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This nation has a long history of welcoming immigrants from all over the world. Every citizen has the right to travel freely in and out of the country.

Visas

ADMITTED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
JUL 30 2009
Class 1-4-4

DECLINED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
DEC 30 2009

EXEMPTED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
DEC 21 2007

ADMITTED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
MAR 27 2011

[illegible]

See the [U.S. Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#) [2] for more information about different U.S. visas.

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What is an Entry Stamp?

Upon entering the U.S. a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) official will:



1. Review your immigration document, visa, and other documents
2. Authorize your status in the I-94 system
3. Put an ink entry stamp in the passport

The I-94 record includes the length of time you may remain inside the U.S. Scholars should always [print their I-94 record](#) [3] so that they have evidence of their immigration status.

For more details on what happens upon arrival, see our [Arriving in the U.S.: Immigration Inspection](#) [4] page.

What Does 'D/S' Mean?

F-1 and J-1 visa holders will see the notation 'D/S' on their entry stamp and their I-94. D/S stands for 'duration of status' and refers back to the expiration date on the immigration document. When your status is D/S you can stay in the U.S. as long as your immigration document (DS-2019, I-797, etc.) is accurate and unexpired.

What If My Visa Expires While I Am in the U.S.?

A visa in your passport issued by from a U.S. consulate does not determine how long you can remain in the United States; it is only an entry document. Therefore, **you may stay in the U. S. beyond the expiration date of a visa** as long as you are maintaining your [J-1](#) [5] or [H-1B](#) [6] status and the immigration document (DS-2019, I-797, etc.) remains valid.

For most [international travel](#) [7] the immigration document, passport and visa must be valid and unexpired. If the visa is expired it will be necessary to apply for a new visa, through the same process as your initial visa application, at a U.S. embassy or consulate outside the U.S.

Source URL: <https://oiss.yale.edu/travel/for-scholars/visas/visa-immigration-status-and-entry-stamp>

Links

[1] <https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/visa-and-immigration-status/for-canadian-citizens> [2] <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/frequently-asked-questions/what-is-us-visa.html> [3] <http://oiss.yale.edu/travel/i-94-record> [4] <https://oiss.yale.edu/getting-started/new-scholars/travel-arrival/arriving-in-the-us> [5] <https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/j-1-scholars/maintaining-legal-status> [6] <https://oiss.yale.edu/node/230> [7] <https://oiss.yale.edu/travel/for-students/traveling-outside-the-us>

