

Information for F-2 Status Dependents

Eligibility for F-2 Status

To qualify for F-2 status, a spouse or unmarried, minor (under age 21) child must establish to the satisfaction of the consular officer and the immigration officer at the port of entry that:

He or she is the spouse (marriage license) or child (birth certificate) of the F-1 principal;

He or she has sufficient funds to cover his/her expenses, or that other arrangements have been made to provide for such expenses once in the United States;

He or she intends to leave the United States upon the termination of the status of the principal F-1 student;

If the dependents are following to join the student, "the F-1 student is, or will be within 30 days, enrolled in a full course of study or engaged in approved practical training following completion of studies."

Employment

You may not engage in any employment or business under any circumstances.

Study

F-2 spouses may not engage in full-time study

F-2 children may only engage in full-time study at the K-12 level

Part-time study is permitted only to the extent that it is "vocational or recreational."

Travel

The F-2 dependent needs a valid passport, visa (unless exempt from passport and visa requirements), and an I-20 with a travel signature from an International Student and Scholar Advisor in order to travel outside of the U.S. and reenter.