



ITU

International Technological University

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Applying for F-1 Visa

Documents to take to an F-1 Visa interview

- Current Form I-20
- Form DS-160 online application for non-immigrant visa
- Payment receipt for I-901 SEVIS Fee. For instructions on paying the I-901 SEVIS Fee, refer to: <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901>
- Current passport that is valid for at least 6 months
- Original letter of admission to ITU
- Proof of funds valid within 6 months of program start date showing you can support your studies
- An affidavit of support for funds provided by a financial sponsor
- Copy of undergraduate degree certificate
- Official transcripts from all academic institutions attended in the US (if applicable)
- Two colored 2 by 2 inch passport style photographs
- Any other forms or documents asked for on the U.S. Consulate website where the visa interview will take place
- TOEFL, IELTS, or other proof of English proficiency

Find U.S. Consulate or Embassy: <https://www.usembassy.gov/>

When applying for your student visa, keep in mind the following information:

- The U.S. Department of State has instructed U.S. consulates that they may issue an F-1 visa no more than 120 days in advance of the program start date. However, an application for an F-1 visa can be submitted more than 120 days in advance of the I-20 start date in order to accommodate long processing times, but the visa validity will never be before the I-20 day mark. Check the website of the consulate where you will apply for a visa for detailed instructions.
- You may enter the U.S. no more than 30 days prior to the Program Start Date shown on the I-20 form. If you try to enter the U.S. more than 30 days before the start date on your I-20, you may not be permitted to enter the U.S.
- You must enter the U.S. and report to ISO by the Program Start Date on the I-20.
- Review all of the information on your Form I-20 to ensure accuracy.



Top 10 Tips for Passing Your Student Visa Interview

1. Step 1: submit your application.
2. Step 2: practice your English as often as possible.
3. Step 3: gather all the documentation you need to take to the interview.
 - This is one of the most important steps in your preparation for the interview. During the visa interview you must present enough evidence for you to get a visa. Some of the documents you must present include: your visa application, university acceptance letter, I-20 form in the U.S. as well as evidence that you have enough money to support yourself. You can also include sponsors, like your parents, who will help you support yourself while you are abroad.
4. Step 4: visualize yourself getting a visa.
5. Step 5: what to do during the interview.
 - You should dedicate your full attention to the officer or the translator at the interview. Make sure to listen carefully, think before you answer and keep your answers short and to the point. You can research online the most common questions at the visa interviews to prepare yourself and your answers.
6. Step 6: prepare an explanation.
7. Step 7: talk about ties to your home country “Non immigration intent for F-1.”
 - The officers at the embassy or consulate will often ask about the ties to your home country. This is done to make sure that you have enough things that hold you back and that you will eventually come back to your home country. Typically these include: your job or business, family, property you may own, or anything else you can think of.
8. Step 8: be clear that you will return home after graduation.
 - This is important, so make sure to reiterate this point and illustrate on a few examples that you are planning on coming back to your home country after graduating.
9. Step 9: Stay positive.