

Do I need an F-1 Visa?

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A person who lives outside the United States and who comes to the United States temporarily for the main purpose of attending an academic institution or an English language institution, such as the International Language Institute, MD, for full-time course enrollment must obtain an F-1 visa. The International Language Institute, MD, is authorized, under Federal Law, to enroll students with F-1 student visas. The International Language Institute, however, does not require students to have student visas. You will need an I-20 form to apply for the F-1 visa.

How can I obtain an I-20 form?

Complete an online application or submit a PDF application form, copy of your passport, your financial documents and your payment to the International Language Institute, MD:

Registration Fee	\$100
SEVIS I-901 Fee (optional)	\$350
Express US Delivery Fee (optional)	\$35

The International Language Institute, MD does not require a tuition deposit.

What kind of financial documents do I need?

You or your sponsor must show proof of financial support by supplying the American Consulate in your country the following documents in English:

- Your or your sponsor's recent bank statement in English with name of account holder, date of the statement, currency, and current balance. Statement cannot be older than 3 months.
- Sponsor's letter certifying that your sponsor will support you financially. (If your sponsor is currently residing in the U.S., he/she will need to fill out an official I-134 Affidavit of Support (<u>https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/form/i-134.pdf</u>)
- Other documents may be requested by the US Consulate in your country to support your visa application.

When will I get my I-20 form?

- New I-20 forms are usually processed within 1-3 business days.
- We send all completed I-20 forms by email. If desired, we can express mail a hard copy to a US address (you must pay a non-refundable delivery fee of \$35 in advance).

How do I obtain the F-1 visa?

Once the International Language Institute, MD has issued your I-20 form and you have received it, you can complete the online visa application (DS-160) and schedule the visa appointment at the US Consulate or Embassy in your country or a neighboring country. Take the I-20 form, your acceptance letter, the I-901 SEVIS payment receipt, and your financial support documents to the U.S. Consulate where you scheduled your visa appointment.

What happens when I arrive in the US?

- Students must enroll in the Intensive Program for a minimum of two months.
- Students must attend classes every day (minimum attendance of 80% to maintain status)
- Students must keep their passport valid at all times.