



## **CHANGE OF STATUS TO STUDENT F-1**

**Important: Visa holders must be in status in order to apply for an F-1 Change of Status (meaning: your visa must be current and your I-94 must not be expired).** Those who are out of status are recommended to consult an immigration attorney for more information.

Those who have entered the United States as an exchange visitor, temporary worker, diplomat, or any other non-immigrant classification and wish to change to F-1 status to become a full-time student must follow the procedures below:

\*Note: Those on a visitor waiver program may not apply for a change of status.

\*\*Note: Please keep in mind that the change of status process is a lengthy one sometimes exceeding a year and that approval is not guaranteed.

The steps are to be followed in this order:

- 1 Submit the Just Go Languages Registration Form and proof of financial eligibility. You must have \$1,500 USD per month of study in your account.
- 2 Pay application fee (\$110), I-20 administration fee (\$110) and minimum one month of study (\$650).
- 3 Once the applicant is accepted as a student at JUST.Go, they will receive and sign their I-20.
- 4 Mail the following documents to DHS-USCIS:
  - Form I-20 issued by Just Go Languages and signed by the student
  - I-94 form
  - The I-539 application for change of status form completely filled out and signed by the student
  - If the student is being sponsored by a permanent US resident or American citizen, an I-134 Affidavit of Support must be filled out and signed by the sponsor. The sponsor's signature must be notarized. If the student is being sponsored by a non-resident or citizen, the sponsor must submit a notarized letter stating that they are willing to pay the student's schooling and living expenses as well as their reasons for doing so.
  - Evidence of financial eligibility from either the student or their sponsor: 3 most recent bank statements or a letter from the financial institution that shows \$1,500 USD in the account per month of study.
  - A check (USA bank) or money order made out to the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$370 dollars. Write I-539 and your SEVIS number on the memo line of the check;
  - The payment receipt of the SEVIS I-901 fee in the amount of \$350 dollars.

### **JUST GO LANGUAGES - MIAMI BEACH**

420 Lincoln Road, suite 324 Miami, FL 33139 - Tel (305) 534-1255 - WhatsApp +5521-97204-4498

E-mail: [info@justgolanguages.com](mailto:info@justgolanguages.com) Website: [www.justgolanguages.com](http://www.justgolanguages.com)

5 If the student's current address is in Florida, mail the documentation (with a confirmation receipt) to:

**US Citizenship and Immigration Services**

**Attn: I-539**

**2501 SOUTH STATE HIGHWAY 121, Business Suite: 400**

**Lewisville, TX 750674**

6. USCIS must receive the change of status application and all its supporting documents *before* the program start date.

To whom and when the applicant must pay the above mentioned fees:

- Just Go Languages: \$870 dollars (application fee, I-20 processing fee and one month of study) payable when the student submits his application form. Must be paid before collecting the I-20.
- US Department of Homeland Security: \$350 dollars (I-901 SEVIS fee). The payment may be made online at <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.html> . The receipt must be sent along with the I-539 form to USCIS.
- US Department of Homeland Security: \$370 dollars (I-539 fee). It should be mailed along with the I-539 and I-134 forms to the USCIS office.

Important:

- 1- The USCIS recommends that the change of status application be mailed to them at least 45 days prior to the expiration date of the applicant's current I-94 form. The change of status petition is usually processed in no less than 60 days and it can take more than a year.
- 2- None of the payments above are refundable.
- 3- Applicants cannot study or leave the USA while their change of status is being processed. If the applicant leaves the USA, his change of status request is automatically declined.
- 4- The student status is not equivalent to a student visa. The student status is automatically cancelled if the student leaves the USA; therefore, a student must obtain an F-1 Student Visa in order to reenter the USA and resume his studies.
- 5- Applicants must maintain their current status valid throughout the change of status process. You must apply for extension of your current status before it expires (check your I-94 form). The extension of status is made through Form I-539 and requires a payment of \$370 USD to USCIS. Just Go Languages can help you file for extension of status if your current status is B1/B2.
- 6- Scan or make one copy of ALL the documentation sent to USCIS. In the unlikely event USCIS or UPS/FEDEX loses your documents, you will need to send another copy.
- 7- Be aware that USCIS does not allow that B-1/B-2 visa holders study at any school while the change of status has not been approved:<https://www.uscis.gov/working-united-states/students-and-exchange-visitors/students-and-employment/changing-nonimmigrant-f-or-m-student-status>

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