



STUDENT VISA FACT SHEET

Type of Student Visa

F1: For students in an academic or language training program. (This is the most common visa type for those who wish to pursue an education in the United States.)

J1: For Exchange Visitor Program participants.

M1: For vocational students or other non-academic students.

For more information on student visa categories please visit:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study.html> and
<http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/index.html?firstTime=No>

SEVIS and SEVIS Fee

The **Student and Exchange Visitor Information System** (SEVIS) is an Internet-based system that maintains you a foreign student or exchange visitor data, as well as your dependents', before and during your stay in the US. It is a key part of the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) administered by ICE within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

If you apply for a student or exchange visitor visa (F-1, M-1, and J-1 visas), in most cases you must pay the SEVIS fee (SEVIS I-901 fee). Payments and inquiries are handled by the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) and administered by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

For information about the fee and the payment processes and options, visit the ICE website <https://www.ice.gov/sevis> and <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901>

Points to remember on SEVIS Fee payment:

- Do not pay the SEVIS fee before you have your Form I-20 or DS-2019
- Pay the SEVIS fee before your visa interview appointment and well in advance of planned travel
- Take the SEVIS fee payment receipt to your visa interview
- The SEVIS fee is non-refundable

Important

If you have a spouse or child traveling with you, they must apply for an F-2/M-2/J-2 dependent visa – either at the time of your application or after you receive your visa. They are not required to pay a separate SEVIS fee.

You can apply for an F-1 visa no more than 120 days before the start of your program (as specified on your I-20) and can travel to the U.S. no more than 30 days before the start of your program.

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Steps to Apply for the Student Visa

After you finalize enrolment at your institution and receive your I-20, follow the steps listed below:

Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pay SEVIS Fee online at www.fmjfee.com
Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Visit http://www.ustraveldocs.com/ ▪ Select your region and country and then create a user account ▪ Complete the DS-160 (visa application form) https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/ ▪ Guidelines for completing the form: http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-ds160info.asp and http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-ds160complete.asp
Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pay the application fees via National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) or mobile phone or in cash at DRUK (For Bhutanese Nationals), Axis and Citibank Bank ▪ Visa Fee: http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-visafeeinfo.asp ▪ Bank and Payment Options: http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-paymentinfo.asp
Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schedule first appointment for biometrics collection at Visa Application Center (VAC) Photos and Fingerprints: http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-offsitecollectionservices.asp ▪ Schedule the second appointment for a visa interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate Schedule an Appointment: https://cgifederal.secure.force.com/?language=English&country=India Visa Wait Time: http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-waittimeinfo.asp#processing Security Regulations: http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-securityinfo.asp

Remember

You should arrive at the Embassy/Consulate or Visa Assistance Center (VAC) no earlier than 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment. You will only be allowed entry into the Embassy/Consulate compound at the exact time of your appointment

FAQs

<http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-gen-faq.asp>

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Documents

You need to take the following mandatory documents for your visa appointments:

For your VAC visit

- A valid passport
- DS-160 confirmation page
- Appointment confirmation page

For your Visa interview

- Your passport
- A printed copy of your appointment confirmation letter
- Your DS-160 confirmation page stamped at VAC
- SEVIS fee receipt
- The Form I-20 (for F-1 and M-1 applicants) or the DS-2019 (for J-1 applicants) issued by the U.S. university or college you plan to attend

For more information on documentation to carry for the visa appointments please visit:

<http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-visaapply.asp>

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