



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

International Student Health Insurance Policy

Policy Name: International Student Health Insurance Policy

Policy Purpose

This policy specifies the requirement that all international students are required to have health insurance.

Applicability

This policy is applicable to all International Students.

Responsible Official, Office, and Interpretation

The Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment is responsible for the review and revision of this policy. For questions about this policy, please contact the Office of International Enrollment and Services. The Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment in consultation with the Office of University Counsel has the final authority to interpret this policy.

Defined Terms

A defined term has a specific meaning within the context of this policy.

International Student

Any student enrolled at ETSU who is not a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident and is on an F-1 or J-1 visa.

Summer Break

The period between the day after Spring Commencement through the Saturday directly preceding the first day of the Fall term.

Form I-20

“Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status.” A form issued by the PDSO/DSO to show that the student has been accepted into a college or university certified by the Student and Exchange Visitor Program.

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DS-2019

“Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status.” A form issued by the RO/ARO to show that the student has been accepted into a college or university certified by the Student and Exchange Visitor Program.

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1. Required Health Insurance Enrollment

All International Students are required to purchase and maintain health insurance for the duration of their study at ETSU. Students are required to maintain health insurance coverage for every month they intend to be in the United States.

2. Coverage for Dependents

Dependents of the International Student listed on the Form I-20 or DS-2019 and in the United States are required to have health insurance for the duration of the student's program of study. Insurance must be purchased no later than the census date for each academic term in which the student is enrolled.

3. Coverage from Contracted Vendor

An International Student must purchase health insurance from the company/vendor that ETSU contracts with for health insurance. Exceptions on a limited basis, can be requested through the company/vendor. Details for the contracted company/vendor can be found at www.etsu.edu/international/insurance.

3.1. Student-athletes.

In some cases, student-athletes hold separate insurance as determined by the Department of Athletics. Upon receipt of proof from the Athletics Department, student-athletes holding these policies meet the requirement outlined in this policy.

3.2. Government-Sponsored Students.

International Students sponsored by the government of their home country (e.g. Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM)) that hold sufficient health insurance will not be required to purchase additional health insurance through ETSU's contracted vendor upon submission of proof of insurance.

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3.3. Summer Travel.

Students on F-1 visas who choose to depart the United States during the summer break will not be required to purchase health insurance for the summer term. Students must send their I-94 departure record to have the requirement removed.

Any other circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The decision of the Director of International Enrollment and Services or designee to grant an exception to the health insurance requirements is final.

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Procedures

N/A

Applicable Forms and Websites

N/A

Authority and Revisions

Authority: TCA § 49-8-203, et seq.

The ETSU Board of Trustees is charged with policy making pursuant to TCA § 49-8-203, et seq. On March 24, 2017, the Board delegated its authority to ETSU's President to establish certain policies and procedures for educational program and other operations of the University, including this policy. The delegation of authority and required process for revision to this policy can be found on the [Policy Development and Rule Making Policy webpage](#).

To suggest a revision to this policy, please contact the responsible official indicated in this policy. Before a substantive change to the policy section may take effect, the requested changes must be: (1) approved by the responsible office; (2) reviewed by the Office of University Counsel for legal sufficiency; (3) posted for public comment; (4) approved by either Academic Council or University Council; and (5) approved by ETSU's President.