

On September 15, a new Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rule will take effect, fundamentally altering the traditional Duration of Status (D/S) framework for international students.

A transition window protects F-1 students currently in the United States. You may remain in the country under your current status without applying for a formal Extension of Stay (EOS), but only up to the specific Program End Date listed on your Form I-20. This transition also applies through the end of your valid post-completion OPT or STEM OPT extension, provided it is valid on the final rule's effective date. Under no circumstances can this period exceed November 14, 2030, which accounts for four years plus the 60-day departure period.

Please take five minutes right now to locate your current Form I-20 and verify your printed Program End Date. Compare this date to your actual graduation timeline. If you will not complete your program by the date listed on your form, you must contact LSU International Services immediately at iso@lsu.edu.

Fixing an outdated I-20 date after September 15 will be much more difficult. It will require a complex, costly federal application for an Extension of Stay rather than a routine administrative update, putting your legal status and academic progress at risk. Requesting your program extension before the September 15 rule takes effect ensures you stay covered under the safer, existing guidelines. Check your I-20 today and notify us right away if you need an extension.

LSU Office of Global Engagement