

Travel Instructions for International Students in F Status

The following information is intended to provide guidance on travel within and outside the US. If you have specific questions, please e-mail the International Education Center (IEC) at international@brookdalecc.edu or stop by to visit with staff in MAC 114.

What should I do if I'm traveling within the US (via car, bus, train, or air)?

- ✓ Take your passport, I-20 form and I-94 arrival/departure record¹
- ✓ We also suggest that you take your student ID card and/or driver's license or state ID card

What should I do if I'm traveling outside the US and my visa is valid?

- ✓ Register for classes for the next available term
- ✓ Email international@brookdalecc.edu or visit the IEC at least 3 weeks in advance so that we may inspect your immigration documents and endorse your I-20
- ✓ Take your transcript (print unofficial transcript from WebAdvisor)
- ✓ Take a business card from an IEC staff member

What should I do if I'm traveling outside the US and I need to renew the visa stamp in my passport?

- ✓ Register for classes for the next available term
- ✓ Email international@brookdalecc.edu or visit the IEC at least 3 weeks in advance so that we may inspect your immigration documents and prepare a new I-20 form, or endorse your I-20 form as needed
- ✓ Prior to your trip, visit the US Embassy or Consular website where you will obtain the visa for the latest information on local processing procedures and application forms
- ✓ Take updated financial documentation
- ✓ Take your transcript (print unofficial transcript from WebAdvisor)
- ✓ Take a letter from the IEC certifying your enrollment
- ✓ Take a business card from a BCC staff member

My visa has expired. Can I still re-enter the US using automatic visa revalidation if I have traveled to Canada or Mexico for less than 30 days?

The answer to this question is that it depends on a number of factors. We advise you to consult with IEC staff to discuss any travel plans to Canada, Mexico or any other country.

If I am in Post-Completion Optional Practical Training, what documents are needed to return to the U.S.?

If you have been granted Optional Practical Training (OPT), in order to re-enter the U.S., you will need the following:

- ✓ Valid visa
- ✓ Valid passport
- ✓ I-20 form signed on page 2 within the last 6 months
- ✓ Employment Authorization Document (EAD card–OPT work permit)
- ✓ A letter from your employer certifying participation in OPT

¹ The Immigration and Nationality Act (Section 264e) requires you to keep your immigration documents with you at all times. Since you are temporary residents, we do not believe it is necessary (at this time) to keep the originals on you while residing in the Monmouth County. **Do** keep a **copy** of your documents on your phone, stored in the cloud, or in your wallet.