

Travel and Re-Entry Tips

Planning is key. Plan for your trip several weeks ahead of time to ensure you have all required documentation. The ports of entry are stricter now than ever before and will have no tolerance for students who don't have the proper documents.

At the port of entry into the U.S., **be prepared to present the following items:**

1. **A Valid Passport** (valid for at least six months beyond the date you will return to the U.S.)
2. **A Valid F-1 or J-1 Visa.** You must have a valid F-1 or J-1 visa in your passport. Canadian citizens are exempt from U.S. visa requirement. Certain exceptions are made for short trips to Canada and Mexico on an expired visa. Please check with International Services to find out if you are eligible for automatic visa revalidation.

If you entered the U.S. in another nonimmigrant category and changed your status to F-1, you must obtain an F-1 visa from a U.S. embassy or consulate in your country or county of permanent residence before reentering the U.S. It is not possible to obtain a new visa inside the U.S.

3. **A Valid Form I-20 or Form DS-2019.** Make sure that your program of study is still correct and that the date you are expected to complete your program has not expired. Your Form I-20 or DS-2019 **must be signed** by a Designated School Official (DSO) on your campus before you leave the U.S. This signature will be valid for one year (12 months) and can be used for multiple entries. If you need a new reentry signature, take your I-20 or DS-2019 to the DSO on your campus at least **two weeks** before your departure.
4. **Financial Documents.** Carry proof of financial support showing that you have adequate funding for your studies as reflected on the Form I-20 or DS-2019.
5. **Form I-765 Receipt Notice - Form I-797** (for students with pending OPT application)
Employment Authorization Document (EAD) (for students with approved OPT)
6. **Proof of Enrollment:** (not required, but maybe helpful)
 - Current semester's class schedule
 - Copy of your latest transcript

HAVE A SAFE TRIP AND A GREAT TIME!

We look forward to welcoming you back to Webster University.