

F-1 Responsibility Form

International students are required by U.S. law to know and abide by immigration regulations throughout their stay in the U.S. You have been admitted to this country for the sole purpose of being a full-time or part-time student. Participation in any other activity, from employment to vacation, is considered a privilege and is only allowed in accordance with strict Department of Homeland Security rules. When you entered the U.S., you agreed to abide by the conditions and obligations of your non-immigrant status. As long as you continually meet these obligations, you will be considered “in status” or “maintaining your visa status.”

International Admissions and Student Services provides international students with the information and services to maintain your status. However, it is YOUR responsibility to abide by these regulations and maintain legal student status.

TO REMAIN “IN STATUS”, YOU MUST ALWAYS

1. Maintain a valid and unexpired passport throughout your stay in the U.S.
 2. Attend the school whose name appears on the I-20.
 3. Be registered as a full-time student or part-time border commuter student:
 - **F-1 Full Time:** (12 credits for undergraduate students or 9 credits for graduate students)
 - **F-1 Border Commuter:** (6 credits for undergraduate students or 3-6 credits for graduate students)
 4. Keep your I-20 valid at all times, and apply for program extensions before expiration of your I-20.
 5. Keep your immigration information current. Update International Admissions and Student Services within 10 days of any change of major, change of level, extensions, finances, dependents, etc.
 6. Request a travel signature/endorsement on your I-20 before leaving the U.S.
 7. Follow SEVIS immigration transfer procedures when changing from one school to another in the U.S.
 8. Upon completion of your program of study, an F-1 student has 60 days of grace period to:
 - a. Leave the U.S.
 - b. Begin student work authorization (Optional Practical Training – OPT)
 - c. Obtain a new I-20 for a new school or new program in the next semester
 - d. Change to another immigration status
- Note: You can start accruing unlawful presence the day after you no longer pursue the course of study or OPT, or the day after you engage in an unauthorized activity; the day after your I-94 expires; or the day after completing the course of study or program, including any authorized OPT plus any authorized grace period (60 days).**
9. Constantly check your emails from International Admissions and Student Services or from your International Student Advisor for important updates and alerts to keep you informed and in status.
 10. ALWAYS maintain a 2.00 G.P.A. or better (undergraduates) or 3.00 G.P.A. (graduates – masters) / 3.25 GPA (graduates – doctoral)

TO REMAIN "IN STATUS", YOU MUST NEVER

1. Must not work off campus unless you have the necessary authorization from an International Student Advisor on your I-20 (OPT, CPT, or Practical Training).
2. Must not work on campus more than 20 hours a week while school is in session. You may work full time on campus during break periods, summer and winter break.
3. Must not take a leave of absence, drop below full-time course load, CPT or OPT without receiving approval from International Admissions and Student Services - International Student Advisor.
4. Must not drop a class before talking to an International Student Advisor.
5. Must not take more than **1 online** course per semester.

Once you have completed or terminated your program, or if you have failed to maintain legal student status, you can no longer legally enter the U.S. with your UTRGV I-20.

I have read and understand my responsibilities as outlined above for staying in status.

Print Name: _____ UTRGV Student ID: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____