



**The Department of Education has Approved Online Modality for the Academic Year
(Until May 2022)**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 15th, 2021**

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff:

We are pleased to inform you that Approach International Student Center has received authorization from the Department of Education to continue offering online classes to our international students for the rest of the academic year (until May 2022). Therefore, F-1 Students will be able to choose online or hybrid classes for the 2021 Fall and 2022 Winter quarters, per SEVP guidance as follows:

- Students who were enrolled at a U.S. school on F1 status before March 9th, 2020, have the option to choose online or hybrid classes.
- Students who entered the country after March 9th. of 2020 or will start classes next fall must take a minimum of one in-person class on campus.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via our virtual office, WhatsApp, or email.

[Zoom Virtual Office](#) | [WhatsApp](#) | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

(Our virtual office is open Monday-Friday from 10:30 AM to 6:30 PM)

Best regards,

Michelle Fernandes
Executive Director



Frequently Asked Questions

Can students continue to remain in the United States if they are engaged in a fully online program of study?

Yes. Consistent with the March 2020 guidance, for the 2021-22 academic year nonimmigrant students may remain in the United States to engage in a fully online program of study if they have not otherwise violated the terms of their nonimmigrant status. Students will be able to maintain their nonimmigrant status and not be subject to initiation of removal proceedings based on their online studies.

Can students remain in the United States if their school switches from traditional in-person or hybrid instruction to fully online instruction?

Nonimmigrant students pursuing studies in the United States for the 2021-22 academic year may remain in the United States even if their educational institution switches to a hybrid program or to fully online instruction. The students will maintain their nonimmigrant status in this scenario and would not be subject to initiation of removal proceedings based on their online studies. If a student violates U.S. laws or regulations, they could potentially be subject to removal.

Can students remain in the United States in a hybrid program of study with online components beyond the limitations at 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6)(i)(G)?

For the 2021-22 academic year, nonimmigrant students may remain in the United States in a hybrid program of study, which consists of both in-person and online components beyond the limitations at 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6)(i)(G). Students will not face enforcement action or loss of their nonimmigrant status based on engaging in hybrid programs. If a student violates U.S. laws or regulations, they could potentially be subject to removal.

Source: ice.gov