POLICY STATEMENTS

1. International students are financially responsible for their tuition, fees, and living expenses while enrolled at Upstate Medical University. International students should be aware that financial aid is limited and difficult to obtain. Further, it should be understood that Upstate Medical University cannot co-sign for any loans. Prior to enrollment, international students must indicate their understanding of this financial commitment, which will then be confirmed via the 1-20 application process. Note: Some programs of study at Upstate Medical University offer stipends and tuition waivers. These conditions will be considered throughout the process.

2. All international students are required to purchase health insurance and evacuation and repatriation insurance. If insurance is not available through a graduate assistantship, International Health Insurance and Evacuation and Repatriation Insurance may be purchased in the Bursar’s Office.

3. International students who hold an F-1 visa must remain in lawful visa status in order to be permitted to remain in the United States, work on campus, or pursue Curricular or Optional Practical Training.

REASON AND PROCEDURES FOR MAINTAINING LAWFUL STATUS

The U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) aggressively monitors student status.

International students primary responsibilities:
• Enroll full time each semester. Limited exceptions to the full time enrollment requirement can be granted for medical or academic reasons. Permission to enroll less than full time must be granted in advance by the International Student Advisor.
• Notify the International Student Advisor within 10 days of any change in address, either in the United States or in the home country. The required notification form is available from the International Student Advisor, or from the USCIS website, www.uscis.gov.
• Must only be enrolled in one distance learning course per semester.
• International students currently employed by Optional Practical Training (OPT) must notify the International Student Advisor within ten days of any changes in their employment, including: Employer Name, Employer Address, Supervisor Name, Supervisor Phone Number, Supervisor Email Address, Position Title, or Unemployment.
• International students employed in STEM OPT must submit a revised Form I-983 Training Plan to the International Student Advisor within ten days of a change to the plan and upon completion of year one and year two of STEM OPT.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Student policies and their effectiveness are reviewed annually as the Student Handbook is updated.