

## Useful Resources

U.S. Department of State - Visas  
[usvisas.state.gov](https://usvisas.state.gov)

U.S. Embassies and Consulates  
[usembassy.gov](https://usembassy.gov)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
[cbp.gov/i94](https://cbp.gov/i94)

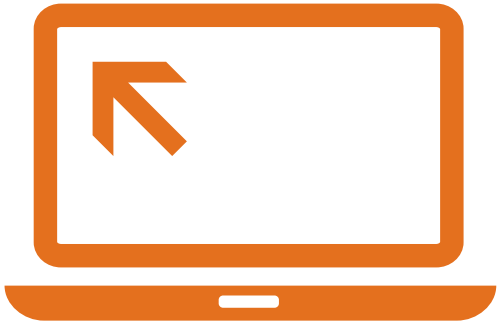
ISSO Travel Info  
[utdallas.edu/isso/travel-outside-us/](https://utdallas.edu/isso/travel-outside-us/)

## International Student Advising

Phone  
**972-883-4189**

Contact an Advisor  
[www.utdallas.edu/ic/issoadvising](https://www.utdallas.edu/ic/issoadvising)

## Renewing Your Visa Stamp



The University of Texas at Dallas  
International Student Services  
800 W Campbell Rd, SSB34  
Richardson, TX 75080-3021  
[utdallas.edu/ic](https://utdallas.edu/ic)



## Visa Renewal

**The visa stamp in my passport will soon expire. Do I need to apply for a new one?**

You need to renew your visa stamp only if you intend to travel and re-enter the U.S. A valid visa is not required to maintain your legal immigration status.

### How can I renew my visa?

You can renew it either in your home country or in a third country. The U.S. Department of State strongly recommends that you apply for visas in your home country. Remember to check the process and requirements for the specific consulate at which you will apply.

- ▶ View a listing of all U.S. consulates at [usembassy.gov](https://usembassy.gov)

### Can I renew my visa in Canada or Mexico?

Renewing your visa in Canada or Mexico can be potentially risky. Please talk to an International Student Advisor before making this decision.

- ▶ Schedule an appointment online at [utdallas.edu/ic/issoadvising](https://utdallas.edu/ic/issoadvising)



## Recommended Checklist

### What documents will I need to take?

- Current I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1) with travel signature
  - Passport valid for at least six months
  - Status verification letter (International Student Services Office)
  - UT Dallas transcripts (Registrar's Office)
  - Proof of financial support (e.g. TA/RA letter, scholarship letter, bank statements, etc.)
  - Proof of ties to your home country (e.g. job prospects, family, land, financial prospects, investments, etc.)
  - Proof of private health insurance
  - Passport-sized photos
  - Application and issuance fee (check the consulate's website for details)
- ▶ For more details, visit [usvisas.state.gov](https://usvisas.state.gov)

### I am currently on OPT. What else will I need to renew my visa?

In addition to the general requirements, you will need to present your EAD card and proof of employment. Also, be prepared to answer questions regarding nonimmigrant intent.



## Automatic Revalidation of Visa

**I plan on traveling to Canada or Mexico. Do I still need to renew my visa?**

You may not need to if you qualify for automatic revalidation.

### What is automatic revalidation?

Automatic revalidation is a benefit allowing certain nonimmigrants to re-enter the U.S. after a 30-day or less trip to Mexico, Canada or adjacent islands other than Cuba without having to obtain a new visa prior to re-entry.

- ▶ For more details, visit [usvisas.state.gov](https://usvisas.state.gov)

### Who is eligible for automatic revalidation?

Most F-1/J-1 students are eligible for automatic revalidation of visa. Only citizens from Syria, Sudan or Cuba are not allowed to re-enter the U.S. at any time with an expired visa stamp

**NOTE:** Automatic revalidation does not apply if a student applies for a visa while outside of the U.S. and is denied.

### Under automatic revalidation, what do I need to re-enter the US?

Required documents may include:

- Current I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1) endorsed for travel
- Valid passport with current or expired visa

**NOTE:** The border official has discretion in allowing automatic revalidation and can deny entry even when all documents are valid.

