



## **Automatic Extension of Visa Validity Law**

This law essentially allows a student on an F1-visa to reenter with an expired visa as long as the following conditions are met [22 C.F.R. §41.112 (d); 8 C.F.R. §214.1 (b) (1)]:

1. Applies for readmission to the US after an absence not exceeding 30 days solely in Canada, Mexico, or adjacent islands (e.g. Bahamas, Jamaica) other than Cuba;
2. Has maintained lawful F-1 status and intends to continue doing so;
3. Has a valid passport (unless exempt from passport requirements);
4. Has a current, unexpired Form I-20 that has been properly endorsed by the DSO for travel. Any I-20 notification processing (like extensions, transfers, etc.) should be done before traveling under this provision.
5. Ideally, the student should also have the most recent Form I-94 reflecting F-1 status and marked by USCIS/ICE for D/S (some ports of entry may ask to see it), to prove the student was admitted in F-1 status and is returning to continue his or her "duration of status".

