

Policy: I-20 extension request upon graduation

In order to obtain a program extension upon graduation, the F1 student must have continually maintained status and that the extension is needed for academic reasons, such as a change of major or research topic, unexpected research problems, or a documented illness.

If the F1 student is seeking an extension based on academic reason, our office must receive an e-mail from the academic advisor that states this extension is required for the degree completion before the degree completion date.

The following are not valid reasons for I-20 extensions:

- To enroll in extra courses or repeat the same course for personal interest or to improve one's GPA
- To engage in research on or off-campus
- To finish pending coursework for an incomplete grade
- To engage in non-required Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
- To enroll in coursework delayed by participation in non-required CPT
- An I-20 which has already passed the program end date cannot be extended.

I-20 will be completed on the graduation date noted in the UTC catalog if we do not receive a note from your academic advisor. Please take a necessary step to extend your study, if your program requires to take extra courses toward the graduation. Otherwise, you have 60 days to leave the US, transfer to another school, start another degree level at UTC, or apply for OPT.