

F-2 STUDENTS

AN INTRODUCTION

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OVERVIEW OF F-2 STUDY OPTIONS

- AS of May 29, 2015 F-2 nonimmigrants are permitted to **enroll in less than a “full course of study,”** at an SEVP certified school
- F-2 dependents **taking less than 12 hours cannot be deemed to be engaging in a full course of study.** Such enrollment in less than a full course of study **could lead to attainment of a degree, certificate or other credential**
- No reporting responsibilities for DSOs on SEVIS

RECRUITMENT OF F-2 STUDENTS

- Partner with larger institutions to advertise to their dependents
- Provide information of opportunities to Intensive English Language program students – often here because of their spouse studying
- Give option of studying as an F-2 to students who are not able to meet the regular admission requirements for becoming an F-1



RECRUITMENT OF F-2 STUDENTS

- Contact campus liaisons to ensure knowledge of study options for F-2s
- Provide information about new opportunities via office media sources (website, newsletter, social media)
- Incorporate updates into orientation presentations for new students



OUTREACH REGARDING F-2 STUDY

- GT's Language Institute & how the changes in regulations and impact on their students
- Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions to understand the parameters for F-2 study
 - Impacted move on when ready/Dual enrollment students
- Graduate coordinators responsible for supporting grad. prospects to know about the change
- GT Spouses group to help them understand options to enroll at GT or other institutions



ADMISSION OF F-2 STUDENTS

- Application filled out and turned in
- Application fee of \$25
- Transcript of HS diploma evaluated
- COMPASS test with passing scores at the diploma level (reading, writing, math)
- Passport, proof of legal presence



ADMISSION OF F-2 STUDENTS

- Subject to same admission requirements as other applicants
- Must submit F-2 I-20 to verify lawful presence (as required at GSU)



ADMISSION OF F-2 STUDENTS

- Follow the same admissions processes as any other non-U.S. person
- OIE does not track F-2 admission
 - Awareness of students only if they visit the OIE or we are contacted by a graduate coordinator or admissions office

LIMITATIONS TO BE AWARE OF

- No employment authorization
- No tuition waivers – still subject to our 4x tuition rate which is \$356 per credit hour
- No full-time study



LIMITATIONS TO BE AWARE OF

- All Employment prohibited
- Interactions with University Policy
 - Ineligible for Graduate Assistantships
 - No full time enrollment = no tuition waivers
- Implications for students considering a change of status to F-1



LIMITATIONS TO BE AWARE OF

- Dependents on the F-2 visa may not accept paid employment under any circumstances.
- Not permitted at any time to enroll in a total number of credit hours that would amount to a “full course of study”, as per regulations.
- Cannot “volunteer” in labs on campus, even if they are enrolled as a student.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BE AWARE OF

- Do not have to go through Change of Status process
- Lower test score requirements to be a diploma or certificate seeking student
- Can take part-time classes and go at their desired pace
- Many more certificate/diploma options than degree options



OPPORTUNITIES TO BE AWARE OF

- Change of Status – advise individual students on what is best for their situation
- More flexibility
- Enroll in fewer classes while still maintaining status
- Associate degree options that would be attractive to F-2 students
- Access to on-campus student services



OPPORTUNITIES TO BE AWARE OF

- Volunteering to get engaged in the community, practice English or develop greater cultural understanding
- Avocational or Vocational now allowed
- Spouse languages courses offered by the GT Language Institute.
 - Beginner and Advanced levels offered
 - Significantly lower tuition than other classes and are an opportunity to network with other dependents as much as a course to increase English

PROGRAMMING IDEAS

- Establish a Spousal Group
- Develop a handbook specifically for spouses
- Invite spouses to current programs for international students
- Offer an Open House/Welcome event to orient spouses to your campus and the resources available to them

QUESTIONS/IDEAS

- Questions:
 - Will institutions be able to report F-2s in Open Doors?
 - F-2s can be reported under “other” when making the report
 - How can you monitor the part-time credit hours for F-2s
 - A: This is not the responsibility of the DSO, but be sure to warn the F-2s of future implications if found to be exceeding class hours
- Ideas from audience:
 - Include information about local area day-care centers in handbook