

Program Extension Policy

Program extension for students in lawful status. An F-1 student who is unable to meet the program completion date on the Form I-20 may be granted an extension by the DSO if the DSO certifies that the student has continually maintained status and that the delays are caused by compelling academic or medical reasons, such as changes of major or research topics, unexpected research problems, or documented illnesses. ***Delays caused by academic probation or suspension are not acceptable reasons for program extensions.*** A DSO may not grant an extension if the student did not apply for an extension until after the program end date noted on the Form I-20."

A student's program can be extended for the following reasons:

1. Delay caused by a change in major field study
2. Delay caused by lost credits upon transfer to our school
3. No unusual delay. The original length of time given to complete studies was not reasonable for an average student in this program
4. Delay caused by documented illness(es). Documentation must be provided if not already on file
5. Course not offered every semester, thus student could not have taken it at another time
6. Other (must be academic or medical in nature)

Steps to be taken by student to request program extension:

1. Ask academic advisor to complete program extension form
2. Submit program extension form and updated proof of financial support to IPO