

International Student Enrollment Requirements

Please note important reminders below when advising international students for course registration. The following must be adhered in order for an international student to remain in status as an F-1 student while studying at Alabama A&M University.

Full Course of Study

In order for an international student to maintain their status as an F-1 student in the United States, the student must enroll in a full course of study at the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified school where the designated school official (DSO) issued the Form I-20 to enter into the United States.

- F-1 undergraduate students must enroll in at least 12 credit hours per fall and spring semester. Enrollment during the summer semester is optional.
- F-1 students in graduate programs must take at least 9 credit hours per fall and spring semester. Enrollment during the summer semester is optional.

Online Courses and Distance Learning

An online, or distance learning, course for the purpose of international student regulations means a course that is primarily offered through technology and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examinations, or other purposes integral to completion of the class.

- **Only one** online or distance learning class can count towards a full course of study for an F-1 student during each semester.

Reduced Course Load

Under certain circumstances, F-1 students may speak with their DSO about enrolling in a reduced course load and still maintain their student status.

- If an F-1 student is having specified initial academic difficulties, a temporary illness or medical condition, or needs fewer courses than a full course load in their last semester to complete the program of study.
- If student needs a reduced course, please encourage the student to speak with their DSO as soon as possible. Students cannot drop below a full course of study unless the DSO approves it and updates the student record in SEVIS.

DSO Contact Information

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UG Students

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Graduate Students