Dear International Students,

We are so glad you are here at UNT! While things may look different this year, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) wants to ensure that you have a successful semester. To do this, PLEASE be aware of the immigration laws that will affect you during your time here.

Please read carefully through the following information and contact our office if you have any questions. Remember, each situation is different and immigration regulations are complex. If you ever have questions, we are here to help! Have a wonderful semester and remember the FACTS!

Sincerely,
UNT ISSS

Spring 2021
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT NEWSLETTER

NOTE: Current information regarding Immigration Updates including COVID-19 changes are available at international.unt.edu/immigration

Full-Time Enrollment and Exemptions

You are required to maintain full-time enrollment. This is defined as 12 hours for undergraduates and 9 hours for graduates during long semesters. There are few reasons you may be considered full-time while not enrolled in the minimum number of hours. If you will be below hours this semester and any of these reasons apply, approval from ISSS must be given by January 25th.

Final Semester
- Spring 2021 is final semester of required enrollment, few classes required to complete degree
- This MUST be your LAST semester. Immigration allows only one final semester
- Fill out the “Exemption from Full-Time Enrollment” form and have signed by academic advisor (or Toulouse for graduate students.) Return form to ISSS. A new I-20 will be issued.

Dissertation or Thesis Only
- Coursework is completed and only thesis or dissertation hours remain to complete degree
- Must bring the “Graduate Student Full-Time Equivalency” form to Toulouse for approval

CPT
- Full-time CPT students may waive the full-time enrollment requirement
- CPT must be approved prior to working and prior to January 25th

Other
Please refer to the “Exemption from Full-Time Enrollment” form online for more information. If any of these reasons apply, please have your academic advisor complete the form and email it to us.

F-2 Students
F-2 visa holders may only be enrolled part-time. It is your responsibility to monitor your enrollment. Please contact our office if you have any questions.

Immigration Advising Hours

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<th>Monday</th>
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Marquis Hall 110
internationaladvising@unt.edu
international.unt.edu/immigration
P: 940-565-2195 | F: 940-565-4145

Mailing Address
1155 Union Circle #311067
Denton, TX 76203-5017 USA
**Online Courses**

If you are a continuing student who was in F-1 status in March 2020:
- All other courses may be remote or online.

**REMEMBER:** This information is temporary! Restrictions on online enrollment may go back into effect for Summer and Fall 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number at my.unt.edu</th>
<th>U.S. SEVIS Address &amp; Phone Number</th>
<th>Graduating in May?</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Congratulations! ISSS is very proud of you and your accomplishments! There’s a lot on your mind, but we would like to remind you of some important things that need to be done this semester:</td>
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<td>• File an “Exemption from Full-Time Enrollment” Form if you will be below full-time hours in Spring 2021</td>
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<td>• File for graduation with UNT. The deadline is early. Check with the Registrar (Undergrads) or Toulouse (Grads) for instructions.</td>
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<td>• If you want to apply for Optional Practical Training (OPT), plan to complete a mandatory workshop early in the semester. It can take up to 3 months for approval so get started early!</td>
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<td>• If you will not apply for OPT, you have 60 days after your I-20 ends to figure out your next step. If you will begin a new program, you must receive a new I-20 within 60 days of completion. If you plan to return home, make reservations to leave before your grace period expires.</td>
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<td>• Remember! Immigration considers your last day of enrollment, not your graduation ceremony, as the date to use for your OPT application. If you are no longer required to enroll by UNT after Spring 2021, your program completion date is May 1, 2021.</td>
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**F-1 status may be terminated due to:**

Failure to Enroll
If you do not enroll in courses for a given semester, your SEVIS record will be terminated. If you plan to take a semester off, fill out an “Ending Studies” form, found on our website. You have 15 days to leave the U.S. after this date.

Enrolling Less than Full-Time Without Approval
If you do not receive approval to enroll less than full-time, your SEVIS record will be terminated.

Unauthorized Employment
International Students are NOT allowed to work off campus ANYWHERE without approval from USCIS or our office.

F-1 students are limited to 20 hours of on-campus work per week. Please speak with an advisor if you have any questions.

I-20 Expiration
Do not let your I-20 expire! Look on the first page where it says “Complete studies not later than: _____” or on newer versions it states “PROGRAM END DATE” or “PROGRAM START/END DATE”

If you will not complete by this date, visit ISSS to inquire about a Program Extension before your I-20 expires.

If you are a newly arrived student who arrived in the U.S. AFTER March 2020:
- You must enroll in at least 1 face-to-face, partially online, or partially remote class.
- All other courses may be remote or online.

If you are a continuing student who was in F-1 status in March 2020:
- You can be enrolled in all online/remote courses.

**OPT Workshops**

To apply for Optional Practical Training (OPT), you must first complete the OPT workshop and pass the quiz. Visit [international.unt.edu/content/optional-practical-training](http://international.unt.edu/content/optional-practical-training) to take the workshop online. Complete this early in the semester as the application process is lengthy.

**SCAM ALERT**

If you are contacted by someone claiming to be with a U.S. government agency, who asks for money to fix an immigration or tax issue, contact ISSS or the UNT police first!

**Find us online!**

- [@UNTInternational](https://twitter.com/UNTInternational)
- [@GlobalUNT](https://twitter.com/GlobalUNT)
- [EagleConnect](mailto:eagleconnect@unt.edu)
- [Marquis Hall 110](https://marquishall110.unt.edu)
- [internationaladvising@unt.edu](mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu)
- [1155 Union Circle #311067](https://1155unioncircleunt.edu)
- [Denton, TX 76203-5017 USA](https://dentontx.gov)
- [1775 Branch Privileges Building](https://1775branchprivilegesbuilding.unt.edu)
- [P: 940-565-2195 | F: 940-565-4145](https://9405652195unt.edu)

**Important Dates**

- **January 11**: Classes Begin
- **January 11 - 15**: Add/Drop Period
- **January 25**: Census Date
- **February 1**: OPT applications accepted for Spring 2021 grad students
- **May 1**: Last day of Spring 2021
- **June 30**: Last day for Spring 2021 grad students to apply for OPT

**Concurrent Enrollment**

- You MUST enroll in at least one UNT course and the combination of hours from both schools MUST equal full-time enrollment
- We will maintain your immigration record. All changes MUST be reported to ISSS.
- If the other school requires a letter from our office, it will take 3 business days to complete. Apply online at [international.unt.edu/ISSS/concurrent-enrollment-request-form](http://international.unt.edu/ISSS/concurrent-enrollment-request-form)
- You MUST submit a transcript/grade report showing completion of courses to ISSS.
- If you will enroll concurrently at another institution during Spring 2021, remember:
  - At the end of the semester, you MUST submit a transcript/grade report showing completion of courses to ISSS.
- Concurrent Enrollment

**OPT Applications for Summer/Fall 2020:**

- You MUST file an “Exemption from Full-Time Enrollment” Form after your I-20 ends. If you plan to take a semester off, fill out an “Ending Studies” form, found on our website. You have 15 days to leave the U.S. after this date. We will receive a notification and update your SEVIS record.
- If you will begin a new program, you must receive a new I-20 within 60 days of completion. If you plan to return home, make reservations to leave before your grace period expires.
- Remember! Immigration considers your last day of enrollment, not your graduation ceremony, as the date to use for your OPT application. If you are no longer required to enroll by UNT after Spring 2021, your program completion date is May 1, 2021.

**Opting Out of Status**

**COVID-19 Information**

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**U.S. SEVIS address and phone number MUST be up to date at ALL TIMES. Update your Current/Local address and Main Phone Number at my.unt.edu.** We will receive a notification and update your address with USCIS/SEVIS.

**Visit international.unt.edu/localaddress for instructions on how to update your address.**