


F-1

**Student
Orientation**



1

International Student Office

<p>Princess Solomon Coordinator of International Student Services 919.866.6800 pmsolomon@waketech.edu</p>	<p>Zanita Evans Assistant 919.866.6800 zpevans@waketech.edu</p>
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2

F-1 Responsibilities

How do I stay legal in the U.S.?

- Maintain at least 12 credit hours for the Fall and Spring semesters
- Summer semesters are the only approved vacations
- Make sure your I-20 does not expire
- Keep an updated U.S. address, email, and telephone number on file within 10 days
- DO NOT work without proper authorization



3

Maintaining Credit Hours

Current students must register for and maintain at least 12 credit hours for the Fall and Spring semesters.

New students starting in the Summer semester must register for and maintain at least 9 credit hours for their first Summer semester.



4

Credit Hours

If you are registered for 12 credit hours and chooses to withdraw "W" from a course, then you will be considered out of status. Remember, you must register for and **complete the semester with at least 12 credit hours**. The grade of "W" does not count towards the credit hour requirements.

You must receive approval from the Coordinator of International Student Services before withdrawing from a course(s).



5

Online Courses

You can only take one online course per 12 credit hours per semester.

Now, please consult with your academic adviser to complete the course planning for the entire program to ensure you will adhere to the online course limitation.

EFL classes cannot be online.



6

No Retakes

If you do not fail a course, you can not retake the course. If you need to retake a course, you will have to come to the International Student Office to discuss your options. You will have to do this before you register for the course again. If you retake courses without permission from the International Student Office, your I-20 will not be extended.

Failing Courses

You cannot continuously fail courses. If you continue to fail courses, your I-20 will not be extended.

You must make progress towards completion.



7

Change of Major

You must receive approval from the Coordinator of International Student Services before completing a change of major form with an academic advisor.



8

Vacation Time

You can only take a vacation during the Summer semesters. Before you travel out of the U.S., please make sure page 2 of your I-20 is signed.

Signature is usually good for one year. But we like to sign every six months.



9

F-1 Work Options

- DO NOT WORK without authorization. Work authorizations for F-1 students are very limited.
- You are allowed to work on campus if a job is available.
- Depending on your program of study, you may be allowed to work for a semester.
- You are allowed to work for one year AFTER graduation with an ASSOCIATE degree. Please email Princess Solomon during the first week of your last semester to graduation to indicate that it is your last semester to graduate.
- Please discuss any work options with the International Student Office before engaging in employment. Failure to do so may result in violation of your immigration status.



10

Other Important Information

Your visa can only be renewed outside the U.S. at a Consulate or Embassy in your home country. It is okay for you to stay in the U.S. with an expired visa.

Your passport can be renewed in the U.S. by your home country's embassy. Go to www.embassy.org for more information on how to renew your passport. It is important that you maintain a valid passport. Failure to do so may result in violation of your immigration status.



11

Immigration Documents



12

Health Insurance

It is highly recommended that you get health insurance. Health costs in the U.S. are very expensive. There are insurance companies that offer plans for international students at affordable costs. Shop around and find the best plan for yourself.


ISO Student Health Insurance, International Student Protection (ISP) and International Student Insurance are companies that current students have had good experiences with.



13

Affordable Care Act

- Once you have been in the U.S. for at least 5 years, you will have to adhere to the Affordable Care Act.
- For more information about the Affordable Care Act, please refer to <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/rights/law/index.html>.




14

How do I get a NC Driver's License?

Go to your nearest DMV and apply for a driver's license!

You will need:

- Valid I-20
- Valid passport
- I-94
- Any document showing proof of your North Carolina address.



15

Social Security Number

As an F-1 student, you do not qualify for a social security number unless you are working. Remember, your work options are limited. Please refer to the previous slide about F-1 work options.

If you need to do something that requires a social security number, you cannot participate.



16

Check your Wake Tech EMAIL!

- You will be given a my.waketech.edu email account.
- ALL F-1 students are REQUIRED to use this account.
- Important immigration updates and information will be sent to you via this email account.
- If you are not able to use your my.waketech.edu account, please notify our office immediately.

Remember, failure to have an accurate email account on file may result in you missing information that is vital to your immigration status!



17


Returning Home

If you decide to end your studies early and return home or take a semester off and return home, please notify the International Student Office immediately. You will submit a copy of your flight itinerary to the International Student Office.




18

- Schedule – Self-Service
- Books – Do not forget to purchase your textbooks.
- Tuition & Fees – You can see your tuition invoice in Self-Service.
- Student ID & Park Decal



19

- Alerts – To receive alerts about closings and delays, please sign up at <http://warn.waketech.edu>.
- Wake Tech Mobile App



20

Remember !!!

Again, WELCOME TO WAKE TECH and the U.S. If you need anything, always feel free to contact the International Student Office. If you have any questions regarding your immigration or visa status, it is always best to check with the International Student Office.

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21


Questions



22

QUIZ


PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER FOR EACH QUESTION.



23

How many credit hours must I maintain every fall and spring semester?


- A. 9 credit hours
- B. 12 credit hours
- C. I only need to register for 12 credit hours.
- D. 15 credit hours



24

How many classes can I take online during the fall or spring semester?


- A. 3 online classes within 14 credit hours
- B. 1 online class within 12 credit hours
- C. None
- D. 4 online classes within 15 credit hours



25

When do I have to notify the International Student Office that my address has changed?


- A. Within 1 day of the change
- B. Within 5 days of the change
- C. Within 10 days of the change
- D. I only have to change my address with the Registrar's Office.



26

Before you travel outside the U.S., what do you have to do?


- A. Get a travel signature on my I-20
- B. Nothing
- C. Call my friend
- D. Check my friend's email



27

Can I work off-campus without permission from Immigration?

A. Yes
B. No



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28
