

An F-1 student who has overstayed his or her authorized period of stay or has otherwise failed to maintain F-1 student status may be reinstated to lawful F-1 status at the discretion of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

USCIS may reinstate the student to lawful F-1 status, if he or she:

1. establishes to the satisfaction of USCIS that the violation of status resulted from circumstances beyond the student's control or that failure to receive reinstatement to lawful F-1 status would result in extreme hardship to the student;
2. is currently pursuing, or intending to pursue, a full course of study at the school that issued the Form I-20;
3. has not engaged in unauthorized employment; and
4. is not deportable on any ground other than section 241(a) (1) (B) or (c) (i) of the Act {overstaying or failing to maintain status}. {8 CFR 214.2(f) (16) (i)}

REQUIREMENTS:

- If you are currently working on campus, you must notify your supervisor and stop working immediately. You may resume on-campus employment only if your reinstatement application is recommended in SEVIS.
- If you have engaged in any unauthorized on- or off-campus employment, you are not eligible to apply for reinstatement.
- You must enroll full-time while your reinstatement is pending.
- Applying for a reinstatement does not guarantee that it will be granted. Prepare your application thoroughly and completely.
- If you have previously been granted a reinstatement, it is less likely that your second reinstatement application will be approved.
- Remember! Reinstatement is not the only option available to you. You may choose to obtain a new I-20, apply for a new F-1 visa, and return to the U.S. to resume your study. Please consult with an ISS immigration advisor.
- If you leave the U.S. while the reinstatement application pending, USCIS will consider your reinstatement application abandoned. If you decide to withdraw the application, please see an ISS advisor for the withdrawal procedure.

Printed Name of Student (Last, First Middle)

Mustang ID / Tech ID

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

It is important that you do NOT delay applying for reinstatement. Even with a status violation reason beyond your control, failure to file for reinstatement within **five months** of the violation may cause you to be ineligible for reinstatement.


Make an appointment with an immigration advisor in ISS to receive a Reinstatement I-20. Then, send the following documents by certified mail with return receipt (clearly indicate, "Reinstatement" on bottom left corner of envelope) to:

USCIS
ATTN: I-539
2501 S State Highway 121 Business
Suite 400
Lewisville, TX 75067

According to the USCIS website, your reinstatement application should include:

- Completed Form I-539 (with "REINSTATEMENT" written in big, bold letters on top)
found here: www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-539.pdf
- Completed Form G-1145
found here: www.uscis.gov/files/form/g-1145.pdf
- If eligible, you can file using the USCIS Electronic Immigration System (ELIS)
found here: www.uscis.gov/uscis-elis
- \$370 filing fee – personal check made payable to Department of Homeland Security; **note: fee increased to \$370 on December 23, 2016.**
- Copy of I-20 (be sure to sign at #11) – File application with USCIS no later than 30 days from issuance of reinstatement recommendation I-20
- Proof of SEVIS fee payment if you have been out of status for more than five months
found here: www.fmjfee.com/index.html
- Arrival/departure record
found here: www.cbp.gov/i94
- Copy of passport (identity and expiration page) and visa
- Copies of previously issued Form I-20
- New financial document as indicated on Reinstatement I-20
- Written statement explaining your situation, and why you have failed to maintain valid F-1 status (also confirm that the above four statements are true)
- Official SMSU transcripts
- Any other supporting documentation

If the reinstatement application is approved, USCIS will send you the processed I-20 and Reinstatement approval. Upon receiving these documents from USCIS, please **immediately** provide a copy to ISS.

 **Upon SEVIS termination, students are no longer eligible to work. SMSU Human Resources will be notified. Your employment and pay will be terminated. You may resume on-campus employment only if your reinstatement is recommended in SEVIS.**

I understand and agree to the statements above.

Student Signature

Date

International Student Services
Southwest Minnesota State University (SC 237)
1501 State St. Marshall, MN 56258
(507) 537-6445
Fax: (507) 537-7224