

Chabot College
International Student Program
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SCHOOL TRANSFERS FOR F-1 STUDENTS

Transferring from another U.S. school to Chabot College:

1. Once you have applied to and been accepted by Chabot College you must inform the appropriate school official noted on the old I-20 form of your plans to transfer. The previous school will determine if you maintained good F-1 status and if so will transfer your SEVIS record electronically to Chabot College and will enter an effective date. This electronic transfer must occur within 60 days of your last date of attendance and you must begin your studies by the next term. Summer is optional so students transferring upon completion of the Spring term must begin their studies in the Fall.
2. Once the electronic transfer has been completed and the effective date reached, Chabot College will be able to issue the transfer pending I-20. Your transfer is not complete until Chabot College has verified your physical presence after classes have begun. This is usually done after the add/drop period which ends a few weeks after classes begin. Chabot will then issue another transfer completed I-20. This I-20 sends a message to immigration that you are now physically on our campus and enrolled so when the process is complete you will have two I-20s from Chabot.
3. Keep ALL copies of I-20s from ALL schools in your permanent records. They are your evidence of your legal presence in this country. You may be required to show this evidence in the future.

Transferring from Chabot College to another U.S. school:

Students transferring from Chabot College to another school in the U.S. should contact the International Student Admissions Official at the new school to receive instructions to transfer. We can only transfer your SEVIS record to one college so please contact the International Student Office at Chabot College AFTER you have heard from all the colleges you applied to and have been accepted. Once we transfer your SEVIS record we may not be able to reverse the transfer.

To ensure you are in fact eligible to be transferred, Chabot may ask to see your acceptance letter. Some colleges may require Chabot complete a transfer verification stating that you were in good status before your transfer can be completed. You will be asked what your SEVIS ID number is. It is located in the top right corner of your I-20.

If you plan to depart the U.S. before transferring to the new school, be sure to let the new school know so they can rush the processing of your I-20 so you have it with you before you depart. You will need it to reenter the U.S. Most colleges give priority processing of I-20s to traveling students.

F-1 students planning to transfer should keep the following considerations in mind:

- If the transfer is to take place immediately after a trip outside the U.S., it is not necessary to have the name of the new school written on the visa page of the student's passport, but the visa stamp must still be valid for entry. We recommend you have all previously issued I-20s with you to serve as evidence of your past legal arrival(s) into the U.S.
- If the student has violated his/her status, he/she must apply for reinstatement with the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service before being allowed to transfer. Since reinstatements are rarely approved in this area, students should plan to depart and reenter with the new I-20 thus starting anew. You will be questioned upon arrival and will plead your case in person.