



P O R T L A N D A D V E N T I S T A C A D E M Y

F-1/J-1 Student Immigration Requirements

WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES!

You must present PAA's I-20 to border officials when you enter the United States.

WELCOME TO PORTLAND ADVENTIST ACADEMY!

Upon arrival in the United States, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) requires that you report to PAA within the first **15 days** of the term in order to remain in legal status. Please bring the following documentation with you to PAA's orientation:

- Passport
- I-94 card (white card you receive at U.S. Customs when you enter the U.S.)
- PAA's I-20 document
- I-20's from each U.S. institution you have attended
- Proof of adequate health insurance if not purchasing PAA's plan

WHAT DOES "MAINTAINING STATUS" MEAN?

You **must** meet certain requirements set by the US government if you are admitted to the United States on an F-1 or J-1 visa. You are considered to be "in status" or "maintaining status" if you continuously meet each obligation. Maintaining the appropriate immigration status is **your** responsibility.

HOW DO I MAINTAIN STATUS?

- 1) **Attend the school you were authorized to attend on your I-20 (F-1 Visa) or DS-2019 (J-1 Visa).**

- 2) **Check in at PAA.**

Bring your passport, visa, I-94 card and your I-20 to PAA's orientation.

Bring proof that you have adequate health insurance.

Keep your address, phone number and e-mail current with PAA's administration.

- 3) **Follow specific transfer procedures if you are transferring to PAA from another US institution.**

Bring I-20's from ALL previous U.S. institutions you've attended.

Tell the International Admissions Director that you are transferring from another U.S. institution.

- 4) **Maintain full-time enrollment at PAA.**

You must receive passing grades in all your mainstream classes.

You may not receive less than 70% in any ESL course.

You must take at least 6 classes per semester.

- 5) **Keep your passport valid at all times.**

You are required to keep your passport valid 6 months into the future.

Your F-1 or J-1 visa may expire while you are in the U.S., but you will have to renew it if you travel other than to Canada or Mexico before re-entering the U.S.

- 6) **Keep your I-20 or DS-2019 valid at all times.**

You must request an extension or update your I-20 or DS-2019 with PAA's International Director if you do not complete your program by the date in section 5 of your I-20 or section 3 of your DS-2019.

- 7) **Never accept employment off-campus. Obtain authorization for any on-campus employment.**

Consequences for working without authorization are extremely severe.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T MAINTAIN STATUS?

If you fail to meet even one of the requirements listed above then you are considered "out-of-status" and will be required to file a request for reinstatement with the U.S. government. This procedure is costly and if your request is denied you will have to abandon your studies and leave the U.S.!