

Reinstatement of Immigration Status

A student who has failed to maintain F-1 student status (including but not limited to: carrying a full course load, late extension of program or missing a semester of classes) may be reinstated to F-1 status at the discretion of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

IMPORTANT: Students who have been out of status for more than five (5) months must demonstrate that the failure to file for reinstatement within the five (5) month period was as a result of exceptional circumstances and that the student filed the request as promptly as possible under the exceptional circumstances.

To apply for reinstatement you will need:

1. **Form I-539** completed by the student. (available at: <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-539.pdf>)
2. **Form I-20** (prepared by International Programs and Services).
4. Photocopy of your **SIUC original entry I-20**.
5. **\$290.00 (processing fee) check or money order made out to "U.S. Department of Homeland Security"**.
6. **Original I-94** card.
7. Current **visa** and **Passport**.
8. **Letter from the student** containing the following:
 - The explanation as to how you violated your status (i.e. dropped a class without permission, allowed Form I-20 to expire, etc...)
 - The violation of status resulted from circumstances beyond your control (or) that failure to receive a reinstatement would result in extreme hardship to you.
 - That you are currently pursuing, or intending to pursue, a full-time course of study.
 - That you have not been engaged in unauthorized employment.
 - That you are not in deportation proceedings.
9. **Financial Statement**
10. **Letter from your academic advisor** indicating your new graduation date and that you are currently enrolled as a full time student.
11. Payment **receipt for SEVIS I-901 fee** if more than five months out of status
12. **SIUC transcript** in a sealed envelope.

When all of the items are complete, **please call 618-453-5774 and ask to make an appointment for reinstatement.** An adviser will review all of the information and prepare a letter of support prior to your submitting the application to USCIS.

If you have any questions, please call 618-453-5774 or e-mail issinfo@siu.edu.

You may not apply for reinstatement without first speaking with an International Student Adviser.

Following your appointment, your reinstatement application should be mailed to one of the following addresses:

via U.S. Postal Service:

**USCIS
P.O. Box 660166
Dallas, TX 75266**

via Express Mail & Courier Deliveries:

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