

**International Student**

**Vacation and Travel Approval**

International Programs  
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Before leaving the United States to travel abroad, you should check your immigration documents. To reenter the U.S., all students in F-1 status will need to show the following documents to a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) official at the port of entry:

* **Valid Passport** – valid at least 6 months from reentry date
* **Valid F-1 visa stamp** – If F-1 visa is expired, you will need to renew it at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate in your home country before returning to the U.S.
* **SEVIS I-20 endorsed for travel by a KCC International advisor** (signature must be obtained within the last 12 months for currently enrolled students and within the last 6 months for post-completion)

**Please bring your I-20 to the KCC International Programs Office for endorsement before you travel.**

Additional documentation that is not required but recommended:

* Evidence of financial support
* Proof of student status (transcript or full-time enrollment letter, etc.)

Additional documentation required if traveling abroad while on Post-Completion OPT:

* Unexpired EAD
* Job offer letter/Proof of employment

Your passport should be valid at least six months beyond the date you plan to reenter the U.S. If you are from a country with a passport validity agreement you may be able to enter the U.S. as long as the passport is valid at least until the date of reentry.

Your F-1 visa must be valid at the time of reentry (there is no requirement that visa validity extend beyond this date). An exception to this, known as **automatic visa revalidation**, allows a student in F-1 status with an expired visa to travel to Canada, Mexico and most Caribbean nations, if for a period of less than 30 days, and to reenter the U.S. without having to renew the F-1 visa. Before making a trip to one of these locations with an expired visa, however, it is recommended that you contact an international advisor for more information and advising in relation to your specific travel plans.

Your I-20 must bear a valid DSO signature on page 3. The signature must be less than 12 months old at the time of reentry; if traveling while on Post-Completion OPT, however, the signature must be less than six months old. Make sure that your I-20 reflects the academic plan (major/program of study) that you are pursuing. If you officially change your academic plan, you will need to be issued a new I-20 stating the new academic plan.

Always check the program completion date on your I-20 (under item 5). If the completion date is approaching and you do not expect to complete your program by that date, visit the International Programs office for information on requesting a program extension.