Full-Time Enrollment
All international students must make normal progress towards their degree in order to maintain legal F-1 or J-1 status in the United States. Failure to make normal progress towards his/her degree will result in considering student to be “out of status” 8 C.F.R 214.2(f)(5)(i). Therefore, we urge all international students to consult with their Academic Advisors and the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) all the time in regard to their academic status and its implication on the immigration status.

Academic Dismissal
If a student is permanently dismissed or suspended during or after the semester, he/she must depart the United States IMMEDIATELY. However, if the student secured permission to withdraw from the University, he/she is allowed 15 days period from the day in which the decision was made to prepare for departure from the United States or to transfer to a another school. If a student appeals the dismissal, he or she may stay in the country until the second/final dismissal decision is made. Therefore, ISSS urges international students who are dismissed or about to be dismissed to appeal the dismissal decision. Graduate students should contact their academic advisor or program director. Undergraduate students should contact the Academic Advising Retention Center located in the Student Success Center, DUC Annex A330. In addition, ISSS urges students who have been dismissed to apply to a new program of study or another school IMMEDIATELY in order to have the SEVIS record transferred out in case of the appeal application is denied. If the appeal is denied, the student must leave the U.S immediately.

Students who plan to attend a different school upon re-entry into the U.S.
An F-1 student, who leaves the U.S. and has transferred to a new school while in the U.S. does not need to have a U.S. Consulate or Embassy indicate on the F-1 visa stamp the name of the new school which the student will be attending. This is applicable provided the student’s F-1 visa stamp has not expired and the student presents an I-20 from the new school to the USCIS officer at the U.S. port of entry. If the F-1 visa stamp has expired, the student must apply for a new F-1 visa.
Instructions for Dismissed International Students

If you are academically dismissed, ISSS must, by federal law, terminate your SEVIS record IMMEDIATELY after the date in which the dismissal letter was issued. Once your SEVIS record is terminated, you will be considered to be “Out of Status” and you must leave the U.S. immediately or request reinstatement from the Department of Homeland Security.

If you are in the United States, you MUST do one of the following:

1. Depart the United States immediately

   OR

2. Appeal the dismissal decision IMMEDIATELY even if you think there is no chance for the appeal to be approved. Meanwhile, complete the following steps:

   a- Apply to a new program of study or another school to secure admission as soon as possible.
   b- Request the Transfer in iStART by submitting the Transfer-Out E-form.
   c- After you secure admission to another school, bring a copy of your new admission letter to ISSS and request a transfer of your SEVIS record to the new school.

If you are outside the United States, you MUST:

1. Appeal the dismissal decision IMMEDIATELY even if you think there is no chance for the appeal to be approved. Meanwhile, complete the following steps:

   a. Apply to a new program of study or another school to secure admission as soon as possible.
   b. Request the Transfer in iStART by submitting the Transfer-Out E-form.
   c. After you secure admission to another school, scan or fax a copy of your admission letter to ISSS and request a transfer of your SEVIS record to the other school.
   d. ISSS will transfer your SEVIS record to the other school.
   e. Re-enter the U.S. on the new school’s I-20. Your SEVIS number will remain the same.

Our office will be glad to help you with the transfer procedure, so please don’t hesitate to contact us early regarding any concerns or questions.

If your SEVIS record has been TERMINATED, ISSS strongly recommends ONE of the following:

1. Depart the United States immediately.
2. Apply to and secure admission to another school and apply for immigration reinstatement.
3. Exit the States and re-enter on the other school’s I-20.
4. Note: If your visa is not valid, you must renew your visa before re-entering the U.S.