



EMERGENCY TRAVEL ISSUES FOR CONTINUING F-1 STUDENTS

What to Do if Returning to the US with Missing or Incomplete Documents

For detailed F-1 travel instructions, go to <http://iss.uoregon.edu/immigration/travel>

→ **I forgot / lost / cannot find my I-20! Can I return to the US?**

→ **I have my I-20, but forgot to get a travel signature before I left (or: My travel signature is more than one year old – I forgot to get a new signature before I left)! Can I return to the US?**

- Send an e-mail to the Office of International Affairs at intl@uoregon.edu. Please be sure to include your full name, UOID number, and travel dates in your e-mail.
- If there is enough time (at least 7 business days), we will send you a replacement I-20 with a valid travel signature. You will need to request express mail service for delivery of your replacement document (see “Frequently Asked Questions” for instructions). To reduce the possibility of delay, we will not send documents overseas by international air mail.
- If there is not enough time to receive an original I-20 by express mail before you are expected to return (less than 7 business days), we can send you an enrollment verification letter by e-mail. You can also print out a copy of your UO transcript and class registration for the upcoming term, to show that you are a student at the University of Oregon. When you arrive in the United States, ask the US Customs and Border Protection officer to issue “**Form I-515A**” to you. This form will allow you to enter the US for thirty (30) days, during which time you must check in with the Office of International Affairs (see “Frequently Asked Questions” section)
- *Due to US government restrictions, we cannot send you an I-20 by e-mail or by fax.*

→ **I lost my passport! Can I return to the US?**

→ **My F-1 visa is expired! Can I return to the US?**

- **No.** A valid passport and a valid F-1 visa are required to re-enter the US. If you do not have one or both of these documents, you will need to delay your return trip until you can get a new passport and/or visa. (Exception: Canadian citizens are exempt from the visa requirement.)
- Depending on how long the delay in getting a new passport and/or visa will be, you may also need to take a temporary leave of absence if you cannot return in time to start classes in the new term.
- If you need to delay your return to the US, send an e-mail to the Office of International Affairs at intl@uoregon.edu. Include your name and UOID number in your message.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

→ **Can you e-mail or fax my I-20 to me?**

Due to US government restrictions, we cannot e-mail or fax your I-20 to you. We can only send you original documents.

→ **What is “Form I-515A” and how does it help me to re-enter the US?**

Form I-515A is a form that a US Customs and Border Protection officer can give you if you arrive in the US without all of your required documents. Common examples include returning to the US without an I-20, or with an I-20 that is missing a valid travel signature. The officer must still be convinced you are a legitimate, full-time student at the UO (For this reason, we recommend that you carry a copy of your course registration or class schedule). If you are given a Form I-515A, you will be allowed to enter the US for thirty (30) days. During this 30-day period, you **MUST** report to the Office of International Affairs so that you can get a new I-20 and have the 30-day restriction removed. **(cont'd back page)**



→ **I took a term off, and have been outside the US for less than 5 months. Can I use my old I-20?**

Maybe. Depending on when you requested a term off and left the US, your I-20 may or may not be valid for re-entry. However, you can reconfirm your I-20's validity by sending an e-mail to intl@uoregon.edu. An advisor will review your SEVIS record and respond to you with further information.

→ **I've been outside of the US for over 5 months. Can I use my old I-20?**

No. For F-1 students, the I-20 is usually no longer valid once you have been outside the US for over five months, unless the reason why you were abroad was to participate in a full-time, UO-approved study abroad program. Contact intl@uoregon.edu immediately for additional information. Include your full name and UO ID number in your e-mail message.

→ **I want my friend to pick up my I-20. How do I arrange this?**

We can release your documents to a friend but only if we have your written permission to do so. You must send an e-mail to intl@uoregon.edu from your UO e-mail account (not your personal account). Include your full name, UO ID number, and your friend's name and UO ID number. Your friend will need to show his/her UO ID Card in order to receive your I-20.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXPRESS MAIL DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS

The University of Oregon uses University Express Mail Service (UEMS) e-ship Global Delivery Service to send documents by express delivery. To request express delivery, complete the following steps. The Office of International Affairs will be notified once you have submitted your express delivery request.

1. Go to <https://study.eshipglobal.com/register/> and complete the Registration form (free)
2. Click on "Receive Documents"
3. Search for "University of Oregon" under University Search. Select "University of Oregon" and click "Continue".
4. Select "Office of International Affairs" and click "Continue"
5. Complete Steps 1 and 2. In Step 2, select Fed Ex or UPS to ensure faster pick-up
6. Complete Step 3: Payment Confirmation

REMEMBER TO CARRY THESE DOCUMENTS WHEN RETURNING TO THE US

- Unexpired passport valid at least six months into the future on date of re-entry
- Unexpired F-1 visa
- Valid I-20 with travel signature no more than one year old on date of re-entry
- Proof of payment of I-901 SEVIS fee (see <http://www.fmjfee.com>)
- Copies of financial documents
- *Recommended:* transcript or printout of class schedule for upcoming term

CONTACT International Student and Scholar Services

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) is open year-round except for weekends and University holidays. To contact an international student advisor, or to get more information:

Office of International Affairs
Oregon Hall, 3rd Floor
5209 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-5209
USA

Tel: (541) 346-3206
Fax: (541) 346-1232
E-mail: intl@uoregon.edu
Web: <http://issu.uoregon.edu>
Hours: 8AM – 5PM, Mon-Fri

Drop-in Advising: 2pm – 4pm,
Mon – Thurs; 10am – 12pm, Fri

**Closed weekends and official
University holidays**