Transferring To and From Yale

If you have been admitted to a new U.S. school, it may be possible to transfer your F-1 SEVIS record from your current school to your new school. The transfer procedure is initiated by the school that currently has your SEVIS record and is completed in SEVIS by your new school. Note that your new I-20 cannot be created until you reach the transfer release date in SEVIS.

F-1 Transfer Eligibility

- Student must be maintaining legal F-1 status
- Must notify current school of intention to transfer within 60 days of program completion or end of OPT
- New program start date must be within 5 months of the current program end date

Important Guidance for the Summer Between Programs

- When transferring from one U.S. institution to another, you are eligible to remain in the U.S. in the summer between two programs.
- You may travel outside the U.S. during the transfer pending period. If your current F-1 visa (unless Canadian) is still valid, you can use it to re-enter the U.S. prior to the start of your new program using the I-20 from your new school.
- Any on-campus employment benefit ends on the end date indicated on your I-20. If you plan to work at Yale after the completion of your academic program, you must have your OPT EAD and reached the start date on your EAD. The work must also be related to the your degree (not custodial or reunion work).
- If you are on OPT from a previous degree program, selecting a SEVIS Transfer Release date during the approved OPT period will end any remaining OPT work authorization. You may wish to choose a release date that is after your OPT end date, unless you are terminating employment early.

Transferring to Yale

This section is if you have just been admitted to Yale, and will be attending in the next academic semester.

What to Do

You will receive an email with the link to the New Student Survey from OISS. Once you have logged into OISS Connect and clicked New Student Survey Tool, please answer all the questionnaires. Under the ‘Visa Information’ questionnaire, you would need to select ‘yes’ to indicate that you are planning to transfer.

Once you have done this, you can click the link to the ‘SEVIS Transfer In’ request. This will create a Transfer Request Record in OISS Connect. In this request, please follow the instructions for requesting your transfer.

- Upload your current I-20 to the ‘Transferring Your SEVIS Record to Yale’ questionnaire.
- Request a recommendation from the international student adviser at your current institution.

Things to Keep in Mind

- Once the transfer release date is reached and upon the receipt of all required materials, Yale will issue your new I-20. We cannot issue your I-20 until the transfer release date in SEVIS.
- You must check in with Yale OISS within 15 days of the start date on your new I-20. This is often achieved through the OISS orientation [1].
- After you check in, Yale OISS will complete the F-1 transfer in SEVIS and issue you another I-20 noting
Leaving Yale

This section is if you will be leaving Yale visa sponsorship by either completing your Yale program or ending OPT, and will be attending another U.S. institution in the next academic semester. Yale F-1 students who have made a commitment to attend another institution must complete the transfer process with OISS before the end of their 60-day grace period or ending OPT.

What to Do

- Contact the international student adviser at the new school you will be attending and inform them you are an F-1 transfer student. Follow any instructions they provide regarding forms to complete. Be sure that you obtain the new school’s SEVIS campus code.
- Create a Transfer Out request [2] for the current term in OISS Connect. You must attach your letter of admission to your new program in your request.
  
  *Important Note:*
  Only click this link once. Clicking additional times will open duplicate requests and unnecessarily delay the process.

- If you need assistance determining an appropriate SEVIS transfer release date, speak to your OISS adviser [3] before submitting your request in OISS Connect. The release date must be based on your employment and travel plans, but cannot be later than your 60-day grace period. The release date reflects the day that Yale no longer has access to your record, and the first day that your new school can create a new I-20 for you.

Things to Keep in Mind

- Your SEVIS record will be electronically released to your new school on the mutually agreed upon transfer release date.
- If you are or will be on post-completion OPT, your work authorization will automatically end on the transfer release date.
- You must check in at the new institution within 15 days of the start date on your new I-20.
- After you check in, your new school will complete your F-1 transfer in SEVIS.

General Information

Read the Leaving Yale page [4] for helpful general information on leaving Yale.

Source URL: https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/f-1-students/transferring-to-and-from-yale

Links:
[1] https://oiss.yale.edu/getting-started/new-students/oiss-orientation
[3] https://oiss.yale.edu/about/connect-with-oiss