Mid Michigan Community College
F-1 Student Status Policies

F-1 international students are subject to special laws and policies mandated by the United States (U.S.) government. Our purpose at Mid Michigan Community College (MMCC) is to help you attain your educational goals while at the same time maintaining good- standing with the federal government so you do not risk being arrested and deported. When you enter or continue your education in the U.S., you agree to certain immigration rules. Violating those rules will affect your status and good standing. Following are rules you must adhere to in order to remain in legal student status:

1. **Maintain full-time status**: You must be registered for at least 12 semester credit hours at MMCC in the Fall and Winter semesters. You must meet with the Designated School Official (DSO) each semester to select your classes for Fall and Winter. Taking courses in the Spring or Summer session at MMCC or at another institution is optional but you must notify the DSO of your intent (an MMCC letter will be provided to enroll at another institution as a Guest International Student).

2. **“Normal Academic Progress”**: The academic work you are doing in your classes must allow you to be progressing toward graduation. If you are not making “normal academic progress,” you will be considered out of status.

3. **Work authorization**: You are not allowed to work off-campus without authorization from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Working off-campus without prior authorization from the USCIS places you at risk of being out of status and subject to arrest and deportation. MMCC has no on-campus employment opportunities.

4. **Passport**: It is your responsibility to maintain your visa status and passport. Contact your embassy in your home country when your passport is close to expiring.

5. **I20**: You must keep your I20 valid at all times. If you believe you will not complete your program of study by the date indicated on your I20, you must contact the Designated School Official to discuss your options.

6. **Health insurance**: You must maintain adequate health insurance at all times as an international student. You must obtain health insurance from a private entity as MMCC does not offer health insurance coverage for students. In addition, you must present proof each semester of health insurance coverage.

7. **Address changes**: You must inform MMCC of any changes in address and phone number. Report all changes to the DSO.

8. **Out of country travel**: In order to travel outside the U.S. you must make arrangements well in advance of your travel. You will need a valid passport, a valid F-1 visa, and a current MMCC letter to go along with your current I20. Schedule a meeting with the DSO well in advance of planned travel. If your F-1 visa expires while you are a student at MMCC you will simply meet with the U.S. Embassy or consulate when you travel to get a new F-1 visa.

9. **Know Your Rights**: Being an F-1 student has many responsibilities to it, know your rights. Check out the USCIS website, [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov), to get information about being an F-1 student and forms that you may need to complete.

Contact MMCC if you have any questions or concerns about being an F-1 student.