

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRAVEL CHECKLIST**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

When leaving the United States temporarily during your program of study, you will need to have the necessary documents to both permit entry to another country as well as to permit re-entry to the United States in F-1 student status. For travel to a country other than the home country, students should check with the consulates of the country they wish to visit for specific entry requirements.

**RE-ENTRY TO THE UNITED STATES**

**Note:** An absence from the U.S. or more than 5 months constitutes a break in F-1 status and requires a student to request a new Form I-20.

In order to re-enter the U.S. after a temporary absence of 5 months or less, an F-1 student must have the following documents listed below:

DOCUMENT NAME	REASON
<b>SEVIS FORM I-20</b>	Must be valid, unexpired and contain a signature of travel. Travel signatures are valid for one year.
<b>PASSPORT</b>	Must have your passport with you for all travel, including travel within the U.S. If traveling abroad, your passport must be valid for at least 6 months into the future Not required for returning Canadian nationals
<b>F-1 VISA</b>	Your visa stamp in your passport must be unexpired and valid for future entries F-1 and J-1 students' stamps should say D/S, which means ' <i>duration of status</i> '. If your visa expired, you will need to apply for a new entry visa abroad – it cannot be renewed in the United States
<b>CURRENT FINANCIAL DOCUMENTATION</b>	Immigration inspectors at the port of entry may want to verify your ability to fund your stay.
<b>REGISTRATION COPY or OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT</b>	Additional proof of registration may be required depending upon the port official you may encounter
<b>NYIT STUDENT ID CARD</b>	Proof of enrollment and admittance
<b>HEALTH INSURANCE CARD</b>	All F-1 students are required to have NYIT health insurance

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**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR TRAVEL ABROAD & POST-COMPLETION OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING**

The regulations for students on Optional Practical Training allows for re-entry “to resume employment after a temporary absence”.

The Department of Homeland Security has issued the following guidelines:

- Before your Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card is issued, you may re-enter the United States to resume searching for employment. You must carry evidence of a PENDING OPT application
- This is NOT advised though, as once you leave the country, USCIS may consider your OPT application as abandoned and complete your F-1 status.
- After an EAD card is issued, you may only re-enter the U.S. to resume employment that has already commenced, or to return to begin a job that has already been offered.
- This means that you must carry a letter from your employer, in addition to the EAD and a Form I-20 with a travel signature