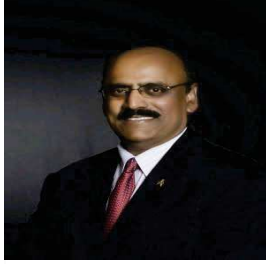




అమెరికా స్టూడెంట్ వీసా - ఈ వివరాలు తెలుసుకోండి



అమెరికాలో ఎఫ్ 1 వీసా అంటే విద్యార్థి వీసాలు పొందదలచినవారి కోసం తానా మాజీ అద్యక్షుడు ప్రసాద్ తోటకూర కొంత పరిశోధన చేసి ఉపయుక్తమైన విషయాలను తయారు చేశారు. వాటి వివరాలు ఇలా ఉన్నాయి. పూర్తి వివరాల కోసం ఆయన ఇచ్చిన అడ్డన్ లో కూడా తెలుసుకోవచ్చు.

The process of Getting F-1 (Student Visa) to study in the USA

1. Selecting a University in USA:

- ❖ You need to make sure that your selected program and university are accredited. In some instances, the university may be accredited but some courses in that particular university may not be accredited.
- ❖ There are two types of accreditations - one is by the 'Federal Government' and the other is by the 'Council for Higher Education Accreditation' (CHEA).

2. List of accreditation agencies recognized by US Secretary of Education: Your intended university should be accredited by one of these agencies.

Accreditation Agency Scope of Recognition

Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges US Nationwide
Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training US Nationwide
Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools US Nationwide
Council on Occupational Education US Nationwide

Distance Education Accrediting Commission US Nationwide

Middle States Commission on Higher Education Institutions of higher education in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools Institutions in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education Institutions of higher education in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

New York State Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education Institutions of higher education in New York.

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, The Higher Learning Commission Institutions of higher education in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
In Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges In Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Accreditation Commission Christian postsecondary institutions in the United States.

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges In California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Senior Colleges and University Commission In California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

3. Information on Accredited Universities:

❖ A detailed list of recognized universities and their programs is released by the US Department of Education quite often. For an updated compiled list of US Universities and their programs, please visit

<http://www.prasadthotakura.com/services/accrediteduniversitiesprograms.pdf>

❖ Or, you can search by clicking the below link for accredited US Universities/Programs.

<http://www.chea.org/search/search.asp>

4. Admission Requirements:

❖ Once you select the university, it is better to have a thorough understanding about the admission process since the process differs from university to university.

❖ Besides your academic degree, you must be ready with your TOEFL, GRE / GMAT scores.

5. Application:

❖ You need to contact the university, get the application form and fill it out with all appropriate information.

❖ You need to get your academic degree evaluated by one of the following Educational Credential Evaluation Agencies.

6. List of Educational Credential Evaluation Agencies:

Name Contact Information

AACRAO Foreign Credential Evaluation Service, Washington DC Tel: 1-202-296-3559

Email: oies@aacrao.org

ACREVS Inc. (Academic & Credential Records, Evaluation & Verification Service), CA Tel: 1-408-719-0015

Tel: 1-866-583-4834 (toll free)

Email: info@acrevs.com

Astar Education Institute, VA Tel: 703-368-6838

Tel: 202-628-8226

Email: admissions@astarinstitute.org

Center for Applied Research Evaluation & Education, Inc., CA Tel: 1-562-430-1105

Email: evalcaree@earthlink.net

E-Valuate, VA Email: danand@e-valuate.com

Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE), WI Tel: 1-414-289-3400

Email: eval@ece.org

Education Evaluators International, Inc., RI Tel: 1-401-521-5340

Email: eval@edupei.com

Education International, Inc. , MA Tel: 1-781-235-7425

Email: edint@gis.net

Educational Records Evaluation Services (ERES), CA Tel: 1-916-921-0790

Email: edu@eres.com

Evaluation Service, Inc. (ESI), IL Tel: 1-847-477-8569

Email: info@evaluationservice.net

The Foreign Academic Credentials Service, Inc., IL Tel: 1-618-288-1661

Email: FACS@aol.com

Foreign Credentials Service of America, TX Email: FCSA@jump.net

The Foreign Educational Document Service, CA Tel: 1-209-948-6589

Foundation for International Services, Inc., WA Tel: 1-425-248-2255

Email: info@fis-web.com

Global Credential Evaluators, Inc. (GCE), TX Tel: 1-512-528-0908

Tel: 1-804-639-3660

Email: gce@gcevaluators.com

International Consultants of Delaware, Inc., DE Tel: 1-302-737-8715

Email: icd@icdel.com

International Education Research Foundation Inc., Credentials Evaluation Service (IERF-CES), CA Tel:

1-310-258-9451

Email: info@ierf.org

Josef Silny & Associates, International Education Consultants, FL Tel: 1-305-273-1616

Email: info@jsilny.com

Knowledge Company, VA Tel: 1-703-359-3520

Email: tkco@knowledgecompany.com

Spantran Educational Services, Inc., TX Tel: 1-713-266-8805

Tel: 1-646-475-2570

Word Communication International, AZ Tel: 1-602-265-0678

Email: evaluations@earthlink.com

World Education Services (WES), NY Tel: 1-800-WES-3895

Email: info@wes.org

7. Financial Aid:

- ❖ It is important to budget and plan for your expenses throughout your study in the USA.
- ❖ Funding from Private Resources: Some private foundations and nonprofit organizations in USA will provide financial funding to students. Grants are also available from charitable and religious organizations. More information on available funding from private resources can be obtained from the following website.....

<http://grantspace.org/tools/knowledge-base/Individual-Grantseekers/Students/funding-for-international-students>

- ❖ Funding from the Universities: Some universities may have their own resources for assisting international students. You can check with the international admissions office of your interested University to find out any institutional, community, state or federal assistance available.

8. Budgeting Expenses:

- ❖ Next step is to estimate the total cost that will be incurred by you during your period of education in the USA. Some of the common expenses to be considered include:

- Application and Test Fees
- Tuition Fees
- Books
- Airfare to USA
- Accommodation and Food
- Expenses when school is closed
- Clothing
- Personal expenses
- Health insurance
- Auto insurance (if applicable)
- Summer study / Local travel

9. Student Visa:

- ❖ Types of Student Visas:

- F-1 Student Visa: Visa to enter the United States of America to attend University or College.
- J-1 Visa: Visa to participate in exchange visitor programs in the United States.
- M-1 Visa: Visa for vocational or other recognized nonacademic institutional programs, other than a language training program.

- ❖ Once the university reviews your application form and approves your admission, then they will issue you Form I-20.

- ❖ Check your Form I-20 against your passport information to make sure that your name and date of birth are correctly listed and spelled.

- ❖ You need to pay the I-901 fee before applying for a visa. The I-901 form can be filled online and paid at

<https://fmjfee.com/i901fee/desktop/students/formSelection.htm>

- ❖ After paying the I-901 fee and getting a receipt, you can apply for a visa at any US Embassy or US Consulate to get F-1 Student Visa.

Note: Accredited US Universities inform US Homeland Security by submitting the Form I-17 that they are admitting international students in their universities. You make sure that your intended University has submitted that Form I-17. You can verify that by accessing

www.prasadthotakura.com/FormI-17approveduniversities.pdf

10. Required Documentation before Visa Interview:

- ❖ Passport -- Your passport must be valid for at least six months beyond your period of stay in the United States.

- ❖ Nonimmigrant Visa Application Form DS-160 confirmation page. The DS-160 form can be filled online at

<https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>

- ❖ Application fee payment receipt (s) -You are required to pay before your interview.
- ❖ Photo – You will upload your photo while completing the online Form DS-160.
- ❖ Certificate of Eligibility for (F-1) Student Visa - Form I-20 that you received from your university.
- ❖ Transcripts, Degrees, or Certificates from educational institutions you attended.
- ❖ Standardized test scores required by your US University. For ex: TOEFL, GRE / GMAT.
- ❖ Your intent to leave the United States upon completion of the course of study.
- ❖ Source to support to pay all your educational, living and travel expenses.

11. Attend Your Visa Interview:

- ❖ At your visa interview, a consular officer after verifying all submitted documents will determine whether you are eligible to receive Student (F-1) Visa.

12. Preparation for your trip to US:

- ❖ You must verify that your
- ❖ Passport and Student (F-1) visa are valid to enter into the United States. The passport should be valid for at least six months beyond the date of your expected stay.
- ❖ Visa accurately reflects correct visa classification.
- ❖ University name for accuracy if printed on visa.
- ❖ Students (F-1 Visa) entering the United States for the first time may only be admitted up to 30-days prior to the program start date.
- ❖ When you receive your Student (F-1 Visa) at the Embassy or Consulate in your country, the consular officer will hand over you a sealed envelope. You should not open this envelope but submit the same to immigration officials at the airport on entering the USA.

13. Documents to carry in person:

- ❖ Passport (including the sealed envelope) with Student (F-1 Visa).
- ❖ Form I-20 / DS-2019.
- ❖ Form I-797 - Receipt Notice verifying Fee payment.
- ❖ Evidence of financial resources while study in USA.
- ❖ Tuition receipts (if applicable).
- ❖ Educational transcripts.
- ❖ Name and contact information for Designated School Official (DSO) or Responsible Officer (RO) at your intended University.

14. Living in the USA:

- ❖ Once you land in USA, you can apply and obtain a Social Security Number.
 - ❖ You can apply for a Driver's license and receive it after meeting the requirements. (Some States in USA may approve and recognize your International Driver's License if you have one)
 - ❖ Guidelines to stay safe in America can be found at
- <http://prasadthotakura.com/SafetyGuidelines.pdf>

15. Employment while you are a student:

- ❖ While you are on Student (F-1 Visa), you should not accept off-campus jobs.
- ❖ An on-campus job (at the university) must be limited to 20 hours a week.
- ❖ F-1 students may stay in the USA for the full length of their academic program plus 60 days.
- ❖ They can also be on Optional Practical Training (OPT) for initial 12 months followed by 17 month extension period if they are in Science, Engineering, and Technology & Management.
- ❖ Students (F-1 Visa) must complete their studies by the expiration date listed on the I-20 form.

16. Interview at Port of Entry (Airport) in USA

- ❖ Upon landing in USA at the airport, immigration officials may interview you about your academic plans and financial support. You must answer confidently and accurately to match with the documents that you already submitted.
- ❖ You must have clear understanding about your intended University and should not say that you support yourself financially by working part-time off-campus jobs while studying.

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Disclaimer: The above provided information is extracted from multiple authentic resources. The rules and regulations of US Education Process may vary from time to time. Please verify for accuracy.