

## Message from the ISO: MAINTAINING STATUS Spring 2009

IMPORTANT IMMIGRATION INFORMATION UPDATE FOR **Spring 2009** for F-1 & J-1 degree-seeking students only

### MAINTAINING STATUS

1. Check the validity dates of your I-20/DS-2019 and Passports. Apply for an I-20/DS-2019 extension within 60 days (30 days for DS-2019) BEFORE the expiration date. An expired I-20/DS-2019 will result in the loss of your status. Contact the ISO for extension application details.
2. Check the degree program level and major information in your I-20/DS-2019. If the information does not match your current degree level and major, please send an email to [isoadvisor@asu.edu](mailto:isoadvisor@asu.edu) so we can verify if your I-20/DS-2019 will be updated.
3. If you have made any change to your academic programs, (i.e. switched degree options, major change, change of education level, admitted to a concurrent degree/certificate program, etc) this Spring 2009 semester, please send an email to [isoadvisor@asu.edu](mailto:isoadvisor@asu.edu) so we can verify if the change has affected your status and/or if you need to request for an I-20/DS-2019 update.
4. Students who are currently on OPT must pay attention to the I-20 expiration date. If degree is not completed by the expiration date of the I-20, you must contact ISO for further advisement. Failure to do so will cause termination of your SEVIS record.
5. Passport must be valid at least 6 months into the future. Contact your respective country embassy within the US for passport renewal processes.
6. Students who have pre-approved insurance coverage through their government or official sponsor must request, obtain and submit an insurance waiver to Campus Health Service every semester no later than two weeks after classes start to avoid paying the ASU insurance.
7. Anytime you move, update your address information on MyASU website within 10 days at [my.asu.edu](http://my.asu.edu). For your LOCAL address use your home in Tempe/Phoenix area; and for your SEVIS address use your home country address. Addresses must be a residence; PO BOX, company/school, and C/O are not acceptable for both LOCAL and SEVIS address.
8. If you have received a Notice of Action from USCIS regarding a change of your immigration status or entered the US in a different visa status, please contact the ISO immediately to get your record updated in SEVIS.
9. J-1 students who are currently employed or who will accept any future employment needs prior authorization from the ISO and reported in SEVIS. As soon as you have

accepted a job/position, please send an email to the [ISOadvisor@asu.edu](mailto:ISOadvisor@asu.edu) for employment authorization instructions. Failure to do so will jeopardize your immigration status.

10. J-1 students with J-2 dependents must provide ISO proof of valid insurance of the dependents. Failure to do so will cause you to lose your J-1 status.

11. If you plan to travel, Travel Advisory can be found at this ISO webpage. Please check the site for information including determining the validity of your I-20/DS-2019 travel endorsement before your scheduled trip to avoid delays  
[www.asu.edu/international/travel.html](http://www.asu.edu/international/travel.html).

12. Students subject to SPECIAL REGISTRATION should remember all entry and exit requirements to avoid delays. For additional information or specific questions on special registration, go to the USICE website link [www.ice.gov/pi/specialregistration/index.htm](http://www.ice.gov/pi/specialregistration/index.htm) or contact USCIS National Customer Service Center 1-800-375-5283.

13. Students completing their program this **Spring 2009** semester who want to apply for the Optional Practical Training (OPT) benefit must apply at least 100 days prior to the completion date to get the full 12 months of OPT. You may also apply within the 60th day after completion date, however, the 12-month OPT is not guaranteed in this case. You may end up with 10 months of OPT. Plan accordingly. Deadline to submit OPT application to the ISO is 3 weeks prior to the 60th day after completion date. The OPT application must be received by the USICS before the 60th day after your completion of degree program. Failure to meet the deadline will result in the loss of your OPT benefit.

Let us know if you have any questions.

**The International Student Office**  
[ISOadvisor@asu.edu](mailto:ISOadvisor@asu.edu)