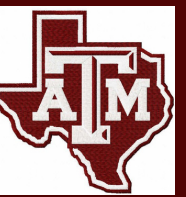# GRADUATING F-1 STUDENTS
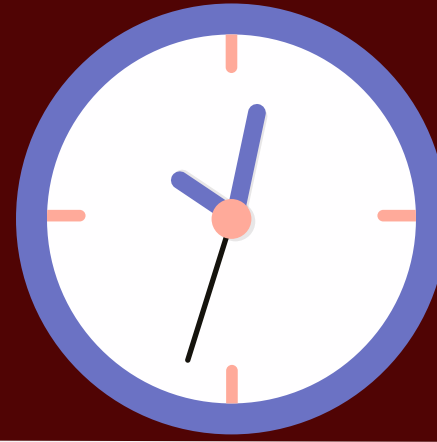
REDUCED COURSE LOAD BASED ON FINAL TERM (RCL)
WILL YOU GRADUATE ON TIME?

EXTENSION OF STAY
DO YOU NEED MORE TIME TO GRADUATE?
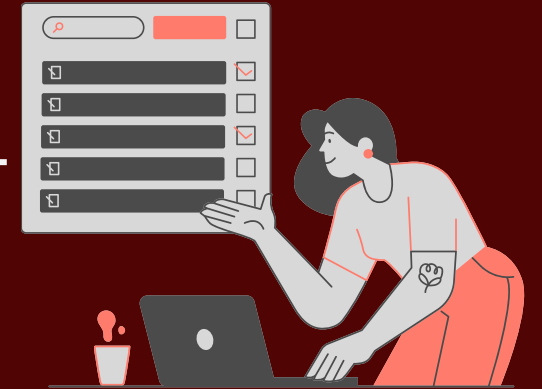
CHANGE OF EDUCATION LEVEL
WILL YOU START A NEW PROGRAM AT A&M?

SEVIS TRANSFER RELEASE
WILL YOU START A NEW PROGRAM
AT A DIFFERENT SCHOOL?

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

Post-Graduation Information

POST GRADUATION: 60-DAY GRACE PERIOD

Post Completion OPT
- OPT based on Graduation
- OPT based on Completion of Coursework (MS thesis and PhD only)
- Apply to ISSS for I-20, then apply to USCIS for EAD

Post-Completion OPT EAD
- You may only work within the dates on your OPT EAD card

STEM OPT Employment Reporting
- Must report at least every 6 months in ISSS Portal (even if you have the same job)
- If you do not report in a timely manner, you are not properly maintaining your F-1 status
- Keep address up to date in Howdy

H-1B & F-1 CAP-GAP Extension
- Your employer must be willing to sponsor your H-1B application
- May be eligible for Cap-Gap if H-1B will start after OPT/STEM OPT ends.

OPT Employment Reporting
- Report in SEVP Portal and/or ISSS Portal
- Failure to report could lead to accruing unnecessary unemployment days!
- Keep address up to date in Howdy

STEM OPT EAD
- While your STEM OPT application is pending with USCIS, you are still allowed to work up to 180 days beyond the end date of your current EAD.

STEM OPT Extension
- I-20 CIP code must be on the DHS Designated Degree Program List
- Apply to ISSS for I-20, then apply to USCIS for EAD

Start a New F-1 program

Complete F-1 Status & Change of Immigration Status

Depart the U.S.