

# Extending F-1 Status



If you need more time to finish your program beyond the completion date on your Form I-20, you must apply for an Extension of Program **before** the completion date. We recommend that you apply no less than 30 days prior.

- **Eligibility and Requirements:** You must not only be eligible to extend but must do so **prior to** your I-20 completion date, or you will be out of status and will be required to **reinstate** before you may continue your studies.

To qualify, you must

- be a non-immigrant currently maintaining student status and are able to, and in good faith intending to, continue maintaining that status for the period in which the extension would be granted
  - be able to show that the delay was caused by compelling academic or medical reasons such as changes of major or research topics, loss of credits upon transfer to BYU, unexpected research problems, or documented illnesses—Delays caused by academic probation or suspension are not acceptable reasons for program extension.
- **Application Procedure**
    1. **Department Approval Letter**
      - **BYU Graduate or Undergraduate Student:** Obtain a signed letter from your advisor on department letterhead stating your expected completion date and an explanation as to why it is taking longer to complete your program than the original completion date listed on your Form I-20. Undergraduates, work with your advisor to make a graduation plan detailing classes to be taken during each successive semester or term.
      - **ELC Student:** apply through the English Language Center
    2. **Proof of Finances**
      - Obtain documentation showing sufficient finances to support you during the time of your extension
      - If you have a new sponsor from the one shown on your current I-20, that sponsor must complete an **affidavit of support form(s)** and provide bank statements showing sufficient monies to provide that support.
    3. **Extension of I-20 Request E-form**
      - click on the blue Login button
      - login to sunapsis, our international student database using your net ID and password
      - locate F-1 Student Services on the left menu; if it is not expanded, click on the + to the left
      - click on Extension of 1-20 Request
      - complete and submit
    4. **New Form I-20**—Once the application is approved, International Student Services will notify you to come and pick up your new I-20 reflecting the

extended date of completion. If you have dependents in F-2 status, they will also be provided new I-20s with your program extension date.

**NOTE: If employed on campus,** you will need to present your current, valid immigration documents to Student Employment Services 2024 WSC in order to extend your employment eligibility. Otherwise, you will be terminated on the date of your previous program end date. Contact Student Employment Services with any questions at 801-422-3561.