International Wizard Advising 101

Presented by Megan Cale, Noelle Brooker, & Deanna Laubis, Kent State International Student and Scholar Services Team
Headmaster’s Declaration

The headmaster of Ivermorny has just informed you that they will be opening up the school to international witches and wizards.

For these incoming witches and wizards it is your job to:

- Provide advice and administrative services to international students and family members
- Ensure compliance with laws and regulations for international students
- Maintain student files in accordance with federal regulations
- Advise students on immigration status, cultural adjustment, and more
Seeking Permission

I-17 Petition for Approval of School for Attendance by Nonimmigrant Student

- permission to have F-1 students
- provide information about university to DHS
- agree to maintain SEVIS records AND student records in accordance with 8CFR 214.2(f)

Non-compliance with regulatory requirements = approval withdrawn
Who is considered an international student?

- F-1 Students
- F-2 Dependents
- J-1 Students
- J-2 Dependents
- Other Categories: H, O, E, L, DACA, Undocumented
Obtaining Status

You're a wizard, Harry
Traveling by the Floo Network

1. **Apply to Ivermorny**
   - Full Admission
   - English Proficiency

2. **I-20**
   - Show Passport
   - Proof of Financial Support
Proof from Gringotts

Estimated expenses can include, but are not limited to:

- Tuition & Fees
- Housing & Food/Living Expenses
- Medical Insurance
- Books/Supplies
- Dependent Costs

must show enough funding for at least 1 year
Traveling by the Floo Network

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   - Proof of Financial Support

3. Visa
   - Obtain visa appointment
   - Successfully complete interview
     ○ convince Consular Officer of non-immigrant intent
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4. Custom and Border Protection (CBP)
   - Provide passport, visa, and I-20
   - F-1 D/S (Duration of Status)
Mastering the Dark Arts -- Maintaining Status
Maintaining Status -- Follow the Rules

1. Pursue a full course of study
2. Obey work/volunteering rules
3. Comply with F-1 procedures and deadlines
4. Maintain address, academic program, and level
F-1 Status – Full Course of Study

Minimum Course Load

Undergraduate: 12 credits
Graduate: 8 credits*

If student is taking minimum course load, only 1 class or 3 credits can be online

*Could vary by J-1 program
F-1 Status – Reduced Course Load

Prior authorization is required by ISSS

**Academic Difficulties**
- Initial difficulties w/ reading requirements
- Unfamiliarity w/ U.S. teaching methods
- Improper course level placement
- Initial difficulties w/ English

**Medical Conditions**
- Up to 1 year per educational level
- No minimum credit hour requirement

**Completion**
- Last semester
- At least 1 credit, not online
Employment

On-Campus Employment

Off-Campus Employment
F-1 Status – On Campus Employment

Incidental to status
Semester: 20 hrs/ week
Break: 28-40 hrs/ week

Excessive hours -- student will fall out of status and will simultaneously lose work authorization

*J-1 students must report to ISSS for each employment opportunity
Off-Campus – Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

“An integral part of an established curriculum and directly related to the student’s major area of study”
- work/study
- internship
- cooperative education
- or any other type of required internship or practicum (performances, paid auditions)

Must have authorization from ISSS prior to beginning CPT

Compensation is not a factor

Occurs during curricular program

Must be tied to a course requirement
Off-Campus – CPT, a gray area

CPT regulation can be interpreted very narrowly or expansively

Refer to your school’s ISSS team for assistance

*J-1 students can request Academic Training
F-1 Status – Optional Practical Training (OPT)

Benefit which could allow up to 12 months of work authorization AFTER program completion

Very strict rules & timelines on applying for OPT

- apply before graduation
- job directly related to major
- recommended by ISSS team
- US government adjudicates

Authorization from U.S. gov’t takes at least 90 days

Driver’s licenses can be impacted

*J-1 students can request Academic Training
End of Status

60 Day Grace Period

• When a student is preparing to finish their program, they are allotted a 60 day grace period to:
  
  • Prepare to leave the U.S.
  • Apply for OPT
  • Begin a new educational program

*J-1 students are allotted 30 days
Update Requirements

1. Address & Phone
2. Major
3. Minor
4. Educational Level
Avada Kedavra... to immigration status
Loss of status

1. Below full course load requirement without approved RCL

2. Engaged in unauthorized work or volunteer experience without approved CPT or OPT

3. Failure to update address, academic program, or level change according to deadlines
F-1 Status – Regaining Status

Reinstatement application to USCIS

OR

Travel and reentry
### F-1 Status – Regaining Status

#### Reinstatement
- Lengthy process
- Eligibility requirements:
  - Student must prove the loss of status was beyond his/her control
  - Out of status less than 5 months
- Expensive (Application Fee)
- Adjudicating officer decides
- Loss of work authorization during pending application
- Biometrics

#### Travel
- Quick process
- All students eligible
- Expensive (must leave U.S. & pay new SEVIS fee)
- Valid F-1 visa required or must reapply from home country

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Recommended*
But… unlawful presence

Unlawful presence begins to accrue when a decision has been made that a student lost their immigration status.

Too much time out of status can trigger a ban from the U.S. in any visa category.

180 days = 3 year ban
365 days = 10 year ban
Veritaserum...
Keeping Students in Status = Good for All

- Save Time & Money
- Uninterrupted progression towards graduation
- Retention
- Recruitment

Out of Status Students
- Difficult to regain status
  - money & time
- Increases anxiety and stress
- Student may not graduate
- Student may not return
- Bad for Recruitment

In Status Students
Collaboration is Key

ISSS Office

- Connect
  - email
  - phone

- Seek training
  - ACIREMA
  - Content Knowledge

Find out what your team prefers
Thank You.

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