

ATTAINING F-1 STATUS:

How to Apply for an F-1 Visa



If you are currently outside the U.S. and would like to become a student in the U.S., you may apply for an F-1 visa. For the most current, accurate, and detailed information on how to apply for an F-1 visa, visit [here](#).

STEP 1: APPLY TO ACC TO OBTAIN A FORM I-20

To obtain a Form I-20, you will first need to [apply to ACC as an international student](#).

A complete [application packet](#) will include:

- International Student Application
- \$75 Application Fee
- Proof of English Language Proficiency
- International Student Financial Statement
- Proof of Financial Resources
- Proof of High School (Secondary) Graduation
- Photocopy of Passport Identification Page
- Emergency Contact Information

After ACC receives a complete and acceptable application packet, you will be admitted to ACC as an international student and issued a Form I-20.

STEP 2: COMPILE YOUR DOCUMENTS

- [Form DS-160](#) (complete the application online and print the application form confirmation page)
- One 2x2 photo (see [here](#) for photo requirements)
- Form I-20 signed by both student and DSO
- Passport valid for at least 6 months beyond the intended period of stay
- Proof of payment of the SEVIS I-901 fee (see [here](#) for details)
- Visa application fees, including MRV visa processing fee and any applicable visa reciprocity fees (see [here](#) for details)
- Detailed financial support documents
- Proof of academic status (admission letter, transcript)
- Proof of English language proficiency

STEP 3: INTERVIEW AT A U.S. EMBASSY OR CONSULATE

- Find a U.S. Embassy or Consulate [here](#) and schedule an interview. For information on current wait and processing times, visit [here](#).
- Prepare for your interview. Be prepared to articulate:
 - Why you want to go to the specific school (ACC)
 - What you plan to study
 - How you plan to use your education when you return to your home country
 - Your intention to leave the U.S. after your studies are complete
- Attend your interview, remain calm, and answer all questions openly and honestly. Bring all required documents to the interview.

STEP 4: ENTER THE U.S.

If your visa application is approved, congratulations! You may enter the U.S. **no more than 30 days before** your program start date. Be sure to carry your documents in hand while you travel.