

## F-1 Program Extension

U.S. Department of Homeland Security regulations require you to file for more time to complete your program of study if you do not expect to be finished by the date that appears on your current Form I-20.

If you are not going to complete your program in time, you must apply for a “Program Extension” and be issued a new Form I-20 *before your current Form I-20 expires!*

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT RESULTS IN THE TERMINATION OF YOUR F-1 STUDENT STATUS. PURCHASE COLLEGE IS REQUIRED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO REPORT THIS INFORMATION IN SEVIS.

### How to Qualify for a Program Extension

1. Your current Form I-20 has not expired.
2. You have sufficient financial support for the remainder of your program.
3. One of the following caused the delay in completing your program:
  - An important academic reason such as, needing more developmental English than you expected, a change of major, a change of research topic or unexpected research problems.
  - A documented medical reason. Attach medical evidence from a licensed medical doctor or psychologist on official stationery that states the nature of the illness and the period of time you were ill (if not on file in our office).

A delay due to academic probation or suspension is not an acceptable reason for a program extension according to immigration regulations.

*If you need to extend your program but do not meet these qualifications, please make an appointment to meet with an international student advisor to discuss your options.*

## How to Apply for a Program Extension

1. Complete the attached 'Request for F-1 Program Extension' form. If the reason for your extension is academic, have the form certified by your academic advisor. If the reason is medical, attach documentation of the illness or medical condition.
2. Complete the attached 'International Student Financial Statement Form' (FSA-4). You also will need to prove you have the financial support for the remainder of the time you will need to complete your program of study, please complete the FSA-4 form and attach the required documentary evidence of financial capability.

## Information about Application Processing

We will review your Request for F-1 Program Extension. If the reason for the delay in completing your program meets immigration requirements, your program will be extended and a new Form I-20 issued to you. We will contact you via email to let you know when your new I-20 is ready for pick-up.

If you have any questions or concerns,  
please feel free to contact  
Deborah Gwolloita, International Student Coordinator, DSO – Office for Global Education  
[international@purchase.edu](mailto:international@purchase.edu)  
914-251-5931

## Request for F-1 Program Extension

### SECTION I – Student's Information

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(last name, first Name)

Student's Purchase ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ SEVIS ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

I need more time to complete my studies than was estimated on my I-20. The reason for the delay is:

#### IMPORTANT ACADEMIC REASON:

- Change of Major
- Change of Research Topic (*Academic Advisor/ Dean's certification is required below*)
- Unexpected Research Problems (*Academic Advisor/ Dean's certification is required below*)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ILLNESS OR MEDICAL REASON:

Date(s) of illness or medical condition: \_\_\_\_\_

- Documentation is on file in the International Student Services Office
- Documentation is attached.

### SECTION II – Academic Advisor' Certification

I certify that the delay in completing the program of study has been caused by the important academic reason indicated above.

The student is expected to complete the program of study by (date): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_