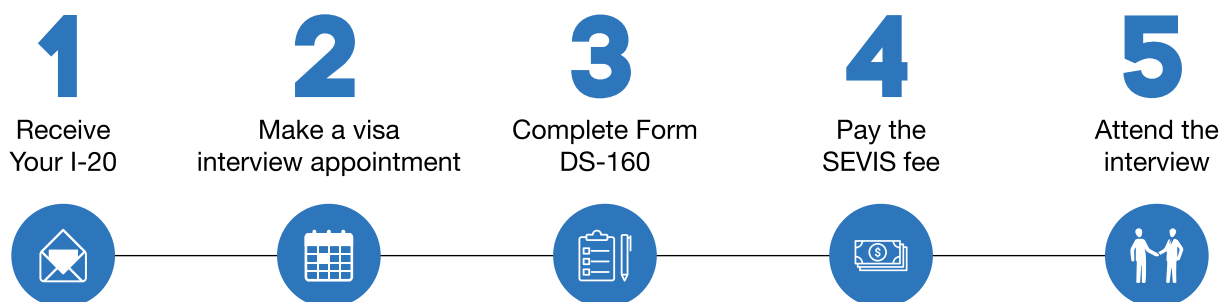


HOW TO APPLY FOR A U.S. STUDENT VISA



There are several steps to apply for a U.S. student F-1 visa and the steps may vary depending on your nationality and home country.



1. Receive Your I-20

Sign your letter of acceptance, pay your deposit and submit all official documents required to clear any remaining conditions listed on your offer letter. Once all conditions are met, you will be sent an official acceptance letter and a Form I-20 issued by the University. Please sign your Form I-20 at line 11 at the bottom of page 1. If you discover an error on your I-20, please contact SAE Institute staff immediately.

2. Make a visa interview appointment

Visit usembassy.gov to request a visa interview. Wait times for interview appointments vary by location and time of year; apply early for your visa interview so you don't miss the start of classes. Practice your English conversation skills for your visa interview appointment, which may be your one and only opportunity to get a U.S. student visa.

3. Complete Form DS-160

Take photos matching the [required](#)

[photo formats](#) for your visa application. Complete the online visa application (Form DS-160), pay the application fee, and upload your photos here: ceac.state.gov/genniv. Print the application form confirmation page to bring to your interview.

4. Pay the SEVIS fee

Pay the one-time SEVIS fee online: fmjfee.com. You must bring the receipt/proof of payment with you to your visa interview appointment.

5. Attend the interview

Bring the required documents to your interview at the U.S. embassy/consulate:

- Copy of visa application Form DS-160 confirmation page and application fee payment receipt (if required to pay before the interview)
- Your passport (must be valid at least six months into the future at all times)
- Form I-20
- SEVIS fee proof of payment receipt

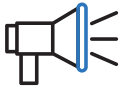
- Official acceptance letter from the University
- Official transcripts, diplomas, certificates, English test scores, and other academic preparation documents
- Proof of financial documentation to show you have funds to meet all expenses for your studies
- Documents that show connections to your home country – finances, offers of employment, etc.
- Photo(s)

For more information about how to apply for a student visa, please visit the [U.S. Department of State website](#).

To request a practice visa interview or for any additional questions, please contact an admissions representative: international.us@sae.edu

PREPARE FOR YOUR U.S. STUDENT VISA INTERVIEW

The visa interview is the most important step in the visa application process. During your interview, a U.S. consular officer will ask questions and review your documents to determine if you are qualified to receive a visa. The interview may end in less than a minute if you are not able to answer questions in a satisfactory manner.



8 Things to Remember for Your Visa Interview

1. Make a positive first impression

Consular officers are under pressure to conduct a quick and efficient interview. You may only have 1-2 minutes to speak. Come prepared, dress professionally, be polite and answer questions truthfully, quickly, and clearly.

2. Speak for yourself

Do not bring parents or other family members with you to the interview. If you are under the age of 18, your parents might need to answer questions for you. Please have your parents stay outside in the waiting room until they are requested.

3. Answer in English

The interview will be conducted in English so it is best to practice your English conversation skills with your agent, an SAE Institute staff member, or a native English speaker well before your interview. Do NOT memorize prepared answers or speeches.

4. Explain your connections to your home country

If the consular officer believes that you will not return to your home country after you complete your studies, your student visa will be denied. The interviewing officer may ask about:

- Copy of grades, educational objectives, and future employment plans in your home country
- your family or other relationships
- financial prospects that you own or may inherit

5. Explain your study plan

You will need to explain the reasons you are enrolling at SAE Institute and how the program will help you toward success in your career. The consular officer must understand that SAE Institute is a full-time, on-campus program, in which you will earn credits toward a degree or diploma program. The consular officer may ask to review your academic qualification documents to determine your potential for success in your studies.

6. Explain how your studies will prepare you for employment in your home country

Your main purpose to come to the United States should be to study, not for the chance to work before or after graduation. Although you may participate in work-study or internship programs during your studies, you must be able to explain how studying in the United States and your intended degree program relates to your future professional career back in your home country.

7. Explain financial support plans for your dependents

If your spouse is applying for an F-2 visa, understand that F-2 dependents cannot work in the United States. Volunteer work and attending school part-time are permitted F-2 visa activities.

If your spouse and children will stay in your home country, be prepared to explain how they will support themselves financially since they must not rely on you for income. If the consular officer gains the impression that you will need to send money from the U.S. to help your family, your student visa application will almost certainly be denied. If your family will also apply for visas, it is helpful to have them apply at the same U.S. embassy/consulate where you applied for your visa.

8. What to do if your visa application is denied

Do not engage the consular officer in an argument. If you are denied a student visa, ask the officer for a list of documents needed to overcome the refusal, and ask for the reason for denial in writing. Contact your educational advisor or SAE Institute representative for assistance before you complete a second visa application.

To request a practice visa interview or ask a question, contact us!

international.us@sae.edu
1 (800) 872-1504