

# Welcome to Hampton University!

International Office 757-728-6914
Armstrong-Slater Building, First Floor
Hampton, Virginia

#### Step ONE: Upon arrival



- Effective communication with the International Office is essential to your success as an F-1 student.
- Check-in with the International Office at the beginning of every semester. Make sure that your International Student data sheet is up-to-date.
- Please provide us a copy of your Passport + Visa, I-20, I-94, proof of health insurance and copy of your detailed class schedule for the upcoming semester.
- ❖In order to access the I-94, enter: <a href="https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94">https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94</a>



## The HU Campus Principal Designated School Officials (P/DSO)

- Mrs. Ebony Majeed, DSO: Assists with I-20 questions for international students (<u>ebony.majeed@hamptonu.edu</u>)
- Please contact us for any F-1 student requests, including work authorizations, travel endorsements etc. Please allow 5 days notice to the International Office to process your request.
- Currently, the PDSO is Ms. Angela Boyd, Dean of Admission.
- The PDSO/DSOs are the persons who make changes to your

#### Step TWO: Enrollment

- ❖It is your responsibility to be enrolled in a <u>full course</u> of study at the beginning of every semester (excluding authorized break periods and exceptions with prior authorization).
- Full course of study means:
  - 12 credit hours for undergraduates
  - 9 credit hours for graduates
- ❖ Failure to stay in compliance with academic requirements may violate I-20 rules and impose strict penalties.

## Termination of Your Student Record

- **❖** Absent from country for five months
- Exceeding time allowed for an authorized reduced course load
- Expulsion or suspension
- **❖ Failure to enroll**
- Unauthorized employment
- **❖ Failure to report while on OPT**
- **❖** No show (i.e., missing the mandatory check-in)
- Violating nonimmigrant status

# Changes in CONTACT INFORMATION



You must report address changes to the International Office within 10 days of the change; as well as update your address with USCIS online:

https://egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAInitForm.do

You must maintain a valid phone number and email address; notify us of any change within 10 days.

### Financial Support

- Report changes in financial support to the International Office.
- Financial support includes scholarships, grant funding, government funding, adding a dependent, etc.
- For specific questions regarding your financial support, please contact the Office of Financial Aid.



### Employment



It is imperative that you seek approval from the HUIO before engaging in employment or practical training.

#### Work Authorization

- ❖ F-1 students may not work off-campus during their <u>first</u> <u>academic year</u> (with some exceptions for certain graduates or internships), but may accept <u>on-campus employment</u> subject to certain conditions and restrictions. After the first academic year, F-1 students may engage in five types of off-campus employment:
  - Off-Campus Employment for Severe Economic Hardship
  - Off-Campus Internship with an International Organization
  - Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
  - Optional Practical Training (OPT) (pre-completion or post-completion)
  - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Optional Practical Training Extension (OPT)

### Changes in Study



- Report changes in your program of study to the International Office within 10 days.
- These changes include but are not limited to: changes in your major, expected program end date, and level of study.

# Dropping Below a Full Course of Study

❖You must notify the HUIO before dropping below a full course of study. You may be authorized a reduced course load under certain specific conditions without losing your F-1 status.



### **Program Extension**





#### Traveling

- ❖ Notify the HUIO before traveling outside of the United States.
- ❖ Always make sure to take your <u>original</u> I-20 with you. You must wait to have your most recent I-20 issued and in your hands before leaving the country! You will incur in shipping expenses if HUIO has to mail your I-20 to you while abroad. It is your responsibility to have all proper immigration documents before leaving the U.S. to avoid problems at re-entry.
- ❖ Your I-20 Travel Endorsement line must be signed by the PDSO or DSO.
- You must notify the International Office of spring break, summer, and winter travel plans as soon as possible, but no later than 10 days prior to departure.

## Changes to IMMIGRATION STATUS

- ❖ You must notify the HUIO before changing from a nonimmigrant category to another (e.g. from F-1 to J-1 or H-1B) or change to immigrant status (Green Card).
- Notify us upon approval of an adjustment of status application (receipt of Form I-797)
- Please note that the International Office is not authorized to provide you with legal advice.



# Transferring from Hampton University to Another Institution

- Please notify the HUIO if you intend to transfer to another school prior to leaving campus.
- The PDSO/DSO is only allowed to transfer your HU student SEVIS record to one school; you must provide an acceptance letter from that school to HUIO before we transfer your record.
- ❖If you transferred in to our school from another institution please make sure we are aware of this.



### Dependency Status

- Notify the HUIO about changes in dependent status.
- This includes spouse and children.
- To add an F-2 dependent, complete our application and submit certification of documents and financial support.

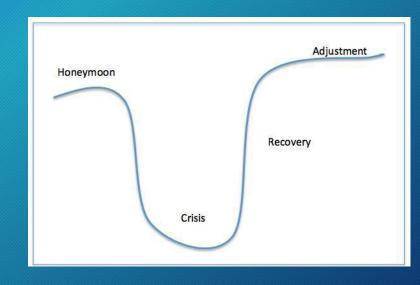


#### Additional Information

- ❖ The HUIO is only providing information involving F-1 international students, J-1 scholars, and H-1B visas for HU faculty members. For any other visa concerns please contact an immigration lawyer.
- Know that it is your responsibility to keep the original versions of <u>each</u> and <u>every</u> one of your I-20s, as these will be necessary for future work/study authorizations or change of immigration status.
- ❖ You are required to set-up an university email address.
- You must check your university email address regularly, as this is our primary form of communication.
- ❖ We will create social events and notify you via email and social media.
- Please add the Hampton University International Office on Facebook and Instagram @HU\_International

# Stages of Cross Cultural Adaptation

- 1. Honeymoon- At this point everything is new and exciting!
- 2. Crisis (Culture Shock)- The differences in culture feel overwhelming.
- 3. Recovery- Beginning to accept the differences and getting more comfortable.
- 4. Adjustment- Interacting with ease in your new environment.



#### Culture Shock

#### Symptoms:

- Changes in eating/sleeping
- Acute homesickness
- > Feeling increasingly irritable, sad or frustrated
- Depression
- Doubting yourself
- Withdrawing from friends or social interests

Student Counseling: 757-727-5617



### Tips for Adjusting

- > Realize this is normal.
- Stay close to your home country, friends and family.
- Practice good self care.
- Make new friends.
- Talk to someone.
- > Get involved on campus and in our community.
- Work on your English language skills.

Remember we are always here for you in the International Office!



#### Local Attractions

- Virginia Air and Space Center
- Fort Monroe
- Peninsula Town Center
- Beaches: Fort Monroe, Buckroe, Grandview Nature Preserve
- Langley Speedway
- Miss Hampton II Harbor Cruises
- Sandy Bottom Nature Park

## Thank you!

