

Petition for Reinstatement to F-1 Status (Via USCIS)

A student who has violated their immigration status and whose status was terminated as a result of that violation may be reinstated to lawful F-1 status at the discretion of an USCIS official, but only under the limited conditions specified at 8 CFR 214.2(f)(16). The USCIS official may consider granting the request if the student:

- Has not been out of status for more than 5 months at the time of filing the request for reinstatement.
 - Students out of status for more than 5 months must show exceptional circumstances (8CFR 214.2(f)(16)(i))
- Does not have a record of repeated or willful violations of F-1 regulations;
- Is currently pursuing a full course of study at the school which issued the form I-20;
- Has not engaged in unauthorized employment; and
- Is not deportable on any ground other than section 237(a)(1)(B) or (C)(i)

Please consult with an International Student Advisor before considering reinstatement to student status.

Obtaining a Reinstatement Request I-20

To obtain an I-20, please submit the following to CIE:

- Declaration of Finances form
- Verification of Funds (bank statement or letter)
- Verification of Remaining Requirements. This requires an email from major advisor (graduate and undergraduate students) and GEadvisor (undergraduate students only) stating your remaining degree requirements.

Application Requirements

You will need to submit the following documents to apply for reinstatement to F-1 status:

- A single sided copy of the new **I-20 form** (for reinstatement purposes) prepared by the Center for International Education (remember to sign the I-20 on page 1)
- A printout of your electronic I-94 or a copy of front and back of your **I-94** arrival/departure record
- A completed **USCIS Form I-539 Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status**
- A completed **USCIS Form I-539A Supplemental Information for Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (if applicable)**
- A check or money order in the amount of **\$370.00 plus \$85.00 for Biometrics and an additional \$85 biometrics fee for each I-539A** made payable to U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
 - a. These fees must be paid by separate checks
- An **official copy** of your university transcripts (in a sealed envelope)
- Copy of passport identity page, visa page, and any I-20s you have held in the past.
- Proof of registration for the current term- printout from your MyCSUEB
- A **recent letter of financial support** from your sponsor
- A Letter of Explanation addressed to USCIS which should include at least the following:
 - Your full name
 - Term you started your studies and term you expect to graduate
 - Your major
 - The reason you are currently out of status
 - Request to be reinstated to F-1 status
 - You should type your letter, print and hand sign your letter
- SEVIS Fee Receipt (www.FMJFee.com) - Only if you are out of status more than five months.

Submitting the Application

Mailing

Please confirm the mailing address by visiting USCIS [Form I-539 Direct Filing Addresses](#) page.

We recommend that you submit your request for reinstatement via UPS or FEDEX to the Express Mail address. If you choose to use the USPS, we recommend you use **“certified mail – return receipt requested.”**

Keep a copy of all documentation sent to USCIS for your records.

Online

You are eligible to submit an application online at www.uscis.gov. You will need to file the form I-539 and choice “Reinstatement to student status”

NOTE OF CAUTION

Out of Status for more than 5 months

It is very difficult to receive approval from USCIS if you submit your application more than 5 months after you lost your F-1 status. You have to show “exceptional circumstances”.

USCIS Response

- A receipt notice will be sent to you from USCIS with a case number assigned. You may then use the case number to check the status of the application from [USCIS](#) web site.
- Every applicant and co-applicant will receive a biometric services appointment notice, regardless of age, containing their individual receipt number. The biometric services appointments will be scheduled at the Application Support Center (ASC) closest to the primary applicant’s address. You must attend your biometrics appointment.
- If your application is denied, you may not appeal that decision and you must depart the U.S. immediately. The F-1 visa stamp in your passport becomes invalid immediately, even if the dates remain valid.
- If your application is approved, USCIS will send you Form I-797A. I-797A is your reinstatement approval notice.
- Once you receive a response from USCIS approving or denying your request, you are required to submit a copy of your Denial Notice or I-797 Approval Notice to the Center for International Education within 10 day so we can update your immigration record.

Reinstatement I-20 Request Form

Student Information	
Family/Last Name:	First Name:
NETID:	SEVIS Number: N
Degree/Major:	Level of Study: <input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's
Telephone:	Email:

Reinstatement Request
I understand I must be enrolled full time before a reinstatement I-20 can be issued by CIE
<input type="checkbox"/> By selecting this box, I am requesting a reinstatement I-20 to be issued by CIE to submit to USCIS to apply for Reinstatement to Student Status.

Applicant Requirements and Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have reviewed the Reinstatement Handout I understand that I must enroll full time during Fall and Spring semesters I understand I am not in F-1 status until USCIS approves my request I understand that I am not eligible for any on-campus employment, off-campus employment, or Reduced Course Load while my application is pending I understand that it is in my best interest to apply within 5 months of my termination date. I understand waiting longer than 5 months means I must show “exceptional circumstances” and I must repay the SEVIS fee. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO GET APPROVAL FROM USCIS IF SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION AFTER 5 MONTHS I will email CIE (cie@csueastbay.edu) a copy of my decision notice within 10 days from USCIS once received.

Acknowledgement and Signature		
<p>I have read and now understand the above requirements. It is my responsibility to abide by the regulations while my application is pending with USCIS.</p> <p>CIE is able to provide you with general guidance. However, any advice provided to you by our office, as well as the information in this packet, should not be construed as legal advice. Additionally, due to the fluid nature of governmental interpretation, the USCIS may change its interpretation of these immigration laws/regulations and eligibility requirements for benefits, at any time. We will do our best to provide you with the most current guidance. Each case is fact-specific and it is advised that you contact an experienced immigration attorney if you have questions regarding your situation.</p>		
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%; border: none;">Student Signature:</td> <td style="width: 40%; border: none;">DATE:</td> </tr> </table>	Student Signature:	DATE:
Student Signature:	DATE:	

Electronic I-20

CIE will process your request and email your Reinstatement Request I-20 to your horizon email account. You will need to print and sign your new I-20. You are not eligible to electronically sign your I-20 at this time.

Reinstatement I-20: Declaration of Finances

Student Information		
Family/Last Name:	First Name:	NETID:

Required Funds- You must provide financial documentation
Please review our Cost of Attendance for the specific program for which you are requesting an I-20. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Cost of Attendance page shows the minimum amount required. • There are no exceptions to showing the minimum amount listed.

Funding Sources- You must provide required documentation in English and must:
*Be an official bank statement or letter on letterhead with a stamp/seal/official signature *Include the following: Issue date within the past 6 months, Account holders Name, and Specific dollar amount (\$)

Acceptable Types of Documentation	Not Acceptable Types of Documentation
Bank Letters	Employer Letters / Salary Statements
Bank Statements (Savings or Checking Accounts)	Line of Credit Letters
Fixed/Term/Time Deposits - must be able to be withdrawn at any time without penalty	Provident (Retirement) Fund Statements
Loan Letters	Stock Market, Equity, or Mutual Fund Statements
Scholarship Letters (Private, Government, School, etc.)	Life Insurance Policy
Solvency Letter - Bank letter indicating funds immediately available to the individual	

Source of Funds (Indicate all that apply)
\$ _____ Personal Funds (Self) \$ _____ Scholarship, Government, or other agency funds \$ _____ Family or Private Individual as Sponsor (please have sponsor complete information below) Sponsor's Name _____ Relationship to Student _____ Sponsor's Complete Address: _____ <i>I guarantee without reservation to support annually the educational costs and living expenses including tuition and fees, meals, books, supplies, health insurance, medical and emergency expenses, travel and personal expenses of the student name on this form while s/he is enrolled at California State University, East Bay. I further guarantee that the student will not become a public charge during his/her stay in the United States.</i> Sponsor's Signature: _____ Date: _____
I certify that the information given on this form is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
Student Signature: _____ DATE: _____