the SEVIS COVID guidance, new students must be enrolled in at least one course that is coded as in-person or hybrid.** Contact your department if you cannot find a course coded as such.
- Canadian citizens who are enrolled in a program at a U.S. institution and have a valid I-20 are exempt from the Canadian government quarantine requirements: <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/isolation>
- For up-to-date information about requirements for reentry into Canada make sure to check: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/services/covid/menu-eng.html>



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. – noon** and **1:30 to 5:00 p.m.**
 - Friday – no walk-in advising and advising is by appointment only



Immigration documents

- **Your I-20 or DS-2019** issued by Wayne State University – it includes your SEVIS number
- **Your passport** should always be valid for 6 months in the future
- **Your I-94** (Arrival/Departure Record) is stapled to your passport if you entered the U.S. by land or can be obtained on the CBP website after each entry by air into the U.S.

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 if you are a full-time commuting student or a non-commuting student**
- 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 Enrollment

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



Full-Time Status for Full-Time Commuting or Non-Commuting Students

- 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**



Part-Time Status

- **Part-time enrollment** is defined as enrollment in any number of credits below the minimum required to qualify as full-time enrollment
- You must let the OISS know **before the beginning of the semester** whether you will be enrolling on a part-time or a full-time basis
- Part-Time Commuting students are issued a **new I-20 on a semester-by-semester basis**. Make sure to contact the OISS **at least a month before your I-20 is set to expire** so it can be extended.
- **If you do not contact the OISS before your I-20 expires, your SEVIS record will be automatically closed and you will need to pay the SEVIS fee (\$350) again for a new record to be opened.**



Concurrent Enrollment

- You can take classes at another SEVIS-approved F1 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 for students enrolled full-time)
 - 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 SEVIS 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 for Full-time Commuting or Non-Commuting Students

- 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:**
 - Only students enrolled full-time (Commuting and Non-Commuting) are eligible to 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
 - **WSU employees, including Commuting Canadian students (e.g. GRAs/GTAs/Student assistants) may not perform their work while abroad. All work must be performed in the U.S.**
- **Off-Campus Employment:**
 - For questions about CPT (internships) 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 will can be used as proof here: <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

- Only students **who live in the U.S.** (Non-Commuting Canadian students) are **required** to purchase health insurance.
- **Commuting Canadian students** (full-time and part-time) can apply for a **OHIP waiver** here:
 - <https://online.oiss.wayne.edu/ohipwaiver/>

- **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 dependent (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 number of services including doctor's office visits, emergency care, dental
 - services and prescription drugs
 - Travel Assistance and Worldwide Unlimited Medical Evacuation and Repatriation



School of Medicine Health Insurance Requirements

- All medical students (including Commuting Canadian students) can choose to purchase the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan health insurance or the Medical School Health Insurance package
- Medical students who are commuting from Canada **may not use OHIP as healthcare coverage**
- For additional information regarding the School of Medicine's health insurance requirement, please visit <https://www.med.wayne.edu/admissions/international-student-resources> (scroll to the Insurance section)



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**. **Non-Commuting students** must also submit an OISS Departure Form and your flight information if traveling by air.
- **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).