

Distance Learning students who are not citizens or legal permanent residents of the United States must travel to the U.S. on a Student (F-1) Visa to enroll in residential courses. Students traveling to the U.S. on a Visitor (B-1 or B-2) Visa or who are already residing in the U.S. on Visitor (B-1 or B-2) Status are not eligible to enroll in residential courses at Liberty according to new U.S. Regulations.

To apply for a Student (F-1) Visa at the U.S. Consulate, students must have in their possession a Form I-20, issued by the Office of International Admissions at Liberty University. Canadian students are not required to apply for a visa, but must present the Form I-20 to the border official upon entry to the U.S.

To obtain the Form I-20, students must submit the following items to the Office of International Admissions at Liberty at least 60 days in advance of the anticipated travel date:

- Student's full legal name, Student ID number, and program of study
- Address where the Form I-20 is to be sent, along with any special mailing/courier instructions. (Courier service requires a street address, local phone number, and either a major credit card or account number with the courier)
- Name and number of course(s) to be taken in residence
- Dates during which the student plans to be in the United States taking courses
- Student's country of birth
- Student's country of citizenship
- Estimated financial budget for the anticipated stay, including tuition and fees and living expenses
- Proof of financial ability to cover anticipated expense. This must be official bank or other documentation verifying that the student or sponsor has the funds necessary to cover all anticipated expenses during the residency. If the student's expense are to be paid for by a third party sponsor, the sponsor must submit a letter of intent indicating the dollar amount to be provided in addition to the bank verification of the sponsor's ability to pay.
- Name, date of birth, country of citizenship, and country of birth of any family members accompanying the student to the United States

Upon receipt of the above items, the Office of International Admissions will verify the student's enrollment in the program of study. If the financial documentation is adequate to cover estimated expenses, Liberty will issue a Form I-20 to the student.

Upon receipt of the Form I-20, the student must apply for a Student Visa at a U.S. Consulate abroad. Financial documentation, a valid passport, and proof of enrollment in Liberty are also required when applying for a Student Visa. Canadians do not need to apply for a visa nor do they need a passport, but must present the Form I-20 and proof of financial ability when crossing the border into the U.S. They are granted Student (F-1) Status upon entry to the country.

Students in the U.S. on Student Status may not be employed in the United States, but may enjoy sight-seeing and may travel freely throughout the country. Students remain on Student Status for sixty days beyond the expiration date on the Form I-20 but are required to depart the United States by the end of that period of time.

Office of International Admissions • Liberty University
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