

Termination Reasons for DSOs

When in doubt about which reason to use, contact the SEVP Response Center to avoid creating any hardships for your students.



When terminated by a DSO or SEVP, students must leave the United States, file for reinstatement or take other action to remain in status.

Terminated:

The student's record is Terminated in SEVIS by a DSO or SEVP for a reason other than Program Completion.



If you think a student's record is terminated by mistake, use the link, "Request Change to Student Status," to submit a Correction Request.

Termination Reasons Reported by a DSO:

- **Absent from country for five months** – Student departed and expected to return, but exceeded the five-month limit.
- **Authorized drop below full course time exceeded** – Student did not enroll for a full course of study when a previously-approved reduced course load period ended.
- **Authorized early withdrawal** – Student requested permission in advance to withdraw from school and departed the United States prior to program completion.
- **Death** – Student dies. Include useful information in the remarks field. Do not use this for death of a family member.
- **Expulsion** – Student is unable to maintain status because they were expelled by your school.
- **Failure to report while on OPT** – Student participating in science, technology, engineering and mathematics optional practical training (OPT) failed to validate their address and employment with their DSO at either the six or 12-month mark.
- **Otherwise failing to maintain status** – Use for reasons not included in list. Note reason in the remarks field.
- **Suspension** – Student unable to maintain status due to suspension from your school.
- **Unauthorized drop below full course** – Student took less than full course of study without prior DSO approval.
- **Unauthorized employment** – Student was employed without authorization.
- **Unauthorized withdrawal** – Student quit attending school without notifying a DSO.

Do Not Use These Termination Reasons:*

- Change of status approved.
- Change of status denied.
- Change of status withdrawn.
- Denied transfer (M-1 visa only).
- Extension denied (M-1 visa only).
- School withdrawn (The school was withdrawn – not the student).
- Transfer withdrawn (M-1 visa only).
- Violation of change of status requirements.

*Certain exceptions may apply.

Terminations Reported by DSO or Automatically by SEVIS:

- **Failure to enroll** – Continuing student fails to report.
- **No show** – Initial student arrives in the United States and fails to report to your school by the session start date.
- **Transfer student no show** – Transfer-in student failed to report to your school as required. Report this within 15 days of a new program start date.



Student records will auto-terminate if not registered on time.

For more detailed information, please see related articles on the [SEVIS Help Hub](#).