Reinstatement after SEVIS Record Termination or Completion

Depart the US and reenter with an initial attendance I-20

✓ Your visa must be valid; you do not need a new visa if returning to the United States within 5 months of your exit date.
✓ You must apply for an Initial Form I-20 from Parkland.
✓ You must exit the United States and return as an initial entry in a new F-1 nonimmigrant status (initial admission). If you choose this option, you will need to pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.
✓ You will also lose credit for any time accumulated toward qualifying for benefits like practical training.

File for Reinstatement from within the US:

✓ You will only be considered for reinstatement as an F-1 student if you establish:
  • you are not more than 5 months beyond the date of termination
  • the violation of status was due to circumstances beyond your control or failure to reinstate would result in extreme hardship;
  • you are pursuing or will pursue a full course of study;
  • you have not been employed without authorization; and
  • you are not in removal/deportation proceedings

NOTE: While reinstatement is pending, you are not in F-1 status and therefore may not work and may not travel outside the US. You must remain a full-time student while waiting for approval.

Prepare the following items:

Form I-539 (Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status) **Check the box Part 2, item 3, for reinstatement.

Photocopies of your passport, visa, and I-94 document

Letter to USCIS “To Whom It May Concern” that includes:

• Your name, address and telephone number; Your passport number and the expiration date
• Request for reinstatement
• Explain why you failed to maintain your F-1 status
• State the following specifically: you are pursuing or intend to pursue a degree in (state your major) and are enrolled as a full-time student (transcript may be included); you have not engaged in unauthorized employment; you are not deportable on any ground other than overstaying or failure to maintain your status
• State how failure to receive reinstatement to lawful F-1 status would result in extreme hardship to you
***BE THOROUGH AND SPECIFIC IN YOUR LETTER TO USCIS***

Current bank statement (within 3 months of the reinstatement filing date) showing that you have sufficient (U.S. dollars) available to spend for one year of education at Parkland. If a sponsor will be funding your education, he/she must provide an affidavit of support (I-134), found at www.uscis.gov, Immigration Forms link.

Bank check for Filing Fee made to Department of Homeland Security

Supporting documents that can help your case (transcripts, doctor’s note, etc.)

Photocopies of any I-797 Approval Notices giving previous approval for changes or extensions of your status

G-1145, E-Notification of Application/Petition Acceptance: Include this form if you wish to receive electronic notification that your application has been accepted.

Parkland’s International Admissions Advisor will issue a Form I-20: Reinstatement Requested

Send all documents to the appropriate address; you will receive notice from USCIS within 6 months.
If the application is approved, you will receive a notice of approval.
If the application is denied, you will receive a Departure Notice.
Please bring any correspondence from USCIS to the International Admissions Office. Keep the response as proof of your reinstatement.