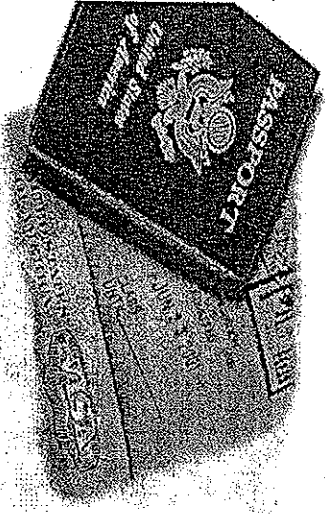


## **Maintenance of Status** (File Copy)

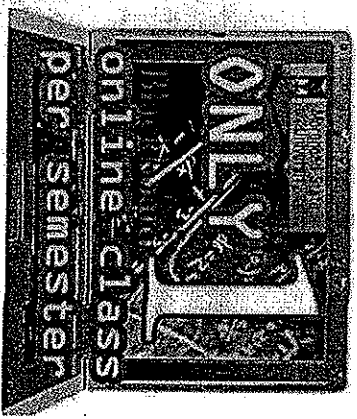
### **To Maintain Your F-1 Status:**



1. Maintain a valid passport.
2. Attend the school you are authorized to attend.
3. Enroll in a full course of study (undergraduate-12 credit hrs); (graduate students: 9 credit hrs).
4. Apply for extension of program 30 days before the expiration date on your current I-20.
5. Follow USCIS procedures for changing from one program or educational level to another.
6. Follow USCIS procedures for transferring from one school to another.
7. Limit on-campus employment to 20 hours per week, while school is in session.
8. Do not engage in off-campus employment without authorization.
9. Report a change of your name, address or phone number to the Office of ISS and to the USCIS using the form AR11.
10. Report to the Office of ISS within the first week of the commencement of classes for registration in SEVIS.
11. Make normal progress towards completing the course of study.
12. If you plan to graduate before the end date specified on your I-20 you must inform the office of ISS so that this information is updated in SEVIS.

## MAINTENANCE NOTES:

- > **It is your responsibility to maintain legal F1 status.**  
If you fail to maintain status for any reason, it is your responsibility to report to the Office of ISS, so that you may be assisted with filing for reinstatement.
- > If you have a medical reason permitting you to be enrolled in less than a full course load or if you are attending your last semester, you must see the ISS Director for permission to be enrolled in less than a full load. This must be done prior to the beginning of the semester.
- > Please make sure that you consult with your academic advisor regarding Directed Research and/or Thesis courses. You are permitted to engage in no more than six hours of Thesis for your degree.
- > **No more than one online course**  
or 3 credit hours per semester can be counted towards a full course of study requirements.



- > If you plan to visit another country, while you are a student at MSU, you need to make sure you obtain visitor's visa for that country or make sure your country is exempt from the nonimmigrant visa requirement.
- > If you plan to leave the United States and return while you are a student here, you must have your 1-20 endorsed by the ISS Director or Specialist, before you leave. A signed 1-20 is the only way you will be allowed to return to the US.

- > Make sure that you follow the proper procedures before engaging in specific activities that are governed by specific federal and in-house regulations/policies. Some of these activities are, but *are not limited to* engaging in:

- Curriculum Practical Training (CPT)
- Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- Study Abroad Programs
- National Exchange Programs (NSE)
- Off campus employment.

*If you are unsure of the regulations governing any of the activities for which you intend to participate, please call the Office of International Student Services at 606-783-2096 before engaging in any of these activities.*

\* Please read and sign to acknowledge that you are aware and understand these rules.

If you would like to read more about the United States Bureau of Citizenship & Immigration Services regulations you may log on to their web site @

[www.immigration.gov/graphics/index.htm](http://www.immigration.gov/graphics/index.htm)

Student Signature/Date