

## REINSTATEMENT ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

USCIS may consider reinstating a student to F-1 status if the student can prove the following:

- The student has not been out of status for more than 5 months prior to filing for reinstatement (unless he or she can show that there were exceptional circumstances that prevented the student from filing during the 5-month period)
- The student does not have a history of repeated violations
- The student is pursuing, or will in the next available term be pursuing, a full course of study
- The student has not engaged in unauthorized employment
- The student is not deportable on any grounds other than the status violation for which reinstatement is being requested.
- The status violation resulted from either:
  - Circumstances beyond the student's control; or
  - Failure to apply in a timely fashion for a reduced course load authorization from the DSO, but only if the violation relates to something that would have been within the DSO's authority to have approved, if it had been timely done, and that the student would experience extreme hardship if the application were not approved.

The student should first discuss his or her situation in detail with the DSO, who should assess the case. If the DSO determines that reinstatement is a viable course of action, he/she should discuss the process and possible outcomes with the student. If the DSO and the student decide to proceed with the reinstatement application, refer to the **Reinstatement Application Procedures** document.