

An I-20/DS-2019 Program Extension is required for students who do not complete their degree program by the completion date specified on the I-20 or DS-2019 form. Students are encouraged to apply as soon as it becomes known they will require additional time to complete.

Those students who fail to apply for a program extension before the completion date listed on the I-20/DS-2019 are considered to be failing to maintain their immigration status in the U.S. and may not be eligible for reinstatement. Plan ahead and see an advisor at the IO with any additional questions.

Eligibility

Students must meet one of the following eligibility criteria to apply for an I-20/DS-2019 Program Extension:

- Change in Academic Major;
- Change in Research Topic;
- Unexpected Difficulty with Research;
- Documented Medical Illness; and/or
- Documented Family Emergency.

Required Documentation

- Letter from students' academic advisor explaining need for extension, any special circumstances, and the amount of time required for completion of degree program.
- Financial documentation reflecting adequate funds to support living expenses and tuition for the additional time required to complete.

Note: Graduate students who are currently funded may request their advisor include funding details in the extension request letter.

Procedure

- Collect and submit required documentation to assigned IO advisor.