



Dear International Students,

It's almost here, the end of the Fall 2022 semester!! **Congrats to those who are graduating, and best wishes in your future!**

If you are graduating or finishing a program...

Take a close look at [this information about your Final Term](#), in particular the details about what is allowed during your 60 day (F-1 students) or 30 day (J-1 students) grace period.

In addition, be sure to update your address on [DataVU](#) & [iValpo](#) before you graduate, so that the university can know the correct address to mail documents (tax info, diploma, etc) to you after graduation if needed.

If you are continuing at Valpo in Spring 2023...

Don't miss these 5 important reminders!

Reminder #1, International Travel Checklist

- **Keep alert to changes in the restrictions on international travel.** Although the pandemic-related controls on travel are less than before in many places, there are some places where restrictions continue. **So, please be aware of travel & border controls in the region that you are traveling.** Also, keep a close eye on the [CDC](#) and [U.S. State Department](#) travel warning/regulations websites.
- **I-20/DS-2019 signature for international travel.** If your I-20/DS-2019 has not yet been signed for travel **on page 2 (or pg 1 for DS-2019) during the Fall 2022 semester**, please submit the **Reprint I-20 Request** e-form on [iValpo](#), selecting the reason of "travel", and we will process the I-20 signed for travel within 3 business days.
 - NOTE: for DS-2019 signatures, please contact Andrew Knox (andrew.knox@valpo.edu) to set up a time for getting the travel signature.
- **Check the expiration dates on your visa, I-20/DS-2019, and passport.** You can't come back into the US if any of them are expired! Your I-20 must be extended before it expires, and allow for enough time in your home country if you need to renew your visa or passport. [Click here](#) to check out our helpful tips for getting an F-1/J-1 visa. **Furthermore, some consulates/embassies are closed or have very limited appointments due to the pandemic situation**, so if you need to renew your visa, make sure you allow enough time.
- [Click here](#) for a list of documents to carry when you travel outside the U.S. (especially when re-entering the U.S.) And don't forget **OIP contact info** (219-464-5333) and **VUPD contact info** (219-464-5430)

Reminder #2, Leave of Absence

If, after the end of the Fall 2022 semester, you are taking a leave of absence, withdrawing from school, or will be suspended, you must notify and schedule an appointment with Janice Lin (janice.lin@valpo.edu) immediately.

Reminder #3, Updates to Your Record

If any updates need to be made to details in your immigration record, please report them immediately. You can notify us through e-form requests for many of these functions on [iValpo](#). Here are a few common updates which students often need to report:

- **U.S. residential address** (iValpo e-form)
- **Major on your I-20** (iValpo e-form)
- **Adding dependent information** (iValpo e-form)
- **Change of Financial sponsorship information** on your I-20 (notify OIP [staff member](#))
- **Degree level** from bachelors to masters (notify OIP [staff member](#))

Reminder #4

Even while in the U.S., you are required to carry your I-94 record with you at all times. And remember that if you travel outside the U.S., when you return, your I-94 number will be updated, so make sure you have the most current version and it is correct (F-1 D/S status, correct name & passport info); [click here](#) to retrieve your current I-94. If you arrive in the U.S. by land, you may still receive a paper I-94.

Reminder #5

Looking ahead to Spring 2023, make sure you are signed up for full-time classes, and an appropriate number of on-campus vs online classes.

- Graduate (masters) students must be registered for a **minimum of 9 credits** in the Spring & Fall semesters.
- Undergraduate (bachelors) students must be registered for a **minimum of 12 credits**.
- All students must make sure that they are **not taking more than 1 online class** out of their minimum 9 or 12 credits.
 - If a class is listed as "hybrid", we will consider it to be online; otherwise, you can contact Janice.Lin@valpo.edu or Andrew.Knox@valpo.edu if you have questions about whether the hybrid class counts as on-campus.

Thank you, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year, and have a great winter break! Contact us if you have any questions ([OIP Staff page](#)).

