What to do if you get an I-515A

What is an I-515A?

If you try to enter the United States without all of your required documents or with unsigned or missing information, the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer may deny your entry into the US. As an alternative, the officer has the ability to issue a Form I-515A, which allows you temporary entry into the United States for 30 days.

Within 30 days, you must submit your I-515A and supporting documents to the US government, otherwise your SEVIS record will be terminated.

A. What to do if you have no immediate plans to travel outside of the US:

☐ Make copies of your documents to keep as records:
  • I-515A
  • I-94 record
  • I-20 or DS-2019 with valid travel signature

☐ Send the original documents via private courier service (such as Fedex/UPS) to:

| Attn: SEVIS/I-515A Processing Team |
| Student and Exchange Visitor Program DHS/ICE |
| 500 12th Street SW STOP 5600 |
| Washington, DC 20536-5600 |

Make sure to save a copy of your shipping receipt as proof that the documents were sent on time.

☐ Wait for the documents to be processed. The US government will update your documents to show F-1 or J-1 D/S, and mail them to OISS. OISS will e-mail you when your documents are ready for pick-up.

☐ If you have mailed your documents and then will travel outside the US before you get your I-20 back from the government, please call the Front Desk to schedule a meeting with an OISS Advisor. The Advisor will tell you how to inform the government, and will help you get a new I-20 for your travels.

B. What to do if you are traveling abroad before the I-515A expiration date:

If you will be traveling outside the US before the I-515A expiration date listed on your I-94, instead of sending the original documents, e-mail scanned copies of the above documents and your flight itinerary confirming departure to:

| E-mail address: SEVIS.I-515@dhs.gov |
| Subject line: Attn: I-515A Processing Team |