

Program Extension for F-1 Visa Students

International Education Center, Statistics Computer Bldg Rm 1669 , Riverside, CA 92521-0307

Phone: 951-827-4113 Fax: 951-827-3778

MY I-20 IS GOING TO EXPIRE AND I STILL HAVE CLASSES TO TAKE TOWARDS MY DEGREE? WHAT DO I DO?

International students who need additional time to complete their degree program beyond the date stated on their I-20 Form, need to file for a program extension.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR A PROGRAM EXTENSION?

The reasons for a program extension must fall into one of the following categories: medical reasons (documentation required) or compelling academic reasons, such as: change of major, change of research topic, and for graduate students only – for unexpected research problems.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

Students must file for an extension before their current I-20 expires. Please plan ahead. Complete all required paperwork and make an appointment to meet with the International Student Advisor (ISA) at least 2 weeks before your current I-20 expires.

WHAT IF MY I-20 HAS ALREADY EXPIRED?

Students who do not file for a program extension in a timely manner are considered out-of-status, or illegal, and are advised to submit a REINSTATEMENT application to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). If your I-20 has already expired and you still need additional time to complete your degree, please schedule an appointment with the ISA immediately to discuss the reinstatement process.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A PROGRAM EXTENSION?

- Meet with your Academic Advisor/Department Dean. They must complete the Program Extension Certification Form.
- Complete a Request for Form I-20. Financial documentation from your sponsor or funding department is required.
- Make an appointment to meet with the ISA and bring your completed paperwork or drop off the completed paperwork at the IEC for review. This includes:
 1. Program Extension Form signed by Department Advisor/Dean with new end date
 2. Request for I-20 form completed and signed by you (the student)
 3. Financial documentation to show sufficient funding for the remaining duration of your studies (please refer to back of Request for I-20 form for amount)
- Notification regarding the status of your application will be sent to your UCR webmail address. If approved, you may pick up your new I-20 Form at the front desk of the IEC.

Application for Program Extension

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FOR STUDENT TO COMPLETE

Name of Student: _____

Student ID Number: _____ Phone Number: _____

Local Address: _____
Street City Zip

Degree Sought: _____ Major: _____

CERTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT DEAN OR ACADEMIC ADVISOR

_____ needs additional time until _____
(Name of student) (Expected graduation date – please specify month/day/year)

to complete the requirements of his/her degree due to:

- Compelling Academic Reasons
- Medical Reasons (documentation required)
- Graduate students only: unexpected research problems

Comments from Academic Advisor:

Signature of Dean/Academic Advisor

School/Department

Name of Dean/Academic Advisor

Date

Phone Extension

DSO Comments (if any):

