

Office of International Students

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Information Concerning the Addition of a Dependent in F-2 Status

Spouses and/or the unmarried children (under 21 years of age) of F-1 status students are eligible to receive a Form I-20 from the Office of International Students for use in obtaining F-2 status.

To receive an updated Form I-20 with dependent(s) added, the F-1 status student is required to re-document their own financial support.

Additionally, for each dependent the student wishes to add as an F-2 dependent, the student will need to provide to the Office of International Students:

- Copy of dependent's passport
- Proof of relationship (marriage certificate or birth certificate/adoption certificate)
- Proof of funding of \$7,000 per year for a spouse and/or \$5,120 per year per child
- The completed "[Request to Add or Remove Dependent Form](#)"

Please note that dependents in F-2 status must adhere to the following restrictions:

- F-2 status individuals may not be employed or engage in business of any kind while in the U.S.
- May not engage in full-time study.
- May engage in "avocational" or "recreational" study.
- Dependent children may engage in full-time study at the K-12 level.
- An F-2 spouse or child may engage in full-time course of study only by applying for and obtaining a change of status to F-1, M-1 or J-1 nonimmigrant status.

Issuance of the Form I-20 for a dependent does not give the dependent F-2 status in the U.S. There are two ways for the dependent to obtain F-2 status:

- Apply for an F-2 visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad and enter the U.S. using their F-2 visa and Form I-20 to obtain F-2 status.
- Apply for change of status to F-2 status within the U.S. by making an application to the USCIS, if the dependent is already in the country in a different immigration status.

To receive a Form I-20 for use by a dependent in obtaining F-2 status, please complete the form on the following page entitled "[Request to Add or Remove Dependent Form.](#)"