

M-1 Extension of Stay Process

If an M-1 student needs more than one year to finish their program or any relevant practical training, that student may work with their designated school official (DSO) to request an extension of stay (8 CFR 214.2(m)(10)).

1. An extension request must be made at least 60 days, but no later than 15 days, from the M-1 student's program end date.
2. M-1 student requests extension from DSO.
3. DSO confirms M-1 student has justification and financial ability for extension.
4. DSO requests program extension in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).
5. DSO prints and signs new Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student States," indicating program extension request.
6. M-1 student applies for program extension with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).
7. While application is pending with USCIS, M-1 student maintains status.
8. USCIS approves or denies program extension.
9. If approved, SEVIS automatically updates M-1 student's record with new program or practical training end date.
10. DSO prints, signs and delivers updated Form I-20 to the M-1 student.
11. M-1 student maintains status for duration of extension.
12. M-1 student departs the United States within 30 days of the new program end date in SEVIS or by the departure date on the student's updated Form I-94, "Arrival/Departure Record," whichever is sooner.

REMEMBER

M-1 students may only request extensions for one year maximum increments, and the cumulative time of extensions that can be granted to an M-1 student is three years (from the student's original start date), plus 30 days.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

M-1 Form I-20 Extension User Guide

<https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/update-records/maintain-student-records/extend-m-1-student-guide>

M-1 Extensions

<https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/m-1-extensions-of-stay>

Form I-539—Application To Extend/ Change Nonimmigrant Status

<https://www.uscis.gov/i-539>

For SEVIS technical questions, call 800-892-4829 or email SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov.

Contact the SEVP Response Center at SEVP@ice.dhs.gov or 703-603-3400 for policy questions.

For more information, visit <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov>.