

HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR F-1 VISA

As an international student, you have a few extra steps to take in order to attend St. John's College. We're here to help.

Step 1: Submit your tuition deposit and the International Student Certification of Finances Form.

Once you have made the decision to attend St. John's, you need to submit your \$500 non-refundable tuition deposit, a copy of the photo page of your passport, and the International Student Certification of Finances Form for the full cost of attendance for the 2020-2021 first year of expenses.

On page 2, you will find budget worksheets. Complete the budget worksheet for your campus to understand the assets you need to show the college and the US Embassy.

If you plan to apply for Financial Aid, your International Student Certification of Finances must show that you are able to cover any expenses not covered by your aid.

Students with dependents (i.e. spouse, children) should contact the Admissions Office for further details regarding bringing dependents to the United States in F status.

While current F-1 visa holders may not need to renew their visa, you do need to contact your current school, have the SEVIS record transferred to St. John's College, and have your current DSO fill out the I-20 Transfer Form and submit it to St. John's.

Step 2: Fill out the required forms.

After you have submitted your enrollment deposit and the other required documents listed above, the college will send you an I-20 form by expedited carrier (i.e., FedEx, DHL) and not by email. Sign it, complete the online nonimmigrant visa application (in many countries this is Form DS-160), and pay the SEVIS I-901 fee. The website to pay the fee is <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.html#>. The process for applying for a visa can vary by country. Additional information regarding these forms, fees, and the general visa process can be found on the U.S. State Department's website at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/student-visa.html#overview>.

Step 3: Schedule your interview.

It is recommended that visa applicants interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in the country where they live. Wait times at interview locations can vary, so it is best to apply for your visa as early as possible, but not more than 120 days before the start of classes. (Canadian citizens do not need to schedule an interview.)

You will need to pay the non-immigrant visa application fee prior to your interview with U.S. State Department personnel. Keep your receipt or online confirmation for this fee and for the SEVIS I-901 fee because you will need them. You will also need the confirmation page for your non-immigrant visa application, your complete I-20 form, and a passport valid for travel which shows a minimum six month valid expiry date beyond the contemplated period of stay. It is in your best interest to have an additional copy of all relevant forms, receipts, and documents just in case there is an issue at any point in this process.

Step 4: If required, pay the visa issuance fee.

When your visa is approved, you may be required to pay a visa issuance fee dependent upon your nationality. This information can also be found on the website referenced above. Note that a transit visa may be required.

We strongly recommend that you wait to finalize your travel plans until after your visa has been issued. Since the timing can be unpredictable, we encourage you to begin this process as early as possible. Once you receive your visa, you may enter the United States 30 days before the start of classes, but are responsible for your own housing until your campus housing becomes available in August. On the Annapolis campus, housing move-in is August 23, and on the Santa Fe campus, housing move-in is on August 22-23.

BUDGET WORKSHEET

ANNAPOLIS

To calculate how much money you need to have available to receive a F-1 Visa, use your financial aid award to fill out the following worksheet:

BUDGET CATEGORY	AMOUNT	FIRST: ADD UP YOUR AID:		
TUITION & FEES	\$35,510	Scholarships		_____
ROOM & BOARD	\$13,386	Grants	+	_____
HEALTH INSURANCE	\$2,570	Work Study*	+	_____
BOOKS & SUPPLIES	\$680	Total Aid	=	_____
PERSONAL	\$400	SECOND: SUBTRACT THE TOTAL AID FROM THE TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE		
TRANSPORTATION	\$600	TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE		\$53,446
HEALTH OFFICE FEE	\$300	Total Aid		_____
		Minimum Amount of Required Financial Support =		_____

TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE \$53,446

*Work Study is paid to students based on hourly employment. It will not be deducted from your bill when you pay your balance for the term.

DO NOT FORGET TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- ☐ \$500 TUITION DEPOSIT
- ☐ A PERMANENT ADDRESS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES (SECTION A)
- ☐ THE PHOTO PAGE OF A VALID PASSPORT
- ☐ BANK STATEMENT(S) FROM ALL SOURCES PROVIDING FUNDS FOR YOUR EDUCATION
- ☐ A SPONSOR SIGNATURE FOR EACH PERSON PROVIDING FUNDS FOR YOUR EDUCATION (SECTION C)
- ☐ A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT US VISA (IF APPLICABLE)
- ☐ A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT I-20 (IF APPLICABLE)
- ☐ THE COMPLETED I-20 TRANSFER FORM (IF APPLICABLE)

International Student Life Cycle (F-1/M-1)



1 Apply to a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-Certified School
Student applies and is accepted to an SEVP-certified school.



2 Receive a Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status"
A student's Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) record is created and the student is then issued a Form I-20 by the designated school official (DSO) at the SEVP-certified school they have chosen to attend.



3 Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee
Student must pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee at FMMJFee.com.



6 Maintain Status During Program Study
Student must take a full course of study, not work without prior authorization and speak with their DSO if they cannot finish classes before their program end date, or have any other concerns about maintaining lawful status.



5 Arrive in the United States
Student arrives no more than 30 days before their program start date and presents their Form I-20 and valid student visa to U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the port of entry.



4 Apply for Student Visa
Student brings their Form I-20 and other required documents to apply for a student visa from the U.S. Department of State.



Work Requirements(F-1 Students Only)
An F-1 student may work only when authorized, including:

- On campus
- Off campus, if financially needed and with authorization from USCIS
- Curricular practical training integral to their program of study
- OPT-related to the student's major and with authorization by USCIS.

7 Explore Post-Graduation Opportunities
A student has the option to transfer schools, change education levels (e.g., undergraduate to graduate), or if eligible, apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) opportunities.



8 Depart the United States
An F-1 student has 60 days to depart the United States after completion of their program of study or OPT. An M-1 student has 30 days after completion of their program of study to depart.