

F1 Program Extension

What is a Program Extension?

Immigration regulations require you to file for an extension when you are not able to complete your program of study by the date in **Area 5** that appears on your current Form I-20. **You must apply for a program extension and be issued a new I-20 before your current I-20 expires.**

Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the termination of your F-1 Student Status. International Student Services is required by The Department of Homeland Security to report this information to SEVIS.

How to Apply

1. **Submit a completed Application for F1 Program Extension.** To be eligible for a Program Extension, you and your academic advisor must provide evidence of a compelling academic or medical reason for the delay in completing your program of study:

Academic reason example:

- A change of major
- Academic placement into the ESL program
- Incomplete program requirements (a detailed explanation is required)

A documented medical reason:

- Medical evidence from a licensed medical doctor or mental health professional on official letterhead stating the nature of the illness and the period of time you were ill.

2. **Submit Evidence of Financial Ability.** In order to complete an extension, you must prove your financial capability. You must prove \$20,000 if you need an extension for one full year or \$10,000 if you only need one semester to complete your degree. Your original bank statement is required to be within six months of the date you are requesting for the extension, in English. If you have a spouse, you must prove an additional \$5,000 and \$3,000 for each additional child. If you will have a sponsor, your sponsor must complete the Financial Statement.

If you need to extend your I-20, but do not meet these qualifications, please make an appointment to meet with International Student Services to discuss your options.

Submitting Your Packet

Once you bring in the above materials to International Student Services, it will take an estimated time of **3-5 business days** to review your extension application, and issue a new I-20 if the reason for the extension meets immigration requirements.

Packets that do not include the appropriate financial and academic documentation will not be processed.

Application for F1 Program Extension

Please complete the following section of this form, then visit your Academic Advisor and ask him/her to complete the second section. International Student Services cannot proceed with a program extension until we have received this form, completed, and documentation from you (the student) showing sufficient financial capability to cover the amount of time requested in the extension.

To Be Completed By the Student

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____

RCC ID: _____ **Program of Study:** _____

Date of Expiration of current I-20: _____ **Financial Documents provided: Yes / No**

To Be Completed By Student's Academic Advisor

This form is provided to facilitate the communication of certain information required by US Federal Immigration regulations. Students in F1 status are required to provide this form, completed, in order to qualify for the program extension needed to complete their program of study. If you have any questions about these requirements, or have any questions about this form or the procedure of program extension, please do not hesitate to contact International Student Services at ext. 4193 or international@sunyrockland.edu.

1. To the best of your knowledge, has this student been placed on academic probation or suspension during his/her studies at RCC? YES / NO
2. To the best of your knowledge, this student will complete his/her current program of study and be eligible for graduation by the end of (year/semester) _____.
3. This student has not yet completed his/her current program of study due to:
 - Delay caused by a change in his/her major field of study
 - Delay caused by documented medical problems
 - Delay caused by student requiring ESL
 - Other (please specify): _____

I therefore recommend that this student be allowed additional time to complete his/her studies at RCC

Advisor's Name: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____

Date: _____