Visa Renewal Requirements

Your visa may expire while you are studying in the U.S. You will need a valid visa to re-enter the U.S. Visas may only be renewed at a U.S. embassy or consulate outside of the United States. It is best to renew your F-1 student visa in your home country. Be sure to allow plenty of time (two weeks at least) to renew your visa.

Below is a list of documents that are almost always required, some of which are best prepared before you depart the U.S. Please note that this list is not comprehensive. You should research the specific F-1 visa application requirements on the website for the Consulate at which you intend to apply because each Consulate has different requirements for F-1 visa applications. Commonly required documents include:

1. **Form DS-160**, the Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application
2. Application Fee – You should review the information on the website for the Consulate for the current fee amount and how it must be paid.
3. One Photograph – You should review the information on the website for the Consulate to determine how they would like you to submit your photograph
4. A valid passport. You passport needs to be valid for at least six months past the planned re-entry date.
5. Your I-20 form. The form must be endorsed and dated by a DSO in the CIE before your departure.
6. A transcript of all previous work at College of Lake County (and at other schools you have attended). You can obtain the CLC transcript in a sealed envelope from the Admissions & Records office, room B101, Grayslake Campus or my logging on to myCLC and requesting it there.
7. Copy of your schedule for the current and/or next semester.
8. Proof of financial support. This can include:
   a. Recent bank account records or letter. A copy of your financial aid award letter, if you receive aid
   b. An Affidavit of Support from your financial sponsor(s)

For more details regarding the F-1 visa application process, please review the information provided by the Department of State on their website.