Changing From F-1 to F-2 Dependent Status

Who is this information for?

• You are already in the US in a valid non-immigrant status
• You have received Form I-20 for F-2 from the University of Oregon
• You have decided to change your status from inside the United States

How do I obtain F-2 dependent status?

• You must apply for a change of status before your current status expires

What are the requirements for obtaining F-2 student status by applying to USCIS?

The main requirements include the following:

• Submission of Form I-539 to USCIS, along with supporting documents and I-539 filing fee ($370)

What happens after I have obtained F-2 status?

You are required to comply with all F-2 rules once you have changed to F-2 dependent status by travel or by application. These rules include, but are not limited to, the following:

• Maintain an unexpired passport valid at least six months into the future at all times
• Principal F-1 must maintain an unexpired I-20
• Principal F-1 must maintain F-1 status

Change of Status Application – Basic Steps

**Step 1:** Meet with an international student advisor in the Division of Global Engagement to request an F-2 dependent I-20.

• Call 541-346-3206 to make an appointment

**Step 2:** Prepare your I-539 Application Packet

• Make a copy of your complete application packet for your records

☐ Completed and signed USCIS Form I-539 (download from [http://www.uscis.gov/i-539](http://www.uscis.gov/i-539))
☐ Completed USCIS Form G-1145 (download from [http://www.uscis.gov/g-1145](http://www.uscis.gov/g-1145))
☐ $370 filing fee paid by check or money order and made payable to: U.S. Department of homeland security.

☐ Copy of signed F-2 I-20 (keep original). Remember to have the primary F-1 print his/her name, sign his/her name, and date the original I-20 before making a copy.

☐ Proof of financial support showing that the primary F-1 is able to support the dependent F2 financially. Copies of recent bank statements, scholarship, and employment offers are acceptable.

☐ Letter of explanation that briefly explains why you would like to change status to F-2.

☐ Marriage certificate

☐ Photocopies of your immigration documents:
   ☐ ID page of passport (passport should be valid at least six months into the future)
   ☐ Most recent I-94 record (print out from http://i94.cbp.dhs.gov)
   ☐ Copy of current F-1 I-20
   ☐ F-1 visa

☐ Photocopies of your spouse's immigration documents:
   ☐ ID page of his/her passport
   ☐ F-1 visa
   ☐ I-20 (this should include the financial support for you as a dependent)
   ☐ I-94 printed out from cbp.gov/I94

**Step 3:** Mail your I-539 Application Packet to US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

U.S. Postal Service: 
USCIS Dallas Lockbox
P.O. Box 660166
Dallas, TX 75266

USPS Express Mail/Courier:
USCIS
2501 S. State Highway 121 Business
Suite 400
Lewisville, TX 75067

**Step 4:** Wait for your I-797 Receipt Notice. Update address information as necessary. Notify ISSS when your application has been approved.

- You should receive a receipt notice within 2-4 weeks after USCIS has received your application. Keep the receipt for your records.
- Once your application has been approved, bring a copy of the official approval notice to the Office of International Affairs.

**SPECIAL NOTES**

- Applications may take 4-6 months or longer to be processed. Please plan ahead!
- Persons whose current status are not based on an UO affiliation are strongly recommended to consult with a qualified immigration specialist or attorney.