

7/7/2020

Dear International Student,

You may have already seen the [communication](#) from ICE/SEVP regarding course enrollment for the Fall 2020 semester. While this information was released yesterday, we have been anticipating this information for several weeks. **To ensure that every international student who is planning to return to CU Denver|Anschutz for fall is able to enroll in a course that meets the SEVP requirement, we ask that you please respond to our [Fall 2020 Enrollment Form](#) by 12pm MT on Friday, July 10th if you need to add a course that meets the on-campus/hybrid requirement.** If you do not need to add a course that meets the on-campus/hybrid requirement, you may complete the form no later than July 28th. The support that is being provided from faculty and staff at CU Denver|Anschutz for international students is amazing and they want to assist you with meeting these requirements.

ISSS is here to support you and provide guidance during this uncertain time. We invite you to contact us via email, phone, or [Zoom appointment](#) to discuss your specific concerns. We will also be offering four info sessions to share SEVP Guidance with you and discuss your concerns. Please sign up to attend one of the sessions at the link below if interested. **Please read the message below in its entirety to understand the requirements for your visa status this Fall 2020 semester.**

ISSS Info Sessions: Fall 2020 SEVP Guidance

Wed, July 8 from 12:00-1:00 PM (MT)

Fri, July 10 from 8:00-9:00 AM (MT)

Tues, July 14 from 8:00-9:00 AM (MT)

Wed, July 15 from 12:00-1:00 PM (MT)

Sign up here: <https://oia.as.me/sevp-fall2020>

Below is the guidance that we are providing to all incoming and continuing international students at the CU Denver|Anschutz Campuses. Be aware that this guidance may change; however this is what we know right now. If information does change, we will communicate those changes with you right away.

The CU Denver|Anschutz Campuses fall under the hybrid model in the communication mentioned above from ICE/SEVP. Therefore, international students who take one on-campus or hybrid class this fall will be able to maintain their F-1 status in the United States. At the CU Denver|Anschutz Campuses this includes on-campus, hybrid, thesis, dissertation, independent study, and internship credits. F-1 and J-1 students should plan to enroll in at least 12 credits (undergraduate students) or 5 credits (graduate students) to meet full-time enrollment requirements. F-1 students must also plan to be physically present in the United States for the duration of the semester to maintain status. J-1 students have different requirements and therefore should plan to contact their [International Services Specialist](#) for additional information if not able to take one hybrid or in-person course this fall.

In addition, if your courses change to a different format after the semester has started or you change your course selections and end up taking an entirely online course load, ISSS will have to terminate your SEVIS record and you will be required to return to your home country to finish the semester. ISSS will be able to issue you a new Form I-20 to return to the U.S. when you are able to resume on-campus coursework.

The communication from ICE/SEVP does not provide any information regarding eligibility for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) or Optional Practical Training (OPT) this fall. Therefore, we are assuming until informed otherwise that the Fall 2020 semester will only count towards the two full-time semesters that are required for CPT and OPT eligibility if you are able to maintain F-1 status in the United States. If you must start your degree program remotely from your home country this fall due to being unable to obtain a visa or flight to the U.S., then eligibility for CPT or OPT will not begin until the next semester in which you are able to come to the U.S. and maintain F-1 status.

Continuing F-1 international students who are currently outside the United States and choose not to or are unable to return to the U.S. for Fall 2020 will not be able to maintain their F-1 immigration status with online only courses. ISSS will need to terminate your SEVIS record and issue you a new Form I-20 to return to the U.S. when you are able to resume on-campus coursework. In addition, please keep in mind that your F-1 status is independent from your ability to study at CU Denver|Anschutz. Students who are outside of the U.S. and are not maintaining F-1 status are still eligible for enrolling in online courses. Please reach out to your [International Services Specialist](#) with any questions.

In order to comply with F-1 and J-1 requirements for this Fall 2020 semester, we ask that all incoming and continuing international students complete the form below by 12pm MT this Friday, July 10th if you need to add an on-campus or hybrid course to your Fall 2020 courses and no later than Tuesday, July 28, 2020 if you do not need to add a course so that we can update your I-20/DS-2019 appropriately to reflect your enrollment plans for the Fall 2020 semester. Please check your course enrollment in your student portal and if you have questions about the format of your courses for the Fall 2020 semester, please reach out to your academic or faculty advisor for assistance. Again, we invite you to contact us via email, phone, Zoom appointment, or attend one of the Info Sessions above for additional information.

Fall 2020 Enrollment Form: https://ucdenverdata.formstack.com/forms/oia_iss_s_fall2020intent

Best Regards,

ISSS