



Returning to your F-1 Program at CU-Boulder

Please find attached your new I-20 for resuming your F-1 program at the University of Colorado, Boulder. This I-20 has been issued because you are either:

- returning to the U.S. after an authorized leave of absence of more than 5 months; or
- you are regaining F-1 status through exit and re-entry after loss of status.

Please read the instructions below very carefully. If you have any questions, please email ISSS immediately at iss@colorado.edu

1. Review your new I-20 carefully. If you find any mistakes, contact iss@colorado.edu.

- Make sure you sign your new I-20 in the “Student Attestation” section at the bottom of page 1 of the document.

2. Pay the SEVIS fee prior to applying for a new F-1 student visa and entering the U.S.

- Pay the SEVIS online at: <http://www.FMJfee.com>.
- Please be sure to use the SEVIS number on your *new* I-20.

3. Apply for a new F-1 student visa (citizens of Canada do not need a visa)

- If you have been out of status for more than 5 months, your previous F-1 student visa is no longer considered valid. You will need to apply for a new F-1 student visa using this new I-20 in order to re-enter the U.S.
- If you lost your F-1 status due to the termination of your F-1 SEVIS record for a negative reason, then ISSS strongly advises you to apply for a new F-1 student visa even if you have been out of status for less than 5 months.

4. The earliest you may re-enter the U.S. to start your new F-1 program using your new F-1 visa and I-20 is 30 days prior to the start date listed on the new I-20.

- Please note the start date on your I-20 and make your travel plans accordingly.

5. You must be fully-enrolled at the University of Colorado, Boulder in the semester you return to resume your F-1 program.

- Undergraduate Students: Minimum of 12 credits
- Graduate Students: Minimum of 5 credits of graduate course work; 8 hours of a combination of graduate and undergraduate courses; students in thesis/dissertation stage must follow the Graduate School full-time enrollment rules.

6. After entering the U.S. in F-1 status, you must complete the electronic *Immigration Reporting Form*: <http://bit.ly/28Trofa>. This is required in order to register your SEVIS record.

7. If you cannot resume your degree program by the start date indicated on the new I-20, please email iss@colorado.edu so we can update your SEVIS record.

- Depending on the circumstance, ISSS may have to defer your program start to a different term and/or issue an updated I-20 or cancel your record.