

# Important Reminder: Required Immigration Documents for Travel Off-Campus and Internationally

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As vacation periods approach, many students begin planning trips home or other visits outside the Rochester area. Your immigration documentation must be current to prevent potential problems during your travels.

## Travel in the Rochester Area

Any time you leave the UR campus you should have your UR ID, passport, and I-94 card, which proves your legal status as a student in the U.S. Your I-94 “card” is a white slip of paper which is usually stapled inside your passport. If you do not feel comfortable carrying your original I-94 card and passport, please carry a copy of your I-94 and leave the originals in a secure place but where someone would have access to them should they be required.

There are currently over 20 Border Patrol agents working in the Rochester area who routinely check the immigration status of individuals found in the community. This is especially true near the train and bus stations and the airport. If you have your UR ID and I-94 card with you and there are any questions about your immigration status, a Border Patrol officer should contact the ISO. The wallet-sized card you were given with the ISO Contact Information includes the number that should be called – additional copies of these cards are available in the ISO.

## U.S. Travel Away from the Rochester Area

International students should always carry their university ID, current I-20/DS-2019, and passport when traveling in the U.S. outside the Rochester area. This is especially important during travel by plane, train, or bus in the U.S.

## Travel Outside the U.S.

If you intend to travel outside the U.S. during the coming months and have not had your I-20/DS-2019 signed during the Fall term (August of this year or later), you must visit the ISO to request a travel signature *before leaving the U.S.* You can *check the date of your travel signature* on page 3 of an I-20, or page 1 of a DS-2019.

You should also check the expiration date on your passport and visa, and verify that your visa is valid for re-entry to the U.S. If you need to apply for a new visa while at home, we will issue a letter confirming your continued attendance at UR that you should bring with you to the interview. We also recommend bringing a copy of your academic transcript to the visa interview.

## Planning to travel to Canada?

Depending on your country of citizenship, you may need a Canadian visa to enter Canada. To apply for a visa you must have a letter from the ISO certifying your status, a current passport, and bring two passport-style pictures to the Canadian consulate in Buffalo, New York. Plan on arriving at their office before 11AM to ensure you will be seen that day. For more information and a complete list of required

documents and fees, visit their website: [www.directioncanada.gc.ca](http://www.directioncanada.gc.ca) and select *Visiting Canada* under **Site Topics** on the left. Remember that you must have a travel signature dated since August of the current academic year on your I-20/DS-2019 in order to re-enter the U.S. from Canada without problems. Although a current visa is usually required when re-entering the U.S., students with an expired U.S. visa may be eligible to re-enter the U.S. if their stay in Canada is less than 30 days.

If you have any questions or concerns, please schedule an appointment by calling 275-2866, or visit the ISO. The River Campus office is open from 9-12AM and 1-4PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 1-4PM on Wednesday. The ESM office is open 9-12AM Tuesday, and 1:30 - 4:30PM Wednesday during the academic year. Remember to bring your UR ID to the ISO office for identification. You may also check the Travel Information page on the ISO website for more information: [www.iso.rochester.edu/travel.htm](http://www.iso.rochester.edu/travel.htm).

Safe travels!

*The ISO Staff*