

Medical Reduced Course Load

The Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) requires all F-1 international students to enroll in a full course of study each semester. The summer semester is considered vacation so students are not required to enroll unless it is their first semester at A&M-Commerce. In limited situations students may be eligible to request a reduced course load (RCL) for a illness or illness or medical condition. For more information go to Study in the States.

The Office of International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) policy requires the following before we will consider a reduced course load (RCL) due to an illness or medical condition:

- Letter from a licensed Medical Doctor, Doctor of Osteopathy, or Clinical Psychologist within the U.S. that recommends one of the following due to the student's condition. Please note the medical professional must **specifically state one of the following recommendations** due to the specific illness or medical condition:
 - Not enroll in any courses for the specific semester
 - o Enroll in less than a full course of study for the specific semester **OR**
 - o Enroll in online courses only for the specific semester

The ISSS reserves the right to request the original recommendation letter.

- We cannot consider recommendations that do not include the entire semester.
- We will not accept recommendations from medical providers outside the U.S.
- The recommendation must be for the next available semester and consideration will not be given for future semesters. Medical RCL's will not be considered more than 90 days prior to the start date for the semester the student is requesting the medical RCL. Any documentation must be dated within 90 days of the start date for the semester the student is requesting the medical RCL.
- Approval for a medical RCL is for one semester at a time and an updated recommendation letter dated within 90 days of the start date for the next semester.
- Students may not exceed an aggregate of 12 months of a medical RCL per program level (bachelors, masters, doctorate).

All documentation may be emailed to Intl.Stu@tamuc.edu and we will review and process within 10 business days. Once the ISSS has approved the reduced course load for an illness or medical condition we will issue an updated I-20 for the RCL period. Students will need to follow the guidance above to request any additional RCL requests for an illness or medical condition.