ATTAINING F-1 STATUS:
How to Apply for an F-1 Visa

If you are currently outside the U.S. and would like to become a student in the U.S., you may apply for an F-1 visa. For the most current, accurate, and detailed information on how to apply for an F-1 visa, visit here.

STEP 1: APPLY TO ACC TO OBTAIN A FORM I-20
To obtain a Form I-20, you will first need to apply to ACC as an international student.
A complete application packet will include:

- International Student Application
- $75 Application Fee
- Proof of English Language Proficiency
- International Student Financial Statement
- Proof of Financial Resources
- Proof of High School (Secondary) Graduation
- Photocopy of Passport Identification Page
- Emergency Contact Information

After ACC receives a complete and acceptable application packet, you will be admitted to ACC as an international student and issued a Form I-20.

STEP 2: COMPILE YOUR DOCUMENTS

- Form DS-160 (complete the application online and print the application form confirmation page)
- One 2x2 photo (see here for photo requirements)
- Form I-20 signed by both student and DSO
- Passport valid for at least 6 months beyond the intended period of stay
- Proof of payment of the SEVIS I-901 fee (see here for details)
- Visa application fees, including MRV visa processing fee and any applicable visa reciprocity fees (see here for details)
- Detailed financial support documents
- Proof of academic status (admission letter, transcript)
- Proof of English language proficiency

STEP 3: INTERVIEW AT A U.S. EMBASSY OR CONSULATE

- Find a U.S. Embassy or Consulate here and schedule an interview. For information on current wait and processing times, visit here.
- Prepare for your interview. Be prepared to articulate:
  - Why you want to go to the specific school (ACC)
  - What you plan to study
  - How you plan to use your education when you return to your home country
  - Your intention to leave the U.S. after your studies are complete
- Attend your interview, remain calm, and answer all questions openly and honestly. Bring all required documents to the interview.

STEP 4: ENTER THE U.S.
If your visa application is approved, congratulations! You may enter the U.S. no more than 30 days before your program start date. Be sure to carry your documents in hand while you travel.

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