



## F-2 Dependent I-20 Information

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### What is an F-2 Visa?

An F-2 is a visa for a dependent of an F-1 student in the U.S. F-2 dependents may remain in the U.S. as long as the F-1 student maintains status.

### Please note F-2 dependents:

- Are in legal immigration status as long as F-1 student maintains status, throughout their program of study and any authorization period of optional practical training after completion.
- May depart and re-enter the U.S. with proper documentation
  - Valid passport, valid visa, I-20 w/ travel signature from the DSO and a copy of F-1 student's I-20 recommended/EAD card if available.
- Are not eligible for any employment in the U.S.
- Are not eligible for Social Security numbers.
- Can engage in study at an SEVP-certified school in the United States as long as they are enrolled in less than a full course of study.
- May file for a change of status to F-1 if the adult dependent want to study full-time.
- F-2 children may attend nursery, primary and secondary school while on a dependent I-20.
- International health Insurance is **strongly** encouraged and may be added to the policy of the primary F-1 student.

### Who is eligible to obtain an F-2 or Dependent I-20?

- Any child of an F-1 student under the age of 21
  - A spouse, male or female, as recognized under US Federal Law
- \* Dependent must be a married spouse or child only. Non-married significant others are not eligible for an F-2 visa. (Parents or siblings are not eligible for F-2 visa)*
- \*\* If marriage certificate is not in English, please provide English translation.*

### What is needed for OISS to process a form I-20 for a F-2 dependent?

- Copy of the dependent's passport
- Original financial document, such as a bank statement, showing an additional yearly amount of \$5,000 for a spouse or \$4,000 for each child. Depending on the primary source of funding for the F1 student, these funds may need to come from the F1's own sources.
- Copy of the marriage certificate if the I-20 is for a spouse, or copy of birth certificate(s) if the I-20 is for a child or children.

The F-1 student must apply on the F2's behalf to obtain the I-20. Upon receipt of these documents, the OISS will issue an I-20 document for each dependent and a new I-20 document for the F-1 student. The student is the signatory for the dependent(s) I-20 document(s). The dependent will use the I-20 document to apply for an F-2 visa.

## CHANGE OF STATUS TO F-2 VISA: INSTRUCTIONS

### How to change status:

- [Travel](#)  
The dependent may change his or her status by departing the United States and re-entering in F-2 status. The dependent must apply for F-2 visa at U.S. embassy/consulate abroad.
- [Application to USCIS](#)  
This process allows an individual to change status while remaining in the U.S. If you are in lawful status and decide to change to F-2 status by applying to the USCIS, you have to remain in lawful status until you receive your reply from USCIS. Please note that this process can take time and individuals should not leave the U.S. until the change of status approval notice is received.

**Document Checklist for dependent:**

- Form I-539, completed by printing clearly and signed in black ink (see attached form)
- A personal check or money order for **\$290** payable to **"US Department of Homeland Security"**
- Copy of marriage certificate and/or birth certificate (English translation required)
- Copy of **Form I-20 and Form I-94**
- Copy of valid passport and current non-immigrant visa (photo page)
- Copy of F1's valid I20 and visa/passport
- Documentation which verifies the source and amount of financial support

**YOU are responsible for filing the petition with USCIS and mail it via certified or Express mail (FedEx or UPS). Keep in mind that the USCIS can take up more than 6 months to process a change of status application so apply timely!**

Mail the documents to

**For U.S. Postal Service (USPS):**

P.O. Box 660166  
Dallas, TX 75266  
USCIS

**For Express Mail & Courier Deliveries:**

ATTN: 1-539  
2501 S. State Hwy. 121 Business Suite 400  
Lewisville, TX 75067

**Form to be Completed by the Student (F-1 Sponsor):**

Complete this form along with the documents needed for OISS to process a form I-20 for an F-2 dependent listed above and submit them to OISS (UB 200).

**Student Information: To be Completed By the Student**

LAST Name:	First Name:
HPU ID: @	Telephone:
Email address:	Degree level: <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate

**Dependent #1 Information: To be Completed By the Student**

LAST Name (as listed on passport):	First Name:
Country of Birth:	Country of Citizenship:
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):	Relationship to F-1 Sponsor:
Estimated date of entry into US using F-2 visa (mm/dd/yyyy):	<input type="checkbox"/> I have attached my financial documents to this form.

**Dependent #2 Information: To be Completed By the Student**

LAST Name (as listed on passport):	First Name:
Country of Birth:	Country of Citizenship:
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):	Relationship to F-1 Sponsor:
Estimated date of entry into US using F-2 visa (mm/dd/yyyy):	<input type="checkbox"/> I have attached my financial documents to this form.

*By signing below, I have read and understood the information listed above about F-2 dependents and agree to comply with the regulations above and pertaining to F-2 dependents.*

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_