

US Visa Service

57 - 61 MORTIMER STREET - LONDON - W1W 8HS
WWW.USVISASERVICE.ORG

F-1 & M-1 Student Visa Application Pack

Contents

	Page
1. Getting Started: How do I begin applying for student visa?	1
1.1 Applying to a University or School	1
1.2 Obtaining a Form I-20	1
1.3 Paying the SEVIS fee	1
1.4 Applying for a B-2 visa as a Prospective Student	1
2. Application Process Overview	2
2.1 How long will it take to process my application?	2
2.2 What happens if I cannot get an appointment for an interview in time?	3
2.3 How long will my visa be valid?	3
3. Who can apply for a visa at the US Embassy in London?	4
3.1 Applications by overseas students present in the UK	4
3.2 Applications by working holiday makers present in the UK	4
3.3 Applications by visitors to the UK	4
3.4 Applications by residents of the UK and UK work permit holders	5
4. Preparing your application forms	6
4.1 What forms do I need to complete?	6
4.2 Who must complete form DS-157?	6
4.3 Who must complete form VCU-01?	6
4.4 Question by question guide to completing form DS-156	6
4.5 Question by question guide to completing form DS-157	11
4.6 Question by question guide to completing form DS-158	14
4.7 Question by question guide to completing form VCU-01	15
5. What documents should I take with me to the US Embassy?	16
5.1 Checklist of documents needed to make your application	16
5.2 Explanation of the supporting documents required	17
5.3 Obtaining a photograph to the correct specifications	17
5.4 Paying the application fee	17
5.5 Paying the SEVIS fee	18
5.6 Passport Requirements	18
5.7 Spouses & Children	18

6. Booking an Interview at the US Embassy	20
6.1 Booking the interview	20
6.2 Applying by mail	20
7. Attending the Interview at the US Embassy	22
8. Dealing with Arrests or Convictions	24
8.1 Applying for a visa if you have ever been arrested or convicted	24
8.2 Additional documentation requirements	24
8.3 What if my police forms come back clear? Do I still need to disclose my arrest or conviction when applying for my visa?	25
8.4 What factors will affect my ability to obtain a visa?	25
8.5 Additional administrative processing	26
Appendix A	27
List of Maximum Durations for F-1 & M-1 Visas and Visa Issuance Fees	27
Appendix B	28
Form DS-156	29
Appendix C	31
Form DS-157	32
Appendix D	33
Schedule of countries visited in the last 10 years	33
Appendix E	34
Form DS-158	35
Appendix F	37
Form VCU-01	38
Appendix G	40
Non-immigrant Visa Photograph Specifications	40
Appendix H	41
US Visa Photographers	41
Appendix I	42
F-1 & M-1 Student Visa Checklist	42

Appendix J	44
Sample Subject Access Form for the Metropolitan Police	45
Appendix K	47
Sample I-94W Card	48
Appendix L	50
Frequently asked questions for students	50