EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS THAT ALLOW F-1 PARTICIPATION

- Study Abroad
- Reciprocal Exchange
- Independent Study
- Internships
- Faculty-led Programs

DESCRIPTION OF EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

- **Study Abroad**: Student registers for study abroad courses at UTD, but pursues the courses at an institution abroad
- **Reciprocal Exchange**: Student registers for reciprocal exchange courses at UTD, but pursues the courses at an institution abroad
- **Independent Study**: Student registers for independent study courses at UTD, but pursues the courses at an institution abroad
- **Internship Abroad**: Student registers for internship course at UTD, and fulfills the work assignment abroad (CPT approval not required)
- **Faculty-led Program**: Student registers for a UTD course that includes an international component as part of the curriculum

F-1 ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENT DURING SEMESTER OF EDUCATION ABROAD

**Fall or Spring Education Abroad**

- Full-time enrollment in semester abroad (12 credits for undergraduates, 9 credits for graduate students)
- Only three credit hours can be online or hybrid
- The remaining credit hours must meet physical presence requirement

**Summer Education Abroad**

- Full-time enrollment in semester abroad (9 credits for undergraduates, 6 credits for graduate students) if summer enrollment is required
- Only three credit hours can be online or hybrid
- The remaining credit hours must meet physical presence requirement

**Graduating Semester**

- Enrollment in at least one face-to-face course which runs the entire semester required
- If more than one course is required for graduation only three credit hours can be online or hybrid
Physical Presence Requirement

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<th>Don’t Meet Requirement:</th>
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<td>• Face-to-face</td>
<td>• Online</td>
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<td>• Internship Course</td>
<td>• Hybrid</td>
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**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT FOR F-1 PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION ABROAD**

**Fall or Spring Education Abroad**

- Enrollment in a full-course of study in the U.S. for one academic term prior to semester of education abroad

**Summer Education Abroad**

- Enrollment in a full-course of study in the U.S. for one academic term prior to semester of education abroad

**AUTHORIZED EARLY WITHDRAWAL ALTERNATIVE**

- Students who cannot meet F-1 requirement in semester abroad may consider applying for an Authorized Early Withdrawal by submitting the request form to ISSOdocuments@utdallas.edu
- Student is allowed to suspend F-1 status during semester abroad
- Student may be enrolled at UTD during semester abroad but not an immigration requirement
- Student may return to the same F-1 status if they re-enter U.S. within 5 months
- Student must apply for a new I-20 and F-1 visa if abroad more than 5 months

**PRACTICAL TRAINING CONSIDERATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION ABROAD**

**Impact on CPT and Pre-Completion OPT**

- If approved by ISSO for Education Abroad and meet full-time enrollment requirement semester abroad can be counted towards eligibility for CPT or Pre-Completion OPT

**Impact on Post-Completion OPT**

- May not be eligible for post-completion OPT if participating in Education Abroad in graduating semester for the following reasons:
  - Students outside the U.S. are not in any nonimmigrant status while abroad
  - Student is not residing in the U.S. with a current I-94
  - May not be able to return to the U.S. after program end date.
F-1 CONSIDERATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION ABROAD

Temporary Absence
- F-1 students may be absent from the U.S. for 5 months or less to return to the same status
- This provision does not apply to F-1 students who have been approved for Education Abroad by the ISSO

Reduced Enrollment
- F-1 students approved for Education Abroad, by the ISSO, are not eligible for a Reduced Enrollment Authorization during semester abroad
- Notify ISSO & Education Abroad before you drop a course

Program Extension
- F-1 students are not eligible for an extension of their I-20 based upon approval for Education Abroad
- Keep I-20 end date in mind when considering participating in Education Abroad

TRAVEL CONSIDERATIONS WHILE PARTICIPATING IN EDUCATION ABROAD

Re-Entry to United States
- I-20 with study abroad approval and travel endorsement issued within one year
- Passport valid for 6 months beyond re-entry
- Valid F-1 visa
- Study Abroad Status Verification Letter
- Faculty-led only need travel endorsement and F-1 status verification letter in addition to valid passport and F-1 visa

F-1 Visa Renewal
- Recommended to renew F-1 visa in home country
- May apply for F-1 visa in third country
- Check with the U.S. Embassy or Consulate you plan to visit
- Leave plenty of time for unexpected visa delays
- All applicants must participate in an in-person interview
APPLICATION PROCESS FOR EDUCATION ABROAD APPROVAL

- Obtain international travel authorization by completing all application and required documents through Education Abroad
- Submit a Travel Endorsement Request through iComet.utdallas.edu to receive your study abroad I-20 (can apply remotely).
- Submit a Service Letter Request through iComet.utdallas.edu to receive your study abroad letter (can apply remotely).
- Faculty-led only need travel endorsement and status letter in addition to international travel authorization

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on the impact of Education Abroad on your F-1 status and the I-20 approval process:

- E-mail ISSOcurrent@utdallas.edu
- Call 972-883-4189

For more information on Education Abroad programs and the Education Abroad approval process:

- Visit utdallas.edu/ea or utdallas-eaterradotta.com
- E-mail: EducationAbroad@utdallas.edu
- Call: 972-883-4715