



**EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT  
CULTURAL DIVISION**

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**STUDENTS:**

**YOUR URGENT ATTENTION IS REQUESTED**

**REGARDING U.S. IMMIGRATION VIOLATIONS**

In light of detentions of Kuwaiti students by U.S. Immigration Authorities, you are reminded that you must adhere to U.S. Immigration Law or face similar consequences. The majority of the detentions are based on students being "Out of Status" due to under-enrollment, poor attendance, and failure to follow proper university transfer procedure.

You are further reminded that if you intend to make changes in your enrollment, registration, or coursework, you must first check with the International Student Office to ascertain that these changes are in keeping with U.S. Immigration regulations.

United States Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has detained a number of Kuwaiti students for violating U.S. Immigration Law. The Cultural Office in Washington, D.C. would like to remind students in the United States that they must abide by U.S. Immigration regulations or face adverse consequences including detention and possible deportation from the United States. The following are the most frequent violations that could lead to U.S. Immigration action:

1. All students must complete a full course of study each semester. A full course of student is defined as completion of 12 semester credits (15 quarter credits) for undergraduate students and 9 semester credits (12 quarter credits) for graduate students.
2. Obtain U.S. Immigration Service approval through the International Programs Office of your universities before transferring universities or changing degree programs. Students must obtain a new I-20 for each university transfer or change in academic program level (bachelor's to master's).
3. Students must depart the United States if they are not enrolled in a college or university e.g. students who are dismissed or suspended by the university must leave the U.S. immediately.
4. Students must depart the United States within 60 days of completing their degree programs.
5. Students must inform the International Programs Office of their universities of any change in their addresses in order to update their SEVIS (Immigration database) record as required by USCIS.
6. Students' passports must be kept valid at all times.

Students are reminded that any action relating to their academic studies, such as dropping a course or leaving the United States must be sanctioned by the International Programs Office of their universities to make sure that they are in compliance with U.S. Immigration Law.

The Cultural Office urges all students to make every effort to comply with the law.

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Cultural Counselor/Director

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