



## **Frequently Asked Questions About Applying for a Change of Status**

### **May I begin attending classes before my application has been approved?**

All applicants may be able to begin attending class after their change of status application has been submitted and while waiting for approval, except for individuals who have entered the United States on Visitor or F-2 visas. Also, individuals who have entered with a WT or WB visa waiver from a waiver country are not eligible to be attending classes.

### **May I begin campus employment such as an assistantship while waiting for the change of status approval?**

No. If eligible (see above), you may only attend classes full-time while your application is pending.

### **What happens if my application is denied?**

If the application is denied, students may be required to leave the US on short notice, interrupting their program of study at an inconvenient or academically disadvantageous time. If students have maintained their previous visa status, they may be allowed to continue to reside in the U.S. as their previous visa status.

### **Can I travel while my application for change of status is pending?**

No. Leaving the U.S. while an application for change of status is pending is considered an abandonment of petition. Contact the ISS office for your options if you must travel out of the U.S. during this period. Remember: When you change your status in the United States, your visa in your passport does not change. Visas may only be obtained outside the United States at a U.S. embassy or consulate.

### **Can I use my own mailing address for the application?**

The ISS office suggests that you use our mailing address so that we can ensure the documents you receive from USCIS regarding your change of status are in good order.

### **What do I do after my change of status application is approved?**

Please notify the ISS office and we will make sure your record is in order.