

Checklist: Application for an U.S. study visa (F-1 or J-1)

- <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study.html> - Visit this website for current visa policy and procedures, based on your own situation and circumstances.
- Check directly with the U.S. Embassy or Consulate where you will apply for your visa, as application procedures may vary somewhat depending on local needs.
- Ask what application and/or issuance fees are required and how they can be paid – application fees are non-refundable and must be paid before your appointment.
 - You will also need to pay your I-901 Fee before your appointment

Gather and prepare the following required documents before your visa interview:

1. **Passport valid for travel to the United States** - Your passport must be valid for at least six months beyond your period of stay in the United States.
2. **Nonimmigrant Visa Application (Form DS-160 confirmation page)**
 - a. Learn more about completing the DS-160 - <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/forms/ds-160-online-nonimmigrant-visa-application.html>
 - b. You must complete the online Form DS-160 visa application - <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/> and
 - c. Print the application confirmation page to bring to your interview
3. **Photo** - You will upload your photo while completing the online Form DS-160
 - a. If the photo upload fails (<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/photos/frequently-asked-questions.html>) you must bring one printed photo in the format explained in the Photograph Requirements - <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/photos.html>
4. **Application fee payment receipt** (if you are required to pay before your interview)
5. **Form I-20** - You and your school official must **sign the Form I-20 (or DS-2019 for Exchange Students)**. All students, their spouse and minor children if they intend to reside in the United States with the student, must be registered in the Student and Exchange Visitor System (SEVIS). Each person receives an individual Form I-20/DS-2019.
6. **The SEVIS I-901 fee receipt** - <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.html>

Additional Documentation May Be Required

Review the instructions for how to apply for a visa on the website of the embassy or consulate where you will apply. Additional documents may be requested to establish that you are qualified. For example, additional requested documents may include evidence of:

Your academic preparation, such as:

- Transcripts, diplomas, degrees, or certificates from schools you attended; and
- Standardized test scores required by your U.S. school;

Your intent to depart the United States upon completion of the course of study; and

How you will pay all educational, living and travel costs.