

# Frequently Asked Questions, Fall 2020 Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP), Guidance for F-1 Students



On July 24, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) released [updated guidance for F-1 students](#) for the Fall 2020 semester. The University of Texas at Arlington's Office of International Education has evaluated how this new SEVP guidance will apply to our F-1 student population and would like to share some important information about how this may impact your plans for Fall 2020 enrollment and attendance.

<b>Question</b>	<b>Are F-1 students required to be enrolled full-time during the Fall 2020 semester?</b>
<b>Answer</b>	All students maintaining F-1 status, whether in the U.S. or residing outside the U.S., must enroll full-time unless the student has a "Less Than Full-Course Waiver" approved by an International Education Advisor. There are no changes in the requirements for full-time enrollment.

<b>Question</b>	<b>What does UTA's "hybrid" academic plan mean?</b>
<b>Answer</b>	For F-1 students residing within the U.S., UTA's academic plan for Fall 2020 comes under SEVP's broad category of "hybrid", meaning that UTA will offer a <a href="#">mixture of face-to-face, hybrid, and online courses</a> . It is important that students remember this if questioned by a U.S. Consulate or airport official.

<b>Question</b>	<b>What is considered an "on-campus" course?</b>
<b>Answer</b>	The University's definition of face-to-face and hybrid courses, along with research, thesis, or dissertation courses, meet the SEVP requirements of an "on-campus course."

<b>Question</b>	<b>Can international students who reside in the U.S. take more than one online course?</b>
<b>Answer</b>	The updated SEVP guidance allows enrollment in more than one online course. Continuing and transfer F-1 students may enroll full time in online courses for Fall 2020 and maintain their F-1 status. However, new F-1 students must enroll in <i>at least one</i> face-to-face or hybrid model course as a part of the minimum enrollment requirement.

<b>Question</b>	<b>How do international students who reside outside the U.S. take online classes?</b>
<b>Answer</b>	<p>International students who will remain abroad for Fall 2020 and want to take classes online should complete the Online Enrollment Agreement found in MyMav. <i>This agreement only applies to students certifying that they are residing outside the U.S. and do not plan to enter the U.S. for Fall 2020.</i></p> <p>A list of courses available to new and continuing students outside of the U.S. can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

<b>Question</b>	<b>Will international students who reside outside the U.S. lose their F-1 status?</b>
<b>Answer</b>	<p>Continuing and transfer F-1 students who have departed from the U.S. on or after March 9, 2020 and who are unable to return to UTA for the Fall 2020 semester will be able to maintain their F-1 status while outside of the U.S. if they are enrolled full-time and have otherwise maintained their F-1 status.</p> <p>Our office will reach out directly to F-1 transfer students who have left the U.S. and plan to remain outside the U.S. for Fall 2020 to discuss I-20 updates.</p>