

May 2025 Monthly Immigration Update

Congratulations to all of our spring graduates! We are very proud of your accomplishments! We hope that you continue to stay in touch with USF World via the [Global Networks](#) and [USF World](#) LinkedIn.

For those of you remaining at USF, our office, in BEH, stays open all summer and we will continue to have Virtual Drop-In and Walk In hours at all campuses as listed on our [website](#). We are making a small change to Virtual Drop-In. Times for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday will now be 11am to 12:30pm. Thursday remains unchanged – 1pm to 2pm.

End of Spring Semester Reminders

- Approved Spring RCL for final semester but NOT graduating – Discuss your options before the end of May during Virtual Drop In.
- Graduating this semester – The 60-day grace period begins June 1, 2025 and ends July 30, 2025. During the grace period, you cannot work unless approved for OPT. You can apply for OPT, gain admission to a future academic program, return home, or transfer to another school. **NOTE: If the I-20 end date is in the future, we will shorten the I-20 to May 31, 2025.**
- Admitted to another school in the US – Complete the Transfer Out eform in iStart.
- Leaving USF and returning home – Complete the Authorized Early Withdrawal eform in iStart.

Summer Reminders

- Continuing your academic program in Fall 2025 – You do not need to enroll in summer, if your program does not require summer enrollment. You can work full-time in an **on-campus job** from Monday, May 12 to Friday, August 22. No permission needed from our office.
- Graduating in Summer – You **MUST** enroll in at least one in-person course.

Changing Level at USF

- Admitted to a new level for Summer 2025 – You will need to provide updated financial documents to receive an updated I-20. Students must begin Summer A/C (May) and enroll FULL-TIME (9 hours for undergraduate students and 6 hours for graduate students).
- Admitted to a new level for Fall 2025 – You will need to provide updated financial documents to receive an updated I-20. You can ONLY work on-campus during the summer if you have activated your change of level I-20 through the Immigration Check In Process.
- Travel between levels – You enter the US and if needed obtain a visa stamp using the new I-20.
- Immigration Check-In – Our office must activate the change of level I-20. Immigration Check-in consists of uploading updated immigration documents to iStart at the beginning of the first semester of the new level.

Summer Travel

If you need a new visa stamp, check on processing times and appointment availability at the US Embassy or Consulate before you book your travel. Be sure your travel time includes the necessary time to wait

for a visa stamp to be processed. There are currently no official travel bans. If you are worried about traveling, we recommend the following:

- *Assess Your Personal Risk Prior to Travel*
 - Your risk is low, if you have a valid visa stamp in your passport, maintained your visa status, did not work without permission, and have not violated the law (arrest, DUI).
 - If you are still not sure, you can meet with one of our immigration advisors during virtual drop in or walk in hours to discuss your personal risk.
- *Double Check your documents*
 - Read our [travel page](#) for our full recommendation on documents to take when you travel and update documents if needed.
 - **Print your documents and carry them with you. Do not check them in your bags.**
- *Understand What Happens at the US Port of Entry*
 - The officer may ask questions about your travel and return to the US. Be ready to show proof of continued studies at USF.
 - The officer can search your cell phone or electronic devices.
 - The officer's computer cannot access the internet. If you forget a document or your SEVIS number on your visa does not match your I-20/DS-2019, they will take you to 'secondary inspection' so the officer can use the internet to access SEVIS.
 - If you forgot your I-20 or DS-2019, the officer can parole you into the US via an I-515A. This grants 30 days to obtain an updated I-20 from our office.
 - You should access your updated I-94 and upload to the iStart eform, Update I-94.

Workshops and Presentations

CPT Q&A Session – May 13 at 10am

For students interested in completing an internship during their studies this summer or a future semester. Join the Practical Training Advisors for a Q&A via Microsoft Teams. Students should have already reviewed the [CPT information](#) on the OIS website prior to attending the session.

<https://cglink.me/2k5/r1962479>

OPT Q&A Session – May 16 at 10am

Students interested in employment after graduation as an F-1 student should plan to join the Practical Training Advisors for a Q&A via Microsoft Teams. Students should have already reviewed the provided [OPT information](#) on the OIS website prior to attending the session. <https://cglink.me/2k5/r1961703>

Important Dates Summer 2025 Semester

- May 19 – Beginning of Summer A/C
- May 26 – USF Closed for Memorial Day
- June 19 – USF Closed for Juneteenth
- June 30– Summer B begins
- July 4 – USF Closed for US Independence Day
- August 9-10 – Summer Commencement

- August 25 – Fall courses begin

Join our BullsConnect Group - https://bullsconnect.usf.edu/INTLSVCS/club_signup

