

YORK COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SPONSORSHIP OF AN F-1 STUDENT

The purpose of this document is to provide relevant information for anyone considering sponsoring a student in F-1 status. This is done to minimize potential misunderstandings that could arise. This is also intended to help both students and sponsors avoid unpleasant situations in the future.

Please note: This document does not directly address the legal responsibilities of sponsoring an F-1 student. Potential sponsors should consult an attorney if they have any legal questions or concerns about sponsoring an F-1 student.

SPONSOR'S FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Sponsors of F-1 students are obligated to contribute financial and other support as declared on the "Affidavit of support" for the full duration of a student's intended program of study, which is expected to be at least four years for new students, and cannot expect a student to perform any work in the person's home or business in exchange for sponsorship.

While a sponsor need only show proof of available funds for one year of study, he or she must acknowledge ability and intent to continue funding for the full duration of an F-1 student's degree program at York College of Pennsylvania.

ROOM AND BOARD PROVIDED IN THE SPONSOR'S HOME

Sponsored F-1 students cannot be required to perform work, such as taking care of the sponsor's children, in the sponsor's home. F-1 students can be expected to perform routine household chores that any other family member would perform without payment as long as these duties do not adversely affect the students' normal academic activities and progress as a full-time student. (Students in F-1 status must take a full course load, a minimum of 12 credits per semester.) Likewise, students should be permitted a reasonable amount of free time to study, spend socially with their friends and to participate in College-related activities. **If a person is not able or willing to sponsor a student on these terms, then he or she should reconsider entering into any sponsorship agreement.**

LIMITED WORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR F-1 STUDENTS

Opportunities for international students in F-1 status at York College to work in the United States are **extremely limited**. Therefore, students must have secured funds from a sponsor and/or personal resources to meet their entire financial needs while studying. On-campus jobs may be available to F-1 students, but they cannot be relied on to help support the student for educational or living expenses.

Any work in the United States performed by an F-1 student that is not authorized by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is illegal and may lead to removal (deportation).

AUTOMOBILE USE

If a sponsored-student will be driving a sponsor's car, the sponsor should contact his or her insurance company to find out if his or her policy would cover the sponsored F-1 student in the event of an accident. The sponsor and sponsored F-1 student should agree beforehand who would be responsible for paying any deductible or other related expenses should an accident occur.