



# F-I Status Information

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# AGENDA

- Immigration Terminology
- I-94
- What to do when you plan to travel
- Employment
- Immigration Grace Period



# Immigration Terminology

- DHS-Department of Homeland Security
  - SEVP-Student Exchange Visitor Program
    - SEVIS-Student Exchange Visitor Information System
    - I-20 document
- USCIS-US Customs and Immigration Service
  - Work Authorization
  - Change of Status
- CBP-Customs and Border Patrol

# Immigration Terminology

- DOS-Department of State
  - VISA processing
    - F-I Visa—“ticket” into the country



- I-20 should be valid at all times; **do not let the I-20 expire.**
- **Keep all I-20s permanently; do not discard old ones, even if you get a new one.**





# What will happen at the end of ESLAS?

- Change of Level
  - Requirements: successful completion of ESLAS summer program
  - Enroll full time in undergraduate courses (at least 3 units 12 US credits)
- You will receive a new I-20
  - I-20 will indicate undergraduate major
  - CBP may ask you about this the next time you enter the U.S.

# I-94

- Arrival / Departure document
- Upon entry to the U.S., an immigration officer will stamp your passport with granted immigration status (F-I and Duration of Status = D/S) and the date of entry
- To obtain your I-94 card and admission #, please visit and enter all required information <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/request.html>
  - Class of Admission (FI)
- You may need to provide admission # to various offices and agencies of state and federal governments

The screenshot shows the 'Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval' form on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website. The form is titled 'Get I-94 Number' and includes a 'Submit' button. It contains several input fields: 'Last Name', 'First (Given) Name', 'Birth Date' (with a dropdown for 'YYYY', 'Month', and 'DD'), 'Passport Number', 'Country of Issuance' (with a dropdown), 'Most Recent Date of Entry' (with a dropdown for 'YYYY', 'Month', and 'DD'), and 'Class of Admission' (with a dropdown). A 'Submit' button is located at the bottom of the form. Below the form, there is a note: 'Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.' At the very bottom, there is a small text block: 'An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection and a person is not required to respond to this information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. The control number for this collection is 1530-0111. The estimated average time to complete this application is 10 minutes. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, write to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Regulations and Rulings, 1615 Street NE, Washington DC 20230.' At the bottom right, there is a link: 'For assistance or questions, visit CBP website: CBP.gov'.



# When you travel and re-enter CBP will ask about:

- Transfers
- Change of Levels
- Change of Status
- Review Documents
  - Valid passport for 6 months after you enter
  - Valid visa
  - Valid I-20 with travel authorization
  - I-901 (SEVIS Fee Receipt)



# Travel Authorization Signature

- Travel Authorization Signature is on page 3 of I-20
- Travel signature on I-20 is valid for a maximum of 1 year
- You may use your I-20 to enter the U.S. as long as you are a continuing, full-time student and all the information on it remains the same



# Maintain Status

- Always be enrolled in at least 3 TCNJ Units/12 US Credits
- **Do not work off campus without authorization**

# Failure to Maintain Status

- We will email you if you are no longer maintaining status
  - Academic Dismissal
  - Disciplinary Dismissal
  - Suspension
  - Do not enroll full time
  - Work off Campus



# Failure to Maintain Status-Termination

- You must depart the U.S. within 15 days of your termination date. Failure to do so will result in unlawful presence.
- As of **Summer 2018** you will accrue unlawful presence can result in a 3 year, 10 year, or permanent bar from re-entering the U.S. depending on number of days.

# Avoid Consequences...

- Talk to Joanne BEFORE making decisions that impact your status.
- Make an appointment online <http://studyabroad.tcnj.edu/> or by email [bateupj@tcnj.edu](mailto:bateupj@tcnj.edu)

# Employment On Campus

- F-I students can only work 20 hours/week during the school year
- To find campus jobs go here:  
<http://studentemployment.tcnj.edu/>
- You can work in Campus Town (Bookstore, Fitness Center, Apartments)
- Our office can help you with obtaining a social security number **after** you secure employment



# Employment Off Campus

- CPT

- Before graduation
- Part time during school year (20 hours/wk or less)
- Full time during summer breaks (30 hours/wk Winter or Summer)
- **MUST BE ENROLLED IN A COURSE** (internship; practicum)

- OPT

- Before or **After Graduation**
- Requires application to USCIS **90 days before starting to work**
- Limited to 12 months total
- Part time during school year
- Full time during breaks and after graduation



# STEM OPT Extension

- STEM majors currently eligible for 24 month extension after completing 12 months on OPT.
- 3 YEARS of work authorization!



# End of your Program: Grace Period

- 60 days from the completion date on your I-20
  - Travel within US
  - Transfer to another school
  - Gain work authorization through OPT
  - Change immigration status
- If you leave the U.S. during the grace period and want to come back into the U.S. you will need another valid status (tourist, employment)

# Advising Services

- Change of Status
- Change of Level
- Work Authorization
- Status Maintenance
- Options after Graduation

Make an appointment online [studyabroad.tcnj.edu](http://studyabroad.tcnj.edu) (staff>Joanne Bateup) or by email [bateupj@tcnj.edu](mailto:bateupj@tcnj.edu)

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS!

