

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 education in the United States.)

J1: For Exchange visitors

M1: For vocational students or other nonacademic students

For more information on student visa categories please visit:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/study-exchange.html>

Steps to apply for the Visa: After you finalize 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 the region, country and then create a user account • Complete the DS-160 or the visa form
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
Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule first appointment for biometrics collection at Visa Application Center (VAC) • Schedule second appointment for a visa interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate

Remember:

You should arrive at the Embassy/Consulate or Visa Assistance Center (VAC) 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment.

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 -

- A printed copy of your appointment confirmation letter
- Your DS-160 confirmation page stamped at VAC
- SEVIS fee receipt
- Your passport
- I-20 issued by the U.S. University 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>

Important web links to help you schedule visa appointments:

The links below provide accurate information related to completing the visa application form, making payments, visa wait time among other things:

Bank and Payment Options:

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

DS-160 Information:

<http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-ds160complete.asp>

Scheduling an appointment:

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

Visa Wait Time:

<http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/in-niv-waittimeinfo.asp#processing>

Photos and Fingerprints:

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

Security Regulations:

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

For more information:

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



SEVIS Fee:

SEVIS stands for **Student and Exchange Visitor information System**.

SEVIS is an Internet-based system that maintains data on foreign students and exchange visitors, as well as your dependents, before and during your stay in the US. It is a key part of 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
- 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 visa. The dependents are not required to pay the SEVIS fee.

You can apply for a visa **no more than 120 days** or **4 months** 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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