

## Maintaining Lawful Status

Now that you have entered the United States as a nonimmigrant student in F-1 or J-1 status you must meet certain obligations in order to maintain your lawful status. You **MUST**:

1. Always remain enrolled as a full-time student. Full-time at UMaine means:

Undergraduate Students	=	12 credit hours*
Graduate Students	=	6 credit hours*,**
IEI Students	=	2 classes each session

Online courses: no more than 3 credits of online courses can count toward full time enrollment.

2. Always keep your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019 current. If you plan to continue studying in the US beyond the expiration date of your Form I-20 (F-1 students) or in item #3 of your DS-2019 (J-1 students), you must apply for a program extension at OIP. **Note:** You remain in student status 60 days beyond the day you complete your program if you are an F-1 student; 30 days if you are a J-1 student.
3. Ask the Office of International Programs (OIP) to complete the transfer procedures if you are transferring to UMaine from another school. If you plan to transfer out to another school, you must tell OIP the name of the school you plan to transfer to and follow other transfer procedures. Consult an OIP advisor.
4. Never work off-campus without authorization from OIP and/or the Immigration Service.
5. Limit employment, both on-campus and off-campus, to a total of 20 hours per week while school is in session unless otherwise authorized by OIP or the Immigration Service.
6. Have a valid passport at all times.
7. You **MUST** update the “mailing address” field in MaineStreet within 10 days of your change of residential address.

\* Students in their final semester may enroll in less than a full course load. Other exceptions may apply, please see an OIP Advisor for details, before dropping below full time enrollment.

\*\* Ph.D. students who have finished all required course work and have been admitted to candidacy need only enroll for a minimum of 1 credit to be considered full-time.