YOU are responsible for having all of your documentation in order and knowing about the US Immigration rules. Please see your DSO if you have any questions. DO NOT depend on information from your friends.

Reasons you need to report to the DSO

Expiration of the I-20:
You must notify your DSO no later than 45 days prior to the expiration date listed on your I-20. Extensions will be granted if you are in compliance with all USCIS rules and regulations.

Dropping a class or terminating studies:
If you are dropping below 12 credit hours or are terminating your course of study for any reason, you must visit your DSO first.

Optional Practical Training:
If you desire optional practical training you must apply to your DSO 45 days prior to the completion of your course of study. Failure to do so will prevent you from being granted the opportunity to participate in your optional practical training program.

Transfer to Another Academic Institution:
If you are planning to transfer to another institution, you are required to notify your DSO immediately, so that they may release you for transfer in the SEVIS system.

Leaving the country:
Before leaving the country, see your DSO and bring your current I-20, passport, I-94 and travel itinerary.

Academic Breaks:
Before taking an academic break, see your DSO to verify eligibility.

Frequently Asked Questions

To remain in status you must do the following:

- Attend class full-time (at least two classes on campus)
- Enroll prior to semester start date
- Not work off campus: it is illegal
- Make academic progress in all of your classes
- Notify the DSO within 10 days if you change your address or telephone number. You must also refer to Item 8 of page two of your I-20.
- Keep all documents current: Check that your passport is still valid, check your I-94 for a data or D/S, and check the expiration date of your I-20.

Vacation term: You must be enrolled full-time for two consecutive terms before you may take an academic break.

Change of Major: Changing your major affects your status—consult with your DSO BEFORE changing your major.

DSO contact information – Fort Myers, Jenna Kaiser ext. 7830, Naples, Christine Scanlin-Mitchell ext. 6164