

## Student Visa to the U.S.

**About The F-1 or Student Visa:** This is the most frequently used visa by those who wish to pursue academic studies in the United States.

**Steps to apply for U.S. Visa:** After you receive your I-20 and have finalized your institution, follow the steps listed below:

Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay SEVIS Fee online at <a href="http://www.fmjfee.com">www.fmjfee.com</a></li> </ul>
Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit <a href="http://www.ustraveldocs.com/">http://www.ustraveldocs.com/</a></li> <li>• Select the region, country and then create a user account</li> <li>• Complete the DS-160</li> </ul>
Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay the application fees - Via National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) or mobile phone or in cash at DRUK, Axis and Citibank Bank</li> </ul>
Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule two separate appointments</li> <li>• The first appointment should be scheduled for biometrics collection at Visa Application Center(VAC) and the second one for a visa interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate</li> </ul>

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

**You need to bring the following mandatory documents:**

**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>



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### Important web links to help you schedule visa appointments:

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

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>

### Further Instructions and Information:

- Do not pay the SEVIS fee before you have a Form I-20 or DS-2019
- Pay the SEVIS fee before your visa interview appointment
- Do not leave SEVIS fee payment to the last minute
- You must bring 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.

### SEVIS and SEVP

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).

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