



# Student Visas

## Fact Sheet for Indian Students Traveling to the United States

Please use the information below as a guide to help you apply for your student visa. This information is provided by the Consular (Visa) Section of the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, but policies and procedures are subject to change. For the latest information, please visit: <https://in.usembassy.gov/visas/>

### Steps to Apply for the Student Visa

#### Step 1: PAY SEVIS FEE

After you finalize your institution and receive your I-20, your first step is to pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee which is a required fee for students and exchange visitors and is separate from visa fees and school administration fees.

Learn more about this fee and how to pay it at [www.ice.gov/sevis/students](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students).

#### Step 2: CREATE ACCOUNT AND FILL OUT DS-160

Visit <http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/en>

Select the region and country and then create a user account.

Complete the DS-160 (visa application) form at: <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>

Find guidelines for completing the form at: <https://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/en/step-2>

#### Step 3: PAY VISA APPLICATION FEE

Pay the application fees - via National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) or mobile phone or in cash at DRUK (for Bhutanese Nationals), Axis, or Citibank.

For instructions refer to: <https://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/en/step-3>

#### Step 4: SCHEDULE YOUR VISA APPOINTMENT

Schedule two appointments: 1) for biometrics (fingerprint and photograph) collection at the Visa Application Center (VAC) and 2) for a visa interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate. For more information about scheduling both of these appointments click:

<https://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/en/step-4>

For the latest appointment wait times see: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/wait-times.html>

**Please note:** F, M, and academic J visa applicants who are renewing their visa **in the same visa category within 48 months of expiration** may now apply using the interview waiver process. You may book an interview waiver appointment at: <https://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/en/renew-visa>

Remember: You should arrive at the Embassy/Consulate or Visa Assistance Center (VAC) no earlier than 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment.



**Documents:** Bring the following mandatory documents for your visa appointments:

For your VAC visit:

- Your passport
- DS-160 confirmation page
- Appointment confirmation page

For your visa interview:

- Your passport
- Appointment confirmation page
- DS-160 confirmation page stamped at VAC
- SEVIS fee receipt
- Form I-20 (for F and M applicants) or the DS-2019 (for J applicants) issued by the U.S. institution or program sponsor

For more information on student visa categories please visit:

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

<https://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/en/student-visa>

### **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 up to 365 days or 12 months before the start of your program (as specified on your I-20), though you can travel to the U.S. no more than 30 days before the start of your program.

For visa inquiries, the best and fastest way to communicate is to email [support-india@usvisascheduling.com](mailto:support-india@usvisascheduling.com) or dial the call center ((91-22) 62011000) during business hours to speak to a representative. Please note that multiple separate attempts to contact the Embassy or Consulate will slow communication.

[educationusaindia@usief.org.in](mailto:educationusaindia@usief.org.in)

<https://educationusa.state.gov/>

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