

Authorized Early Withdrawal

DSO may approve an Authorized Early Withdrawal in extenuating circumstances. This includes a temporary absence or withdrawal from school due to a family emergency, medical emergency or other circumstance which results in the student needing to temporarily cease their studies and depart the U.S.

If a student is approved an AEW, they are permitted a 15-day grace period to depart the United States. Once granted, the student's SEVIS record will reflect, "Terminated for Authorized Early Withdrawal." The student should communicate the reason for requesting the AEW so this can be recorded in SEVIS. Terminating the SEVIS record for AEW will make it potentially easier for the student to return to the U.S. when they are ready to resume their program.

F students who are granted an authorized early withdrawal, but do not depart the country within the 15-day grace period, are in violation of their student visa status. This could have negative implications on their ability to reenter the United States and apply for another visa.

If the student wishes to return to the United States to study, they must contact DSO. We recommend the students reach out at least 4-6 weeks prior to the start of the next quarter if they wish to resume their program. If the student was absent for over 5 months or out of status, they may need to repay the I-901 SEVIS fee and obtain a new SEVIS ID. This can impact the availability of F-1 benefits such as vacation term and CPT/OPT.

If an F student withdraws or leaves the academic program without first receiving approval for an authorized early withdrawal, they will not be granted the 15-day grace period and will lose their status immediately upon leaving the academic program.

The reactivation of a student SEVIS record after AEW is at the discretion of SEVP. Students are encouraged to maintain records of the reason for the AEW and the date of departure to demonstrate that they complied with the necessary regulations.