

## I-20 Extension Request Policy for F-1 International Students at UTC

If you are an F-1 visa holder seeking an I-20 extension for academic reasons, the Office of International Student and Scholar Services must receive an email from your academic advisor containing the study plan required for your degree.

***The extension must be requested before the program end date listed on your current I-20. An expired I-20 cannot be extended.***

If ISSS does not receive a timely extension request email from your academic advisor, your I-20 will expire on the graduation date listed in the UTC catalog.

If your program requires you to take extra courses beyond your previously expected graduation date, please plan ahead and take the steps necessary to extend your studies.

The following are NOT valid reasons for an I-20 extension:

- To enroll in extra courses or repeat the same course for personal interest or to improve your GPA
- To engage in research on- or off-campus
- To finish pending coursework for an incomplete grade
- To engage in non-required Curricular Practical Training
- To enroll in coursework delayed by participation in non-required CPT
- Because your I-20 has already expired

Once you have completed your program of studies at UTC, you have a 60-day grace period to remain in the United States beyond the program end date listed on your I-20.

If you wish to remain in the U.S. as an F-1 visa holder after completing your program of studies, the following options exist:

- Start another degree level at UTC, OR
- Transfer to another school, OR
- Apply for Optional Practical Training work authorization.

For more information regarding I-20 extensions, F-1 visa regulations, and other immigration information for international students, please email [international@utc.edu](mailto:international@utc.edu).