



September 10, 2018

Dear F-1 Students –

International Student Services (ISS) takes your educational and immigration records seriously. We are informing you of a recent policy change through United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) that impacts F-1 students who violate their statuses. As an F-1 student, you will need to continue to follow all the regulations to maintain your status, such as:

- enroll full time (12 credits or more) each quarter, unless you have authorization through ISS
- count only one online class towards full time enrollment
- complete your program by the end date listed on your I-20 or be approved for an extension through ISS
- make academic progress and stay in good standing. Academic probation is a warning, and academic suspension is a violation of F-1 status.
- work only on campus up to 20 hours per week (more during approved breaks), unless you have authorization from ISS or USCIS to work or intern off campus

On August 9, 2018, USCIS announced that F-1 students who violate their statuses will start accruing unlawful presence the day after the violation. This means that the day after not following regulations, F-1 students will start being in the US without legal status. ISS will encourage F-1 students in this situation to consult an immigration lawyer to discuss options, such as applying for reinstatement or leaving the US and reapplying to a US institution for admission. If an application for reinstatement is submitted to USCIS, the accrual of unlawful presence will pause while the application is under review.

ISS will provide general information, but we are not legal representatives. You have come from afar to reach your educational and career goals. We want you to understand and to be successful at MCC. Please do let us know if you have questions or concerns. Our contact information is [iss@mccneb.edu](mailto:iss@mccneb.edu) and 531-622-2281.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Naomi M. Greelis".

Naomi M. Greelis, M.A.

Primary Designated School Official & Coordinator of Int'l Student Services