

Traveling Outside of the United States

Before you travel, please be sure that you and/or your family do the following:

1. Plan ahead several weeks in advance so you know what you will need for your trip. Avoid the stress of needing to make last-minute arrangements.
2. Make several copies of all of your important documents. (Passports, U.S. visa, I-94 card, visas from other countries.) Keep one set of copies in your carry-on luggage, one set in your checked baggage, and leave one set at home with someone who can send them to you if needed.
3. Submit a **Travel Signature** form to the OIED and confirm you have the following documents ready.
 - Valid passport** – Passports must be valid six months beyond the reentry date to the US.
 - Visas for countries that you plan to visit** – Contact the consulate or embassy of each country that you plan to visit. Applying for and receiving visas may take several months, so find out early. The following web site has useful links: <http://www.usembassy.gov>
 - Valid United States visa** – You MUST apply for a new visa at a US consulate or embassy while outside the US if: (a) date of the current US visa in your passport has expired, (b) if it is a single entry visa, or (c) if you have changed your visa status since you last entered the US. (* except if you are traveling to Canada, Mexico or adjacent islands-see the back of this form). The documents needed for the visa application are those listed here for travel and reentry.
 - o Notify OIED if you will be applying for a new US visa for reentry so that we can write a recommendation letter for you to add to your application.
 - Note about renewing your US visa:** If you need to get your F-1/J-1 visa renewed or if you need to apply for an F-1/J-1 visa, you should contact the U.S. Embassy/Consulate in the country that you are traveling to before you travel so that you can learn how long the process may take. It may take 8-12 weeks to apply for a visa, so you may need to take the entire term as a vacation or Leave of Absence. Make an appointment with the US Embassy in the country you're traveling to before you leave the US because sometimes it may take 3-4 weeks just to get an appointment.
 - Form I-94** – You can print a copy of your I-94 using this website: <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/#/home>. Please make sure all information on the card is correct, especially your date of birth.
 - Valid I-20 or DS-2019**
 - **F-1 Students** – **Bring your I-20 (and the I-20s of any dependents traveling with you) to the OIED for a DSO's Travel Signature AT LEAST 2 DAYS BEFORE your departure.** If there has been any significant change in your major or degree program, your financial support, or degree completion date you may have to submit evidence of this and have an updated I-20 made.
 - J-1 Students and Scholars** – **Bring your DS-2019 to the OIED for a ARO's Travel Signature AT LEAST 2 DAYS BEFORE your departure.** If there has been any significant change in your major or degree program, your financial support, or degree completion date you may have to submit evidence of this and have an updated DS-2019 made.

- ❑ **Evidence of financial support in the amount specified on your I-20 or DS-2019.** A bank statement or financial guarantee should be available for entry into the US to confirm that you have the appropriate funds for the duration of your stay in the US.
- ❑ **A copy of your class schedule and your current transcript** to provide evidence of intent to study when you return to the US.
- 4. Remember to make photocopies of all new immigration documents upon your return to Western Oregon University. If you renewed your visa, received a new I-94 card, extended or renewed your passport, or got an entry stamp on your I-20 or DS-2019, we need a copy of it to add to your file in the OIED.

For more information on travel procedures, please visit the USCIS website at <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/travel>

Traveling to Canada, Mexico, or adjacent lands to the US

Canada and Mexico have agreements with the US in regards to student travel. Always check their Consulate/Embassy websites for the most current information.

◆ **Canada Transit Visas are required for students who come from countries named on this list: see <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>** Applicants must be in Canada for only 48 hours or less en route to another country. The applicant must demonstrate to the visa officer that they have an onward ticket and a visa for their final destination, if a visa is required. Find the application at: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/visa.asp> . No fee for applying.

If you will be staying in Canada, Mexico, or the adjacent islands to the US for less than 30 days, you will not be required to extend an expired US visa, as long as:

- You have maintained and intend to resume your status as an F-1 or J-1 visa holder;
- You are reentering the US before the expiration date of your previously authorized stay (as noted in your I-20/DS-2019 and I-94 card).

For J-1 Exchange Visitors Only: Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and certain other U.S. territories and possessions are part of the United States, so a J nonimmigrant does not need a visa to travel to those locations from within the 50 United States, or to return to the 50 United States from those locations. However, students and scholars should always carry full documentation (passport, DS-2019, and I-94) during such travel.

IMPORTANT NOTE on the I-94 Card: Your I-94 is electronic, however, you should print a copy to carry with you. If leaving by air or sea, it will not be collected and your departure will be electronically recorded. When you return to the US, your I-94 will be electronically recorded.