ADMISSION INFORMATION FOR STUDENT VISA HOLDERS

International Student Representatives

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Admissions Office 706-771-4028 www.augustatech.edu
1300 Building 3200 Augusta Tech Dr. Augusta, GA 30906
Dear International Student,

Thank you for your interest in applying to Augusta Technical College. The Admissions Office is available to answer your questions regarding admission, visa issues and orientation to the college. We strive to make the admissions process as easy as possible and look forward to serving you during your entire educational experience at our institution.

Sincerely,

Admissions Office

Important Information:

- Technical College will NOT accept faxed or photocopies as official documents.
- About tuition payments: Please be aware Augusta Technical College does not offer payment plans. Tuition and fees must be paid in full by the posted payment deadline to avoid your classes being dropped.
CHECKLIST FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSIONS

The following information is for prospective students who live outside the United States who wish to apply for admission to enroll in a diploma program (only) at Augusta Technical College (www.augustatech.edu) and obtain an M-1 student visa, good for one year of study prior to return to home country.

- Complete admission application www.augustatech.edu & $25.00 fee.
- See college catalog for current academic programs of study (Diploma Only).
- Submit a copy of passport biography pages.

Evaluations of international transcripts or diplomas

Submit translated and evaluated transcript(s) from your high school/secondary school (or GED) and all college(s) attended by the deadline. Applicants with a college degree are not required to submit a high school or GED transcript. NOTE: All transcripts from schools outside the U.S. must be evaluated by an approved evaluation service. The evaluation must be requested by the student. We recommend the following evaluation agencies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Josef Silny &amp; Associates, Inc.</th>
<th>Lisano International</th>
<th>World Education Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7101 SW 102 Avenue Miami, FL 33173</td>
<td>P.O. Box 407 Auburn, AL. 36831-0407</td>
<td>Bowling Green Station P.O. Box 5087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: (305) 273-1616</td>
<td>Telephone: (334) 745-0425</td>
<td>New York, NY 10274-5087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: (305) 273-1338</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:LisanoINTL@AOL.com">LisanoINTL@AOL.com</a></td>
<td>Telephone: 212-966-6311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@jsilny.com">info@jsilny.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:info@wes.org">info@wes.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:
High school/secondary transcripts should be evaluated by the document by document evaluation method. Students with college credit or a degree from a college or university outside the United States must submit a course by course evaluation of the transcript.

English Proficiency and Test Scores

- ACCUPLACER placement test if the student is in the United States OR SAT (Reading 460, Math 440)
- TOEFL (Paper based 500, Computer based 173, or internet based 61) or IELTS (5.5) if student is applying outside the U.S.

Submit official scores from one of the following placement tests taken within the last five years: SAT, ACT, or COMPASS. Also, if English is NOT your first language, submit official score of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A score of Paper based 500, Computer based 173, or internet based 61) on TOEFL is required.

Revised 3/8/2016
Financial Documentation

✓ Student or sponsor must provide 2 Original bank statement dated within last 3 months showing minimum of $20,064.00 USD with supporter’s name (Add $4,500 per dependent). Bank contact information and telephone number printed clearly. Financial documentation must be dated within the last three months.

✓ Affidavit of Support or Letter of Support. Sponsors must complete the Form I-134 Affidavit of Support and have it properly notarized.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Augusta Technical College will not accept faxed documents or photocopies as official. To be considered official, transcript evaluations and test scores must be provided by the evaluation service or testing agency; financial documentation must be provided by financial institution or properly notarized.

Submit original financial documentation as required by the U.S. government.

- The school estimates that it will cost you $20,064.00 USD to study at Augusta Technical College for one academic year. One academic year equals 2 academic semesters or 8 months.

- Estimated cost for one academic year (U.S. Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Fees (estimated cost)</td>
<td>$9,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books (estimated cost)</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Expenses (estimated cost)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL (estimated cost)</td>
<td>$20,064.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Estimated cost for one semester (U.S. Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition for 12 semester hours</td>
<td>$4,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>$260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Expenses</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL (estimated cost)</td>
<td>$10,032.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transfer of student visa holder (from a U.S. Institution)

- Transfer Form
- I-20 from previous institution(s)

Transfer Students. If you are currently attending a college or university in the United States and wish to transfer to Augusta Technical College, notify your school’s International Office of your desire to transfer. Ask a representative from your current school to contact the one of the DSO’s or PDSO at Augusta Technical College. The notification procedure is important to the process of transferring your SEVIS records and the maintenance of your student status. Follow all admission procedures previously listed. (See Attachment 1 for further instructions)

Change of Status

Change-of-Status. Students who need change-of-status or adjustment of immigration status to comply with government regulations should contact your school’s International Student Advisor for advisement. The office can assist the student with the change-of-status process and/or issue documents that enable the student to apply for a student visa.

You may have to change your nonimmigrant status if you are already in the United States on a valid nonimmigrant visa for a purpose other than attending school, such as for tourism, and are interested in studying at a U.S. school.

You have two options:

- Leave the United States and follow the same process that you would if you were applying to come to the United States from your home country to study:
  - Apply to and receive acceptance from an SEVP-certified school
  - Receive a new initial Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status" from your designated school official (DSO)
  - Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee
  - Apply for a visa to travel to the United States
  - Return to the United States to begin your studies.
- Remain in the United States and submit an application with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to change your nonimmigrant status by following these steps:
  - Apply to and receive acceptance from an SEVP-certified school.
  - Obtain an initial Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status" from the SEVP-certified school. The DSO should give change of status in the Issue Reason section of the Form I-20.
  - Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee.
  - File a Form I-539, “Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status,” with USCIS. Not all nonimmigrant classifications may change status. Read the instructions carefully to ensure that your category is eligible.
  - If you are changing status from B-1/B-2 to F or M student, refrain from enrolling in or beginning your studies until USCIS has approved your change of status. If
USCIS has not adjudicated your change of status at least 15 days before the program start date on your Form I-20, contact the DSO at your new school. You may need to wait to attend (have deferred attendance).

- Enroll in and begin studies while your change of status application is pending if you meet the following conditions:
  - You are eligible to change status
  - You have submitted an application to change to F or M student status
  - You are not currently in the United States on a visa waiver program or on a B-1/B-2, C, D, K, S or V visa
  - Receive from USCIS (if approved), a Form I-797A, "Notice of Action," which will include an updated Form I-94, "Arrival/Departure Record" listing your new status and the day you must depart the United States (which may be either your "admit until" date or the date of your duration of stay).

If USCIS denies your application, be prepared to leave the United States when your current status expires.

If you are an M-1 student, you may not change to another nonimmigrant status while you are in the United States. If you would like to attend school as an F-1 student, you will need to leave the United States, apply to an SEVP-certified school, and receive a new Form I-20. You will also need to apply for a new visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate, if applicable. (See Attachment #4 for restrictions and important information)
Upon Arrival at Augusta Technical College. (After Acceptance)

✔️ I-20 from Augusta Technical College
✔️ I-94
✔️ Passport visa

Obtaining a Student Visa. When all academic and visa requirements are met, follow these steps to obtain a student visa:

- Obtain Form I-20 and a letter of acceptance from Augusta Technical College.
- Pay SEVIS I-901 Fee. Currently the SEVIS fee to obtain an F, M, or J visa is $200.00. Fee must be paid prior to the visa appointment with the U.S. Embassy. For payment options and further information, visit [http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/). Student is required to bring a copy of the SEVIS fee payment receipt (showing proof of payment) to the visa interview.
- Find the U.S. Embassy closest to your home at [http://www.usembassy.gov/](http://www.usembassy.gov/). Check the consular site to see if there are any special instructions for the consulate you will be visiting.
- Make an appointment with the embassy for the visa interview.

Arrival Information. At the port-of-entry to the U.S., the student will be interviewed again and the Arrival/Departure Form I-94 will be issued. The earliest date of entry into the U.S. that is allowed is typically 30 dates prior to the start date indicated on your Form I-20. The student will not be allowed entry into the U.S. beyond the start date. The student is required to make an appointment (telephone: 706-771-4028) with Augusta Technical College’s Admissions Office after arrival in Augusta to complete U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service requirements. An international student orientation will be provided before the term begins.
INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

Admissions Office is the resource center for international students to obtain information and student services that are specific to international students. Questions concerning international admissions, visa advisement and documents, orientation/ international student programs, and any other issue related to the international student can be addressed to:

Kittie Clark, Admissions Assistant  kclark@augustatech.edu
Quentin White, Admission/ Recruitment Specialist  quentin.white@augustatech.edu
Alyssa Lloyd, Admissions/ Recruitment Specialist  alyssa.lloyd@augustatech.edu
Christine Ball, Director of Admissions  cball@augustatech.edu

All International admission documents should be sent to:

Augusta Technical College
Attn: Admissions Office
3200 Augusta Tech Dr.
Augusta, GA 30906 USA

Admission status of an applicant cannot be determined until the Admissions Office has received all official documentation, and the Admissions Office has approved documents for admission.

HOUSING INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Augusta Technical College does not maintain student housing. Below are resources to help you locate living quarters in Augusta.

www.apartment.com
www.apartmentfinder.com
www.rent.com
www.promove.com

Augusta Technical College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees. Augusta Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability.
Attachment 1  Transferring to Another School

If you are an F or M student studying in the United States, you may be eligible to transfer to a new school.

To be eligible to transfer, you must consistently maintain F or M status and follow the correct transfer procedures. To maintain your status at your current school, you must continue attending all of your classes while you are waiting to transfer. For an F student, that is until your transfer release date. Your transfer release date is the day on which the designated school official (DSO) at your current school moves responsibility for your Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) record to your new school. For an M student, that is until you have submitted an application for approval to transfer. In most cases, M students may only transfer within the first six months of their program.

If your DSO believes you may not have maintained your F or M status, your SEVIS record could be in Terminated status, which is the DSO’s way of reporting a concern to the Student and Exchange Visitor Program. You may still be able to transfer in Terminated status. Talk to your current DSO and a DSO at the new school if you want to transfer with a terminated record.

If you have employment authorization and are in the process of transferring to a new school, talk to your current DSO about how your transfer will affect your employment authorization. You may continue authorized work at your current school until the transfer release date in SEVIS, but all work authorization ends after that date. After you transfer to your new school, talk to your DSO about employment options at that school.

Instructions for Transferring to Another School as an M-1 Student

An M-1 student may only transfer programs within the first six months of arriving in the United States. The only exception to this is if you are unable to stay at a school because of circumstances beyond your control, such as if a school closes.

An M-1 student may transfer under the following conditions:

- Within six months of your arrival in the United States or, if you changed to M-1 status from another nonimmigrant classification, within six months of the change
- If your documentation confirms that you are an M-1 student
- You remain engaged in a full course of study at your current school
- You plan to pursue a full course of study at your new school
- You are financially able to attend the new school
- You are continuing with the same educational objective

Revised 3/8/2016
The M-1 transfer process is as follows:

- **Apply and gain admission to another Student and Exchange Visitor Program-certified school** that accepts M students in the same educational objective.

- Tell your current designated school official (DSO) your plans to transfer, and provide the name of the transfer-in school and proof of acceptance by them. The DSO at your current school must change your Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) record to “transfer-out” status.

- After this change, the DSO at your transfer-in school can generate and print a new Form I-20, “Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (M-1) Student Status.” If the SEVIS record at your current school is in Terminated status, the DSO at your transfer-in school will need to recommend you for reinstatement on the Form I-20.

- Submit your request for approval to transfer with a Form I-539, “Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status” and your new Form I-20 (signed by the transfer-in DSO and you) to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

- If USCIS approves your transfer application, they will endorse the name of the new school on your Form I-20 and return it.

To be eligible to transfer, you must continue attending all of your classes at your current school while you are waiting to transfer. For an M student, that is until you have submitted you Form I-539 application for approval to transfer. While your application is pending, you must enroll at the new school at the next available session. It is important to maintain your status while waiting for USCIS adjudications.
Can I work while I have M-1 status?

Practical Training for M Students

M-1 students are not eligible for employment during their program of study, but may obtain authorization for practical training employment. You may participate in practical training employment after the completion of your vocational program.

If you want to participate in practical training employment in the United States, talk with your DSO about your options. Practical training employment requires your DSO’s recommendation and authorization from USCIS.

If you choose to work without authorization, you will be forced to leave the United States immediately. You may not be able to re-enter the United States at a later date.
Upon Program Completion

M students must take action to maintain legal status or depart the United States after completing your program of study.

Once you complete your program of study and any authorized period of practical training, F students have 60 days after completion of your program (the program end date on your Form I-20) to leave the United States. If you wish to extend your stay in the United States, talk with your DSO to learn more about doing one of the following:

- Transfer to another school.
- Apply to change status to another visa status (e.g. H-1B-temporary worker; O-extraordinary ability in science, art or business; P-athlete).

M students have 30 days after completion of their program (the program end date on your Form I-20) to leave the United States. The latest date you may remain in the United States is the “admit until” date on your Form I-94, “Arrival/Departure Record,” unless you filed for an extension with USCIS.
Nonimmigrant visas are issued to foreign nationals who intend to remain in the United States for a temporary (less than permanent) period. The period varies for different nonimmigrant categories. There are more than 40 nonimmigrant U.S. visa categories; each is used for a different, but very specific purpose. For example, some authorize temporary employment in the United States; others permit tourists to visit, students to study, and diplomats to serve their home country’s interests in the United States.

We understand that plans can change. If your original reason for coming to the United States changes, you may be required to change your nonimmigrant status to a different one before you lawfully begin to engage in the activities you want to pursue. This guide contains information on how to apply for a change from your current nonimmigrant status to another nonimmigrant status while you are in the United States.

How do I know if I am eligible to change my status in the United States?

You may apply to change your status in the United States if you:

- Were lawfully admitted into the United States as a nonimmigrant;
- You have not committed any act that would make you ineligible to receive an immigration benefit;
- There is no other factor that requires you to depart the United States prior to making a reentry based on a different classification (for example, a USCIS officer may determine that you should obtain a new visa prior to being readmitted into the United States); and
- You submit an application for a change of status by mail or you can file online using USCIS ELIS for a change of status before the expiration date as shown on the admission stamp in your travel document on your Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record. (There are certain very limited circumstances under which USCIS will excuse a late submission.)

Please note: Your passport must be valid for your entire requested period of stay in the new nonimmigrant classification in the United States.

How do I know if I am not eligible to change my status in the United States?

If you were admitted in any of the following nonimmigrant categories, you cannot change your nonimmigrant status and must depart the United States:

- C (Alien in Transit)
- D (Crewman)
- K-1 or K-2 (Fiancé(e) or Dependent of Fiancé(e))
- K-3 or K-4 (Certain Husbands and Wives of U.S. Citizens and their Dependent Children)
- S (Witness or Informant)
- TW2V (Transit without Visa)
- WT or WB (Under the Visa Waiver Program)

If you were admitted in any of the following nonimmigrant categories, there are certain restrictions concerning your ability to request a change in your nonimmigrant status:

- J-1 (Exchange Visitor subject to the 2-year foreign residence requirement cannot change status, with certain exceptions)
- M-1 (Vocational student cannot change status to F-1; if the student qualifies for the H classification--if the vocational training helped him or her qualify for the H classification)

Please note: If you are in any of the above categories, you must depart the United States on or before the date your I-94 expires.

How do I apply to change my nonimmigrant status?

Application procedures depend on the nonimmigrant status to which you want to change.
• Employment-Based Categories:
  If you want to change your status to one of the following employment-based nonimmigrant categories, your prospective employer should file a Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker, before your Form I-94 expires. The Form I-129 serves two purposes to establish that:
  – You will be performing the type of work covered by the new nonimmigrant classification for the petitioner; and
  – You personally meet the requirements for changing your status. You cannot begin work in the new classification until we approve the change of status.
  E-1 and E-2 (Treaty Traders, Treaty Investors, and Employees of Treaty Traders and Treaty Investors)
  E-3 (Skilled Professionals from Australia)
  H-1B, H-2A, H-2B, or H-3 (Temporary Skilled or Unskilled Workers and Trainees)
  L-1A or L-1B (Intra-company Transferees)
  O-1 or O-2 (Aliens with Extraordinary Ability and Their Assistants)
  P-1, P-2, or P-3 (Athletes and Entertainers)
  Q-1 (International Cultural Exchange Visitors)
  R-1 (Religious Workers)
  TN-1 or TN-2 (Canadians and Mexicans under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA))

  Each of the above categories has specific requirements and limits, including limits on the length of stay in this country. For more information, contact the employer who has offered you temporary employment or qualified immigration counsel.

  Please note: If your prospective employer files a Form I-129 to change your status, and your spouse or unmarried children under age 21 also want to change status to remain as your dependents, they need to file a Form I-539, Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status. Note that they can all be included on one I-539. It is best to file both the I-129 and I-539 forms together so that they can be adjudicated at the same time. Remember, though, that they are separate applications. Therefore, you and your family members (and your employer) must follow the instructions and file all supporting documents with each application, even when filing forms together.

• Other Categories:
  If you wish to change your status to one of the following nonimmigrant categories, you should file Form I-539:
  A (Diplomatic and Other Government Officials, Immediate Family members, and Employees)
  B-1 and B-2 (Visitors for Business or Pleasure)
  E-1 and E-2 (Dependents of Treaty Traders, Treaty Investors, and Their Employees)
  E-3 (Dependents of Skilled Professionals from Australia)
  F (Academic Students and Dependents)
  G (Foreign Government Officials, Certain Immediate Family Members, and Employees)
  H-4 (Dependents of Temporary Skilled or Unskilled Workers and Trainees)
  L-2 (Dependents of Intra-company Transferees)
  M (Vocational Students and Dependents)
  N (Parents and Children of Certain People Who Have Been Granted Special Immigrant Status)
  NATO (NATO Representatives, Officials, Employees, and Immediate Family Members)
  O-3 (Dependents of Aliens with Extraordinary Ability and Their Assistants)
  P-4 (Dependents of Athletes and Entertainers)
  R-2 (Dependents of Religious Workers)
  TD (Dependents of Canadians and Mexicans under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA))

  Please note: All family members (spouse and unmarried children under 21) who are requesting the exact same change in nonimmigrant category can be included on one Form I-539. Remember to submit all required supporting documents with your application.

Can I file my Form I-539, Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status, using USCIS ELIS?
  Certain applicants can now apply online for an extension of their nonimmigrant stay or a change of status to another nonimmigrant category using USCIS ELIS. USCIS ELIS is a user-friendly system created to streamline the application process. It allows you to create an account and file for benefit requests online. USCIS ELIS is a comprehensive end-to-end system that allows the applicant to electronically file a benefit request, upload and submit evidence, make payments, receive notifications from USCIS, and manage account information.

  USCIS will add additional benefit types to USCIS ELIS in future releases. In the first release of USCIS ELIS, you can file a Form I-539, Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status. To determine if you are eligible to file a benefit request in USCIS ELIS, please see the chart following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you want to...</th>
<th>and you...</th>
<th>then...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extend status...</td>
<td>are currently a...</td>
<td>you can file in USCIS ELIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-1, B-2, F-1, M-1, O-2, or M-2,</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

  Exceptions:
  • Students in the F-1 classification who received a datumspecific visa that requires completion of a given course of study within a specific time can extend status, if eligible for an extension, in USCIS ELIS.
  • Other F-1s are admitted for the duration of their status and should contact their Designated School Official to extend status.

C1—I am a nonimmigrant... How do I change to another nonimmigrant status?
M-577B (October 2013) N

Revised 3/8/2016
If you want to... and you... then...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change status</th>
<th>want to become always B-1, B-2, F-1, F-2, J-1, J-2, M-1 or M-2</th>
<th>you can file in USCIS ELIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Exceptions

- M-1 vocational students who are seeking to transfer to another school are considered to be seeking an extension of status.
- An M-1 student may not change status to an F-1 student.

If you want to... and you... then...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reinstatement status</th>
<th>previously were always F-1, F-2, M-1 or M-2</th>
<th>you can file in USCIS ELIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Exception

The spouse or child of a person in F-1 or M-1 status may also be included in the principal applicant's benefit request.

For more information about how to file using USCIS ELIS, please visit our Web page at www.uscis.gov/uscis-elig.

Can I get a change of status if my authorized stay in my current status has already expired?

If your status expired before you filed an application with USCIS to change your status, or if you have otherwise violated the terms of your status (such as by working without authorization), then you are "out of status." If you fall out of status, we cannot change your status except in certain limited circumstances beyond your control. Staying longer than the period for which you were granted admission may also negatively affect your ability to obtain other benefits or to return to the United States later. If you fall out of status, we recommend that you leave the United States to limit the possible impact on your ability to come back to the United States in the future.

Please note: Filing using USCIS ELIS is a simple and fast way to file.

When should I file, and how long will it take to process my application?

Our processing times can vary. You may check our Web site, www.uscis.gov, for our current processing times. We recommend that you apply at least 45 days before your 1-94 expires.

If I am eligible for a change of status and file on time, will my application be approved?

A change in status is not automatic. We will look at your situation, your current status, the reasons you want to change your status, and the reasons you did not apply for this kind of visa before you first entered. Then we will decide whether or not to grant your application. If we grant it, we will also determine how long to extend your stay in the new nonimmigrant status. We will only grant a change of status for a reason that is consistent with the terms of the requested status, or where circumstances indicate a change is warranted.

When can I engage in the activities under the new nonimmigrant status for which I am applying?

You may do so only after we approve your application for change of status.

What if I file for change of status on time but USCIS does not make a decision before my 1-94 expires?

Your lawful nonimmigrant status ends and you are out of status when your Form I-94 expires, even if you have timely applied to change your nonimmigrant status. Generally, as a matter of discretion, USCIS will defer any removal proceedings until after the petition is adjudicated and USCIS decides your change of nonimmigrant status request. Nevertheless, DHS may bring a removal proceeding against you, even if you have an application for change of status pending.

Even though you are not actually in a lawful nonimmigrant status, you do not accrue "unlawful presence" for purposes of inadmissibility under section 212(a)(9)(B) of the Act, while your change of status application is pending if it was filed prior to the expiration of your Form I-94.

If your application for a change of status is approved, the change of status will relate back to the date your Form I-94 expired, and your status during the pendency of your application will then be considered to have been lawful.

After I file, how can I check the status of my change of status application?

- Filing Paper-based Form I-539
  After you file, we will mail you a receipt. This receipt will provide a number assigned to track your application, as well as the estimated processing time. Your receipt will also give instructions on how you can use this receipt number to check the status of your case on our Web site. You can also use the general information available in the Customer Guide F1, (General Information...How Do I...Know What Services Are Available After I File?)

- Filing Form I-539 online using USCIS ELIS
  When you file using USCIS ELIS, you created an account. You can log back into your account at any time to view the status of your case. You are also able to use your receipt number to check the status of your case on our Web site.
Key Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key USCIS forms referenced in this guide</th>
<th>Form #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrival-Departure Record</td>
<td>I-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonimmigrant Visa Waiver Arrival-Departure Record</td>
<td>I-94W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker</td>
<td>I-129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status</td>
<td>I-539</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other U.S. Government Services—Click or Call

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Information</th>
<th><a href="http://www.usa.gov">www.usa.gov</a></th>
<th>1-800-333-4636</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Immigrants</td>
<td><a href="http://www.welcome.toUSA.gov">www.welcome.toUSA.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Dept. of State</td>
<td><a href="http://www.state.gov">www.state.gov</a></td>
<td>1-202-647-6575</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more copies of this guide, or information about other customer guides, please visit www.uscis.gov/howdoI.

You can also visit www.uscis.gov to download forms, e-file some applications, check the status of an application, and more. It’s a great place to start!

If you don’t have Internet access at home or work, try your local library.

If you cannot find what you need, please call Customer Service at: 1-800-375-5283

Hearing Impaired TDD Customer Service: 1-800-767-1833

Disclaimer: This guide provides basic information to help you become generally familiar with our rules and procedures. For more information, or the law and regulations, please visit our web site. Immigration law can be complex, and it is impossible to describe every impact of every process. You may wish to be represented by a licensed attorney or by a nonprofit agency accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals.

CI—I am a nonimmigrant...How do I change to another nonimmigrant status?
M-577B (October 2013) N
**Attachment #5**

What is the difference in M-1 vs. F-1 Status?

**F&M Student Status: Know the Difference infographic**

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**F-1 International Students**

- Are in an academic program, often with a core academic curriculum
- Are eligible for annual vacation
- Can change their major or program of study
- Can transfer anytime during their program or begin a new program after completing one
- Can work during and after their program of study, with permission
- Can participate in up to four types of work including, on-campus, off-campus for economic hardship, curricular practical training (CPT) and optional practical training (OPT)
- Can remain in the United States for the duration of their program of study
- Can stay in the United States for up to 60 days after their program or OPT end date

**M-1 International Students**

- Are in a vocational program, typically without a core academic curriculum
- Are not eligible for annual vacation
- Cannot change their major or program of study
- Can only transfer in the first six months after arrival and must apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for transfer by filing Form I-539, “Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status”
- Can only work after their program of study ends and with permission
- Can participate in one type of work, practical training (PT), one month for every four months of their program
- Can only remain in the United States for up to one year unless they apply for an extension
- Can stay in the United States for up to 30 days after their program or PT end date

For more information visit StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Maintaining-Your-Status