

Obtaining an F-1 Student Visa

All international students must enter the United States with an F-1 student visa. A visa is a stamp that is placed inside of your passport by the United States Consulate or Embassy in your home country. Procedures for applying for an F-1 student visa differ in every country so it is advised that students contact the U.S. Consulate in your country for clarification. Information about the closest U.S. Consulate can be found at <http://usembassy.state.gov/>

When applying and being interviewed for a student visa, be prepared to show:

- Your Official SEVIS Form I-20
- Proof of Payment for the \$100 SEVIS Form I-20 fee
(See Attached SEVIS I-20 Fee Notice)
- A completed non-immigrant visa application
- The appropriate visa application fee (consult the consulate)
- A valid passport
- Acceptance, scholarship, and/or fellowship letters from C.W. Post
- Transcripts and diplomas from previous schools
- TOEFL, GMAT, GRE, SAT Scores
- Evidence of financial ability (bank statements, affidavits, proof of income)
- Evidence of social and economic ties to home country
- Proof of dependents and their relationship to student (If F-2 visa's are required)

Canadian students do not need visas to enter the U.S. as F-1 students. Canadians must show SEVIS I-20, receipt of SEVIS I-20 processing fee payment, proof of financial ability, proof of admissions to C.W. Post, etc, at the port of entry upon arrival in the U.S.

Visa Checklist

SEVIS Form I-20:

I have signed Section 11 on the first page of my FORM I-20.

I have paid the SEVIS fee and printed my receipt for payment of the SEVIS I-20 fee.

F-1 Visa Application Documents (needed for F-1 visa application at U.S. Consulate):

Official SEVIS Form I-20

Proof of payment/receipt for the SEVIS Form I-20 fee

Completed non-immigrant visa application

- _____ Visa application fee (consult the U.S. Consulate)
- _____ Passport, valid for at least six months beyond the date of your expected stay
- _____ Acceptance, scholarship, and/or fellowship letters from C.W. Post
- _____ Transcripts and diplomas from previous schools
- _____ TOEFL, GMAT, GRE, SAT Scores
- _____ Evidence of financial ability (bank statements, affidavits, proof of income)
- _____ Evidence of social and economic ties to home country
- _____ Proof of dependents and their relationship to student (If F-2 visas are required)