DEFINITION: There are many types of status violations but the most common violation is failure to maintain terms or conditions of status. Specific violations include:

- Enrolling in less than a full course of study for any reason without prior approval from a DSO in the International Services office (IS).
- Attending a school other than the one the student was authorized to attend on his or her I-20, without properly following the school transfer procedures
- Failure to apply for a timely transfer, program extension, or change in program level
- Unauthorized employment, including working on campus more than 20 hours per week while school is in session

ELIGIBILITY FOR REINSTATEMENT: A student may be reinstated to F-1 status by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) if the student can establish the following:

- Has not been out of status for more than 5 months at the time of filing the request for reinstatement (or if he/she has been out of status for more than 5 months, must be able to provide substantial reason for the delay in applying for reinstatement and an explanation of how this request for reinstatement has been filed as promptly as possible under the circumstances).
- Establishes to the satisfaction of the USCIS Director that the violation of status resulted from circumstances beyond the student’s control or that failure to receive reinstatement to lawful F-1 status would result in extreme hardship to the student;
- Is currently pursuing, or intending to pursue, a full course of study at the school listed on the I-20;
- Has not engaged in unauthorized employment; and
- Is not deportable on any ground other than overstaying or failing to maintain status

PROCEDURES FOR APPLYING FOR REINSTATEMENT: The student should submit the following documentation to IDS:

- Photocopy of financial support documents—Before an I-20 is issued, the student is required to provide financial documentation. Please complete and refer to the “Statement of Financial Resources” for undergraduate studies http://onestop.jhu.edu/international/obtaini20/ or graduate education studies http://onestop.jhu.edu/international/obtaini20/ for the amount of funds needed for the current academic year and types of acceptable documentation. All funds must be documented by original bank statements or certifications, or by governmental agencies providing money for the student. The financial documentation will not be accepted if it is dated over 3 months prior to the issuance of the I-20. The documentation must clearly state in English how much the money is worth in U.S. dollars. In addition, a notarized affidavit of support is required if the student is being sponsored by another individual. The affidavit of support has to be directly from the sponsor—not from the bank.
- Write a letter of explanation addressed to USCIS, stating the following: why the student is out of status (specify the violation); the reason for the status violation; the effect on the student of failure to receive reinstatement; a statement that he or she is currently pursuing or is intending to pursue a full course of study; and specifically request that USCIS reinstate him or her to F-1 student status;
- Complete and sign Form I-539 (Application to Extend Status/Change Nonimmigrant Status), from: http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis At this site, go to: Immigration Forms, then scroll down and click on the link for the I-539 form (Application to Extend Status/Change Nonimmigrant Status); print form, writing in at Part 2 item 1 the phrase ‘reinstatement to F-1 status’; make two copies of signed form; and
- A check of $200.00 payable to “Department of Homeland Security”-Make one copy of signed check
- Original I-94 card
- Two copies of: U.S. F-1 visa stamp in passport, identification pages of passport
Original transcripts from Johns Hopkins University Carey Business School or School of Education
Copies of every page of all I-20s issued by JHU Johns Hopkins University Carey Business School or School of Education (formerly SPSBE) and any and all colleges/universities attended in the U.S. under F-1 status
SEVIS I-20 with reinstatement recommendation from DSO and with student’s original signature—IS will issue I-20 once all of the above completed information is received

POINTS TO REMEMBER:
- Call IS to schedule an appointment. **Do NOT send the documents directly to the USCIS as IS has to submit additional paperwork with the application.**
- If the reinstatement application is approved, USCIS returns the I-20 to the student. If the reinstatement is denied, the denial cannot be appealed (although a motion to reopen or reconsider may be warranted).
- **Consequences of a reinstatement denial:**
  - The visa that the student used to enter the United States is automatically cancelled;
  - The student is permanently limited to applying for nonimmigrant visas in the future only in his or her country of citizenship or permanent residence;
  - The student will begin accumulating days of “unlawful presence.” If the student remains in the United States after the denial for over 180 days, he or she will be barred from returning to the United States for three years; if he or she remains after the denial for one year or more, he or she will be barred from returning to the United States for ten years.
  - Additionally, whether the application is approved or denied there is an official record of a violation of status in USCIS files. Status violations can have future impact on eligibility for immigration benefits such as adjustment of status.

ELIGIBILITY FOR F-1 EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AFTER REINSTATEMENT:
- A student who has been reinstated is eligible for F-1 student benefits such as employment. If the student had accrued 9 consecutive months in valid status before the status violation, that time can be used for purposes of qualifying for practical training after reinstatement. An accrued period of less than 9 months prior to a status violation, however, cannot be used for purpose of qualifying for practical training, since the 9 months must be consecutive.

ALTERNATIVES TO REINSTATEMENT: TRAVEL AND RE-ENTRY
- A student may also depart the country and re-enter with a new I-20, rather than making the application for reinstatement. Please note that consular officers may ask questions about an alien’s prior stays in the United States. Re-entry to the U.S. after a status violation is viewed as a new entry in F-1 status. As such, a student would be bound by restrictions placed on new students, such as the 9-month waiting period for eligibility for practical training or economic necessity employment authorization. If a student chooses this option, he/she will need to submit updated financial documentation as outlined above before a new I-20 can be issued.