I-20 Extension Guide

What is “I-20 Extension”? 
You must request I-20 extension if you need to continue your studies past your program end date. Extension requests can be made for minimum of one semester and maximum of one year at a time. If you need an additional two years to complete your coursework, you will need to extend two times (one year at a time).

ISSS will only review your request once both you and your academic department advisor have submitted the request.

How do I apply for I-20 extension? 
To request extension of your I-20, please complete an “I-20 Extension Request” E-Form using the UAtlas link found at isss.utah.edu. A new I-20 will be issued with a new program end date.

* Your application is not considered to be complete until your academic advisor approves your request. Processing time is up to 10 business days after both the student and the academic advisor submit approvals.

Where is my program end date? 
Your program end date can be found on page 1 of your I-20 under the Program of Study section. It is listed as “program end date”.

When should I apply for I-20 extension? 
ISSS must receive your I-20 extension request before your I-20 expires. You can submit your extension request any time during the semester your I-20 is to expire, but no later than one week before your I-20 end date. If your I-20 expires before you were able to submit the complete application, you will be considered out of status and will need to reinstate. Please remember that ISSS is not able to process your request until we receive your academic advisor’s approval. For more information on reinstatement, please refer to our Reinstatement Policy Guide on isss.utah.edu.

What documents do I need to show? 
You need to upload the following documents to your e-form:

- Copy of your most recent I-20
- Financial support documents
- Affidavit of support
My I-20 expired before I was able to extend my I-20. What do I do?
It is your responsibility to ensure your I-20 does not expire. If your I-20 expired and you have not submitted your extension request, please immediately meet with ISSS advisor for assistance as it will impact your immigration status.

Disclaimer: International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) provides support and information related to U.S. immigration laws and regulations related to F and J status at the University of Utah. ISSS staff are not attorneys and any information provided by ISSS should not be construed as legal advice. Individuals are welcome to consult a qualified immigration attorney for specific legal advice, particularly in complicated cases. For a list of local Utah attorneys please visit our website here.

Maintaining Status: USCIS states that it is the student’s responsibility to understand the rules and regulations governing their visa [see 8 CFR 214.2(f)].