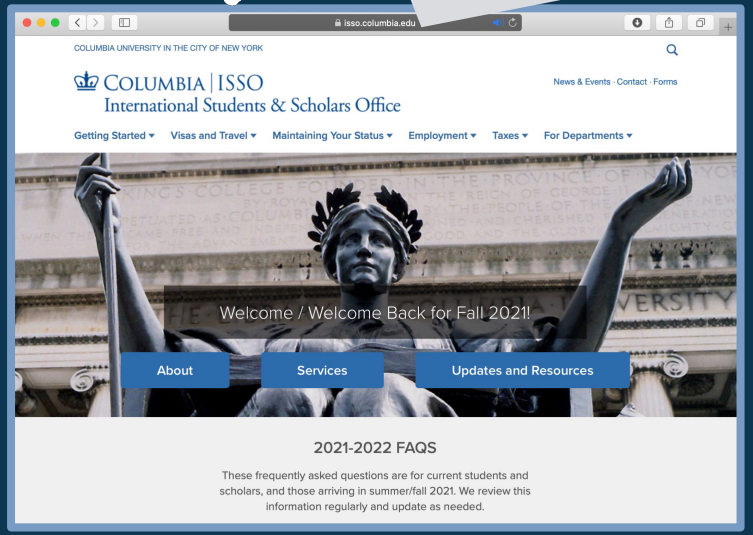
Welcome! We will be starting shortly.

Please add the ISSO website to your browser bookmarks:
isso.columbia.edu



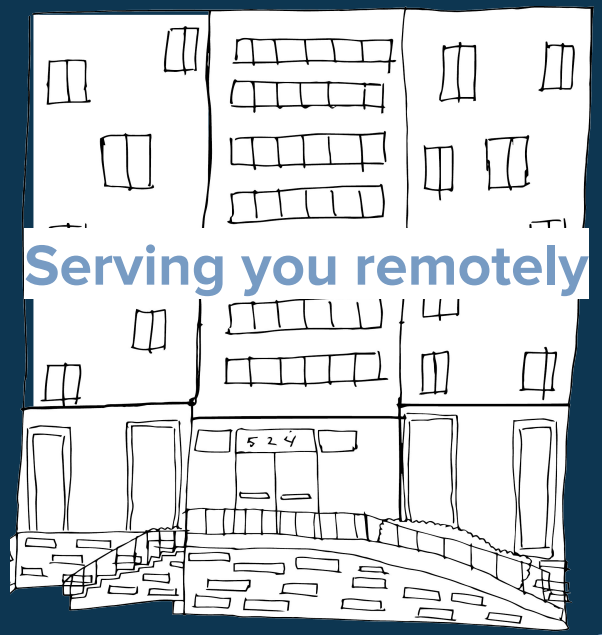
Follow us @ColumbiaISSO

أهلا و سهلا
ようこそ
fogadtatás
37% of the student population
Over 18,000 Students & Scholars
vítáme tě
namaste
mabuhay
welkom
환영합니다
bienvenue
benvenuto
καλώς ορίσατε
Welcome
dobrodošli
swagata
سلام
välkommen
歡迎
bem-vindos
willkommen
tervetuloa
bienvenido
powitanie
shalom
F-1 and J-1 visas
Top U.S. institutions hosting international students

The ISSO is your immigration resource

Advisory Staff

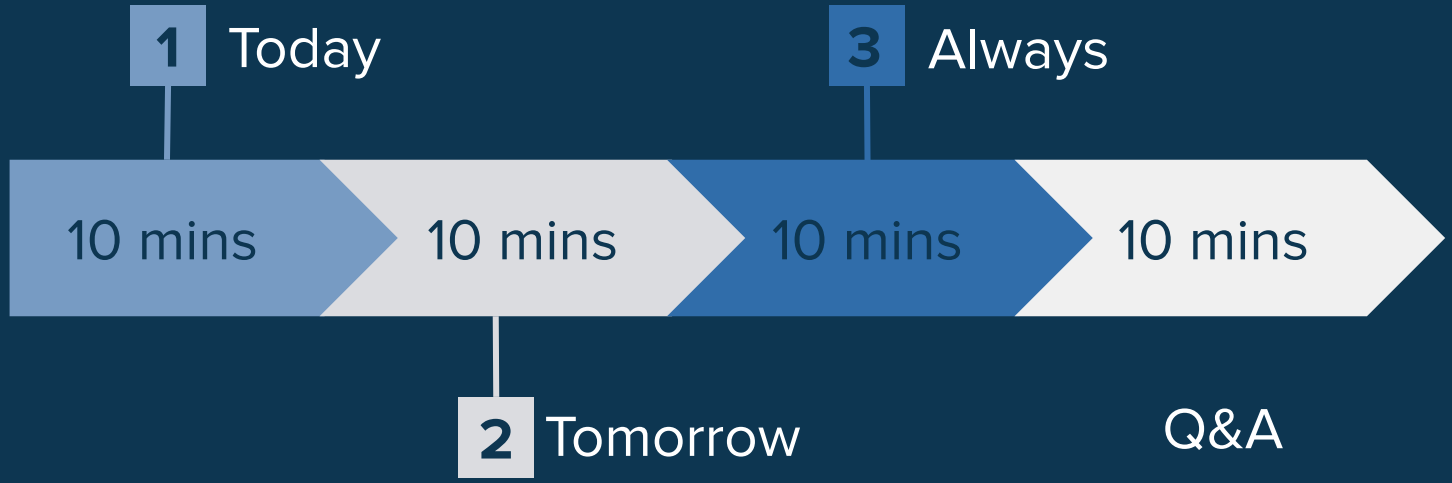
Informational Workshops



Student Visa Regulations

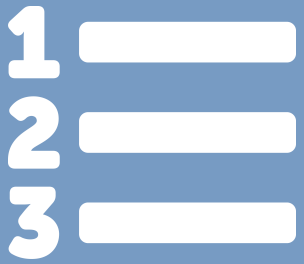
Immigration and Document Services

Let's talk about YOUR Columbia journey



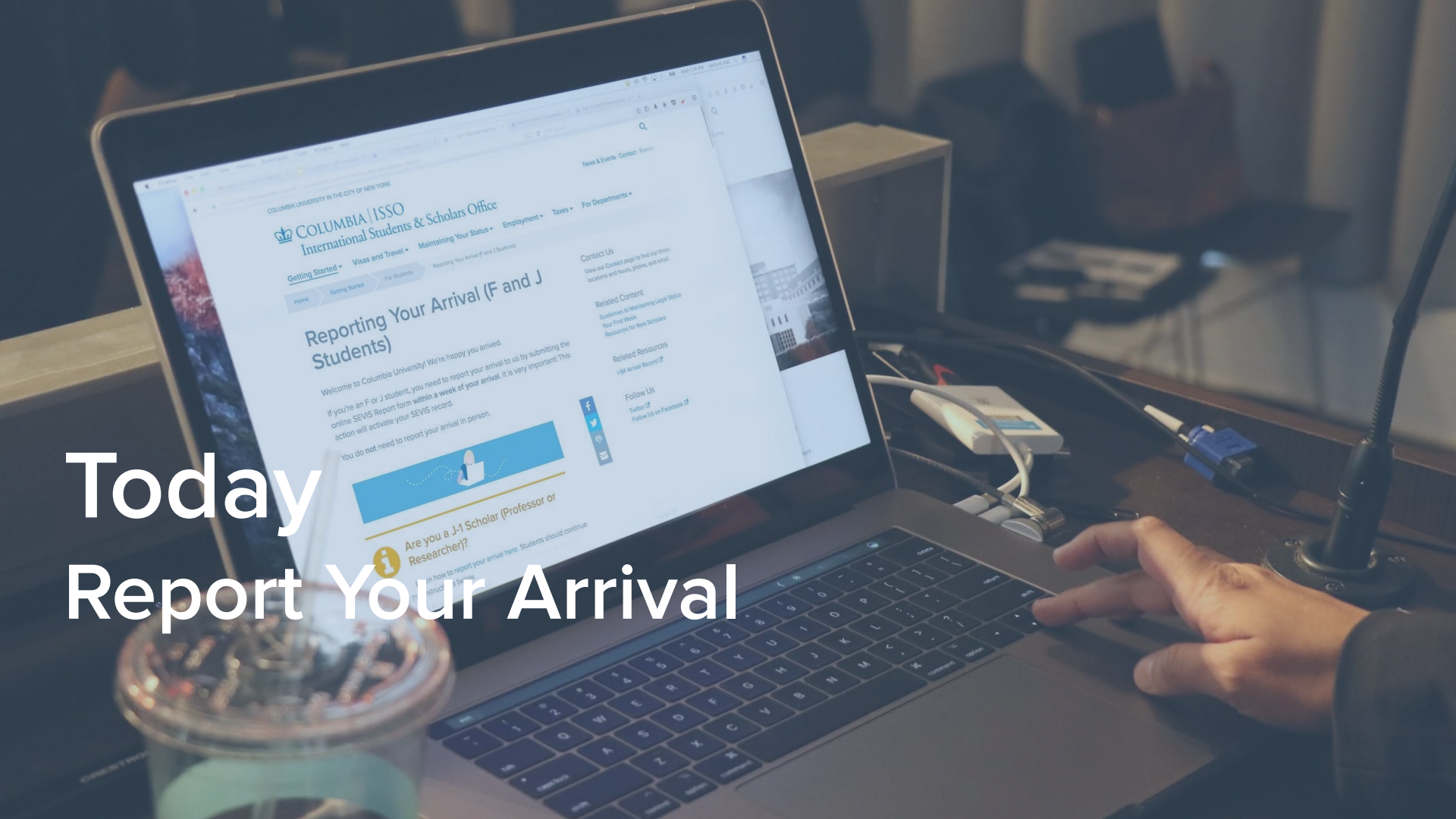
Today

Check In
(Report Your Arrival)



Register Full Time

On Campus
Employment



Today
Report Your Arrival

Am I allowed to arrive within 30 days from the start date on the I-20/DS-2019?

If you are not able to arrive within 30 days:

- Contact your school to let them know your plans
- Notify the ISSO by emailing newintlstudent@columbia.edu.

Have you reported your arrival?

It's easy

Compass

F-1 SEVIS Report Form

Refer to our webpage on Reporting Your First Arrival for eligibility criteria and a description of the documents you will need to complete this form.

YOUR U.S. RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

This must be where you are currently staying in the United States.

If it is temporary, such as a hotel, a friend's or relative's home, please enter it here. When you move to another address, you will need to update your U.S. address within 10 days of moving.

Please enter your address without using any punctuation, such as commas or periods, and follow the examples below.

Street Address Line 1 *

*Building Number and Street Name (**Example**: 420 W 119th St)*

Street Address Line 2

*Apartment or Room Number (**Example**: Apt 10A)*

City *

*(**Example**: New York, Brooklyn, Elmhurst, Flushing)*

State *

Zip Code *

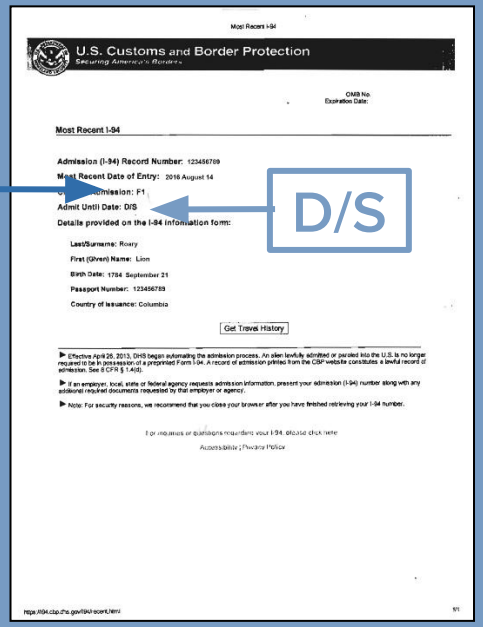
5-digit U.S. postal code. If you need to look up your Zip Code, type your address into Google Maps.

U.S. Phone Number

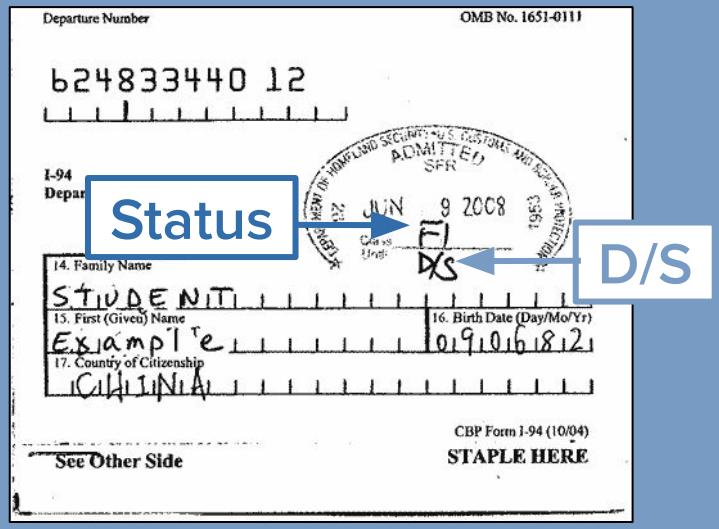
It's quick (no more than 10 mins)

It's important

Arrival Record



or



Electronic I-94 Record
https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94

Paper I-94 card

Duration of Status

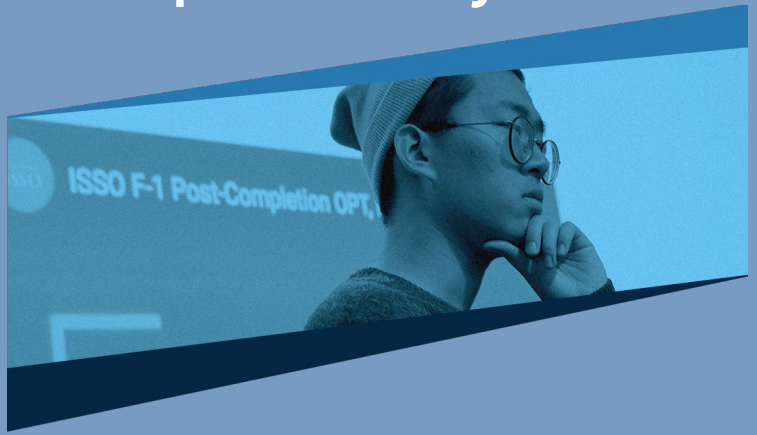
+

The length of your full-time program as indicated on your COE (unless you finish earlier)

Any period of F-1 or J-1 authorized employment following completion of your program

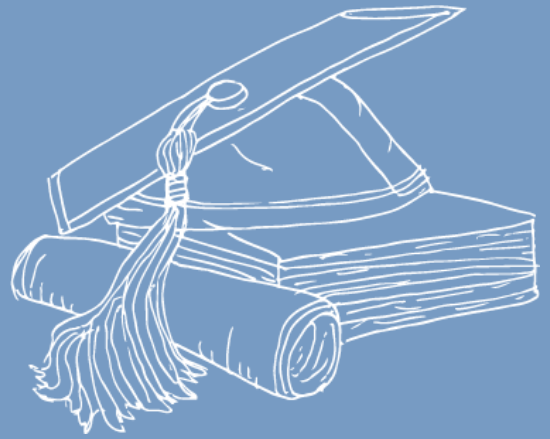
Register Full Time

- Courses are held on-campus
- Online classes:
  - You can count only **ONE** online class toward your minimum number of credits required for your full-time enrollment.



F-1 and J-1 Visa Regulations

1. Make normal academic progress toward degree
2. Full-time course load every semester



On-Campus Employment

On-Campus Employment

1. Work done for and paid by a Columbia office or department
2. Immediately eligible
3. Part-time: Up to 20 hours per week during school year
4. Full-time: Vacation periods during program of study

‘Today’ Recap

➔ **Report your arrival**

Complete within 7 days

➔ **Be sure to register full-time**

➔ **You can work on-campus**

Go for it! Just be sure not to work more than 20 hours during the semester

Tomorrow

Off-Campus Employment

Travel

Changes to your program

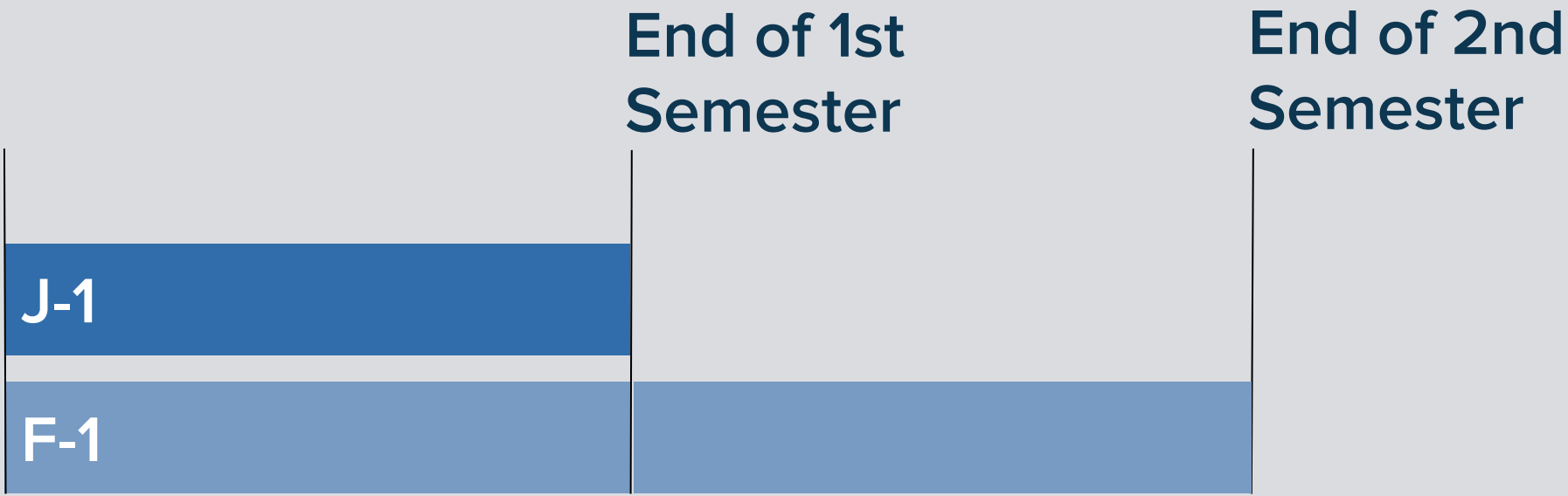
Employment

Eligibility

Can international students work in the U.S. off-campus?

Authorization must come first

Off-Campus Employment Eligibility



You must be physically present in the US

Types of Off-Campus Employment

F-1

CPT -
Curricular Practical Training

OPT -
Optional
Practical Training

J-1

AT -
Academic Training

F-1 CPT - Curricular Practical Training

Fulfills a requirement or elective towards your degree completion

During degree

F-1 OPT - Optional Practical Training

Optional

Limited to 12 months per degree level

During and/or after degree

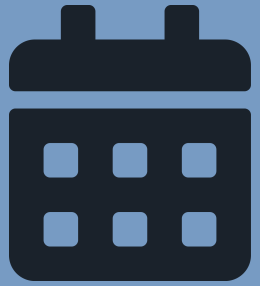
CPT or OPT

You will be eligible for CPT or OPT after two consecutive full-time semesters in the U.S. in F-1 status

- Some transfer students may be immediately eligible
- The application process is online
- Not all programs have CPT as part of the curriculum

F-1 STEM OPT Extension

Optional



Government-designated list of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields

After degree / Currently in your initial period of post-completion OPT

J-1 Academic Training (AT)

Optional

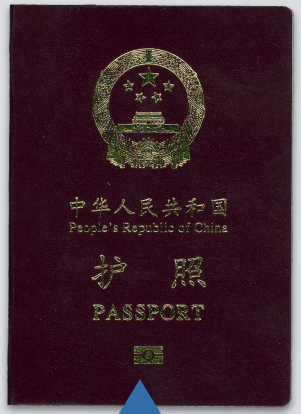
Limited to time spent in J status (18 months max, 36 months if doctoral level)

During and/or after degree

Tomorrow
Travel

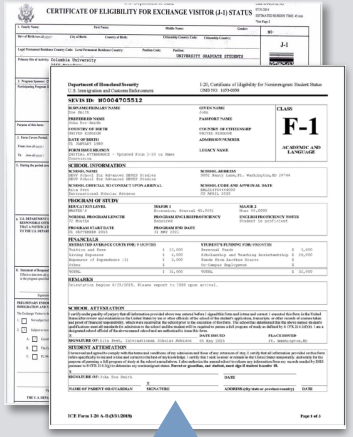
Bring when you travel

F-2 and J-2 dependents must carry their own documents



Unexpired Passport
Valid 6 months into the future

Unexpired F-1 or J-1 entry visa
Valid for further entries (except Canadians)



Unexpired I-20/DS-2019
With a valid travel signature (page 2)

Entry Visa

Used only for requesting entry into the U.S.

Can only be renewed outside the U.S.

Expiration Date

You may have different visa expiration dates - this is ok!

If your visa expires, you can still continue studying

Tomorrow
Any unforeseen changes to your enrollment or program end date

I have a personal medical issue and I am not able to register full time. What do I need to do?

Contact the ISSO

We can authorize a drop below full-time if it is recommended by :

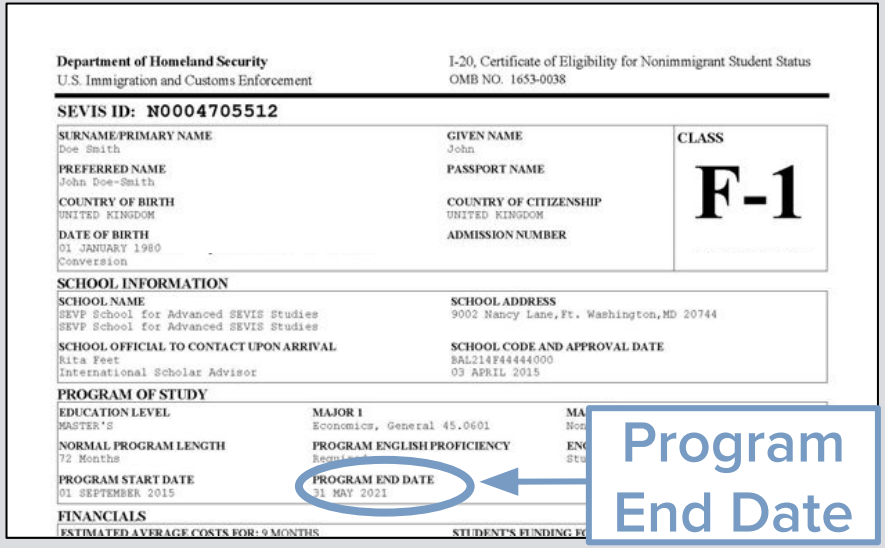
- a healthcare professional and
- your academic department

What happens if I graduate early or if I need more time to complete my program?

Contact the ISSO

We need to update your program end date

F-1



Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-0038

SEVIS ID: N0004705512

SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME Doe Smith	GIVEN NAME John	CLASS F-1
PREFERRED NAME John Doe-Smith	PASSPORT NAME	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH UNITED KINGDOM	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP UNITED KINGDOM	
DATE OF BIRTH 01 JANUARY 1980 Conversion	ADMISSION NUMBER	

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL NAME SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies	SCHOOL ADDRESS 9002 Nancy Lane,Ft. Washington,MD 20744
SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL Rita Feet International Scholar Advisor	SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE BAL214F44444000 03 APRIL 2015

PROGRAM OF STUDY

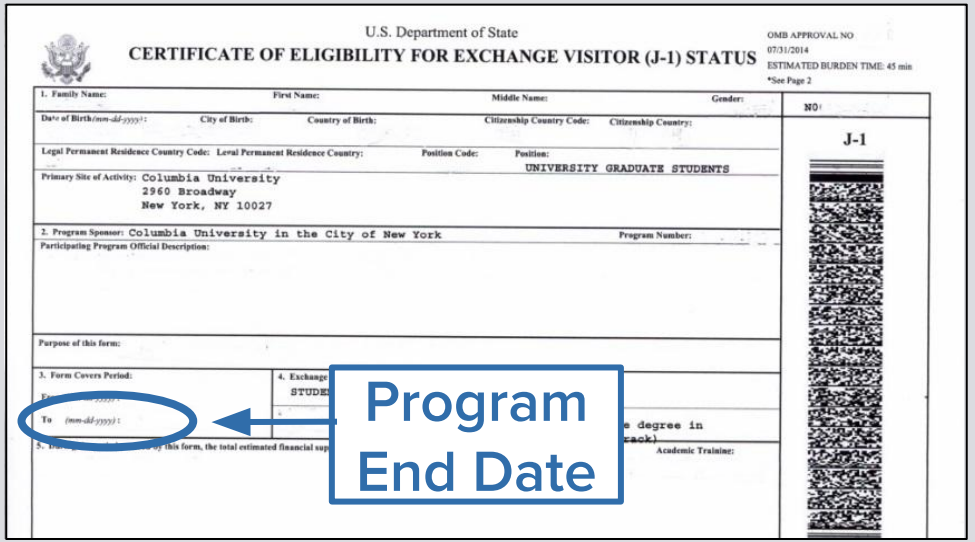
EDUCATION LEVEL MASTER'S	MAJOR 1 Economics, General 45.0601	MA Non
NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH 72 Months	PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY Req	EN Stu
PROGRAM START DATE 01 SEPTEMBER 2015	PROGRAM END DATE 31 MAY 2021	

FINANCIALS

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 MONTHS — STUDENT'S FUNDING FO

Program End Date

J-1



U.S. Department of State

CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXCHANGE VISITOR (J-1) STATUS

OMB APPROVAL NO
07/31/2014
ESTIMATED BURDEN TIME: 45 min
*See Page 2

1. Family Name: — First Name: — Middle Name: — Gender:
Date of Birth (mm-dd-yyyy): — City of Birth: — Country of Birth: — Citizenship Country Code: — Citizenship Country:
Legal Permanent Residence Country Code: — Legal Permanent Residence Country: — Position Code: — Position: UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENTS
Primary Site of Activity: Columbia University
2960 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
2. Program Sponsor: Columbia University in the City of New York — Program Number:
Participating Program Official Description:
Purpose of this form:
3. Form Covers Period:
To (mm-dd-yyyy):
4. Exchange
STUDE
degree in
Academic Training:
5. by this form, the total estimated financial sup

NO

J-1

Program End Date

What happens after I finish my program?

Grace Period

Time designated for you to prepare for departure

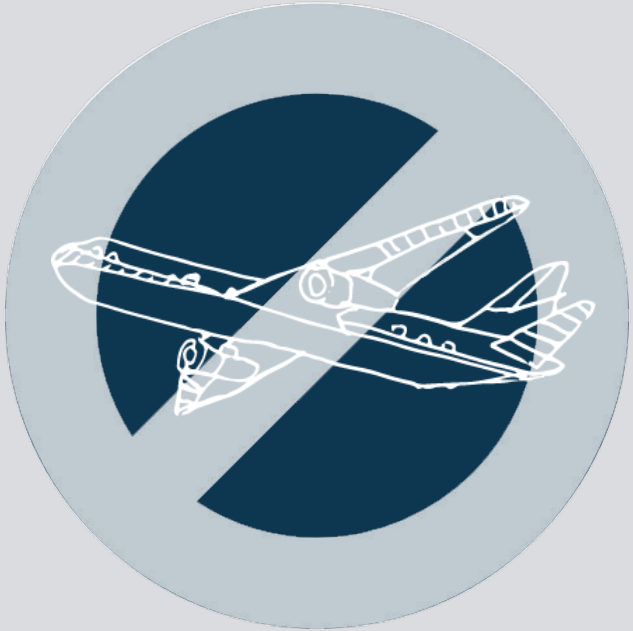
A) Used directly after the completion of program

or

B) After work authorization ends

Grace Period

60 Days F-1
30 Days J-1



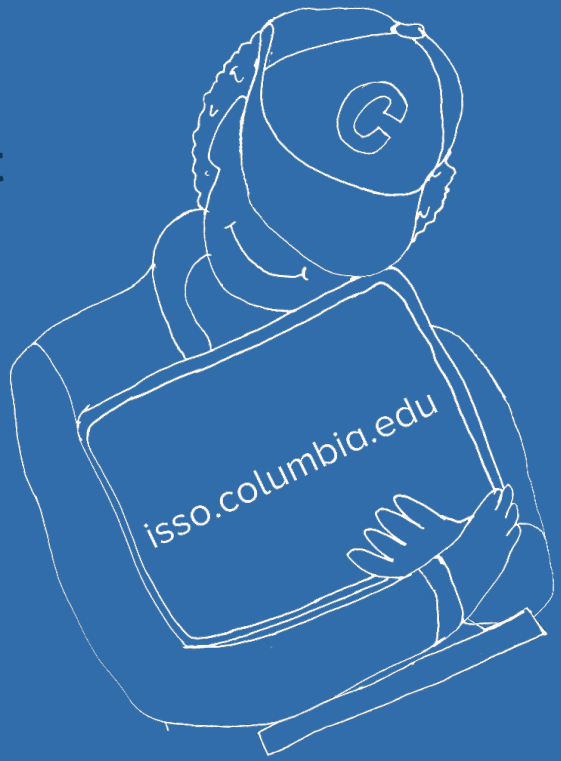
‘Tomorrow’ Recap

- **Working off-campus is possible**
  But under very specific circumstances
- **Yes, you can travel internationally**
  Don’t forget your travel documents
- **Life happens, changes happen**
  Be sure to contact the ISSO

Always
Use the ISSO website

The ISSO website is your new best friend

We worked with user experience designers and content strategists to give you the best possible website.



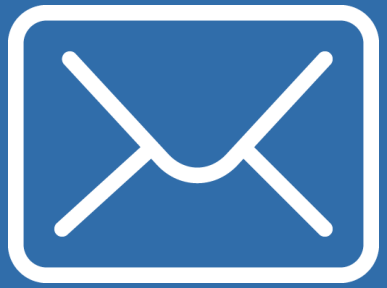
Everything you need is here!

Website Tour

isso.columbia.edu

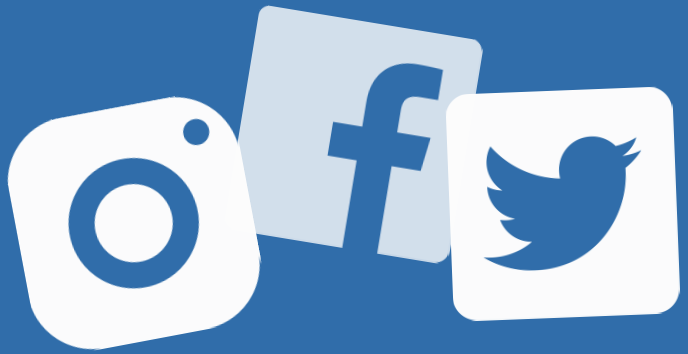
Bookmark me!

Stay Informed



Read
issonews, sent to your CU email address

Attend
our workshops - OPT, Taxes, and more

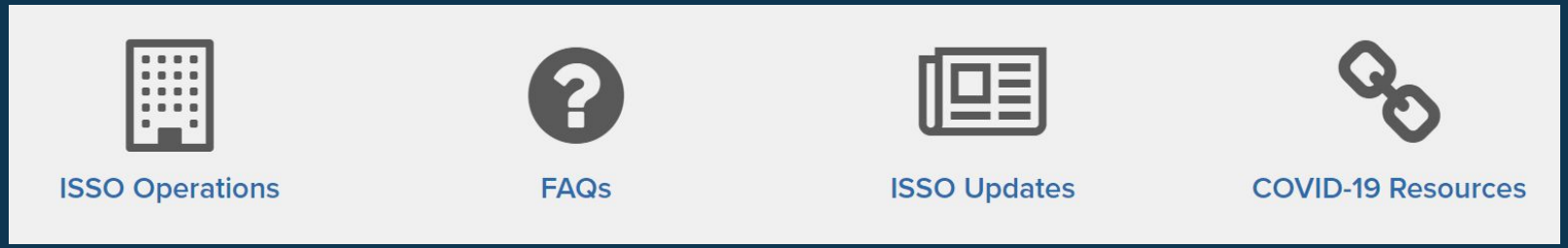


Follow
our Instagram, Twitter + Facebook accounts @ColumbiaISSO

ISSO's Updates and Resources

Current Student FAQs

- Columbia/NY COVID-19 Resources
- COVID-19 Travel Resources
- FAQs
- Video Library



ISSO Contact Information

Email ISSO at isso@columbia.edu

Non-emergency virtual advising book through ISSO website

Call Center for website navigation questions

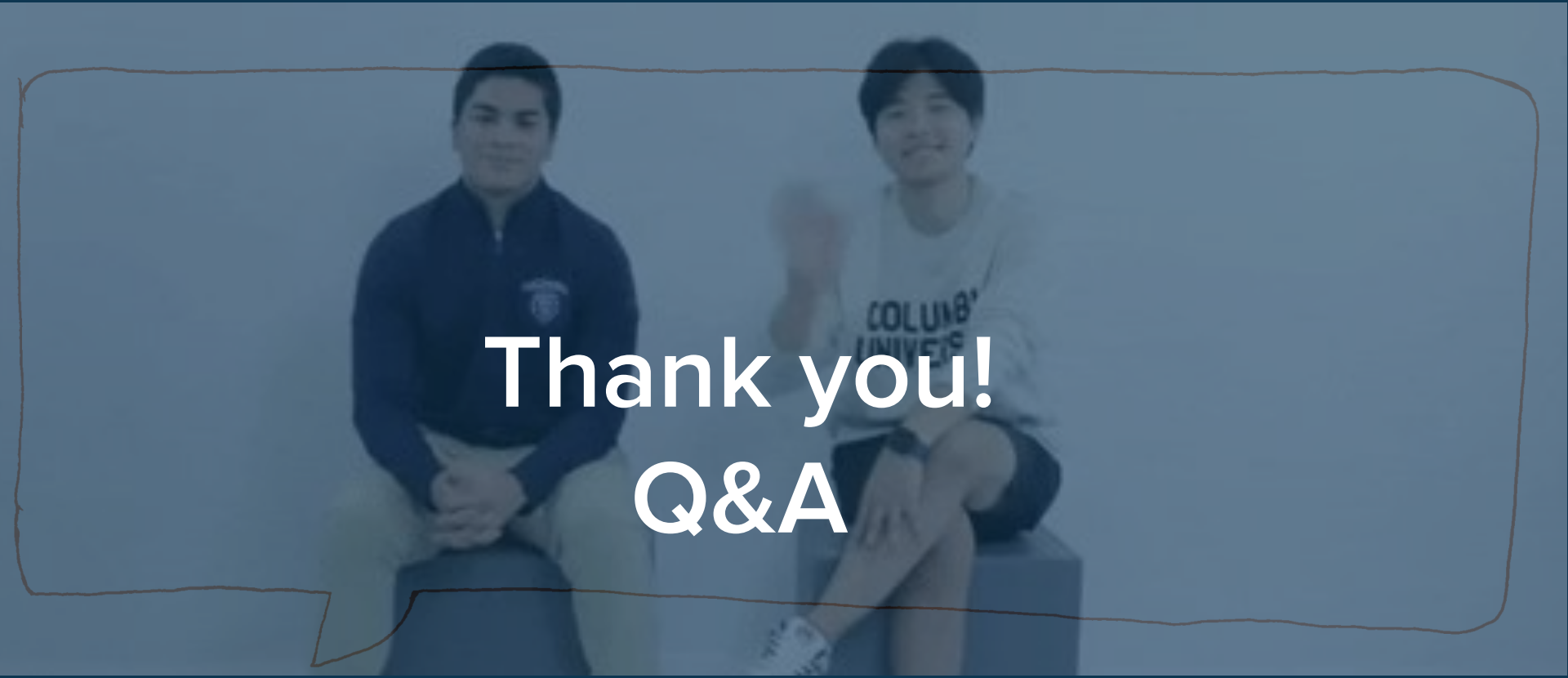
‘Always’ Recap

➔ **Use and trust the ISSO website**

Easily guides you through any and all immigration-related processes

➔ **Avoid problems before they happen**

Read all our emails and stay connected



Thank you!
Q&A

@ColumbiaISSO