



NYU

**LEONARD N. STERN
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

GLOBAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

STUDENT VISA GUIDE

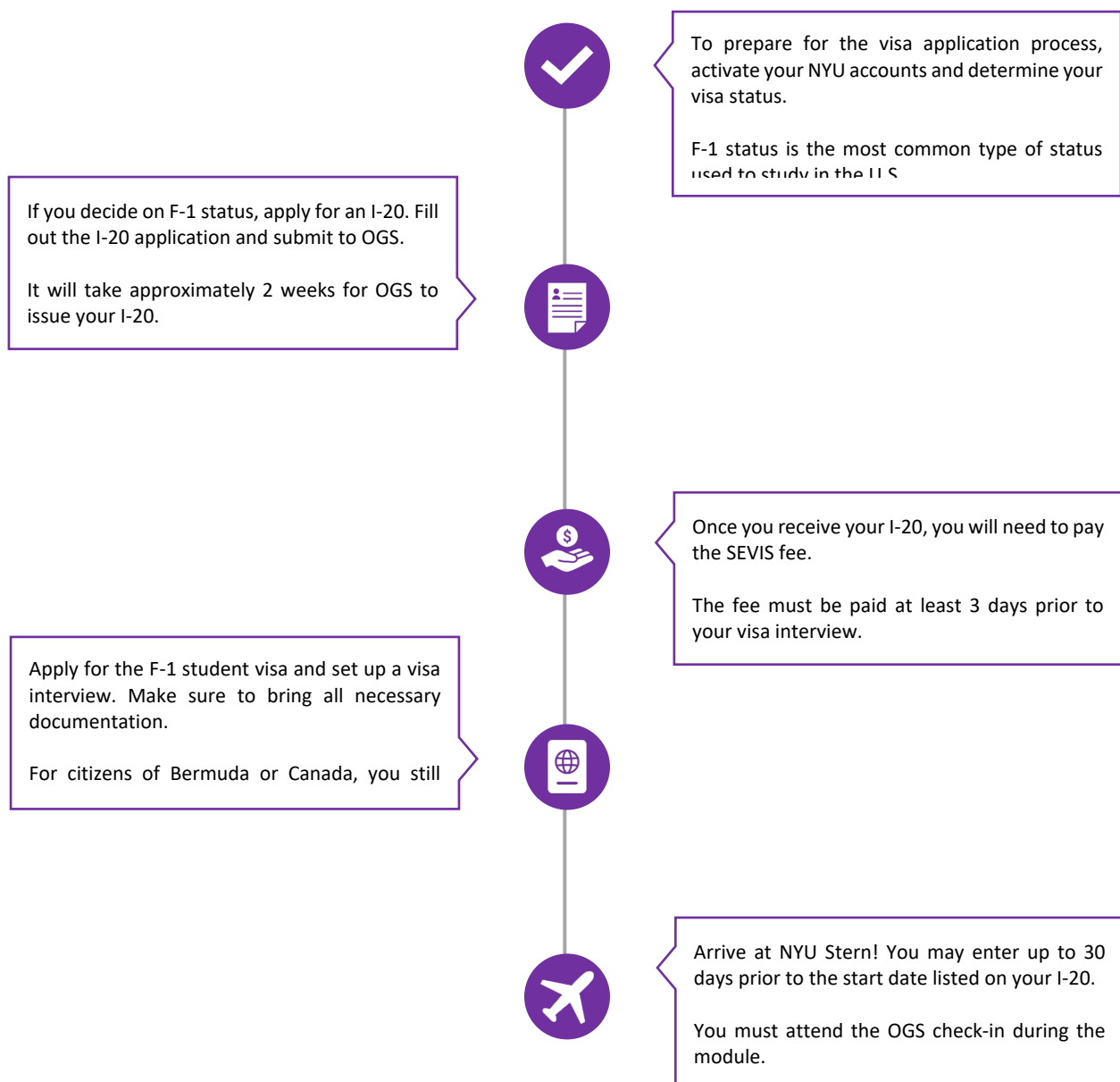


OVERVIEW

This visa guide has been created specifically for Global Degree Program students as a helpful resource. Due to the unique nature of our programs, please be sure to **only** follow the instructions as per this guide.

The Office of Global Services (OGS) is the central office at NYU for visa questions. They provide visa support when traveling to New York for a module and will be the main points of contact in the student visa process. Please contact them at newinternationalstudents@nyu.edu for your visa inquiries.

If you are a non-U.S. citizen, it is important for you to review this guide carefully and follow the steps outlined below prior to your arrival at NYU Stern.



STEP 1

As you have been accepted to an academic program at NYU, ensure you have completed the following items before applying for your I-20 and F-1 student visa.

ADMISSIONS LETTER

You should have received official notification of admission to the program in the form of either an original admissions letter or electronic notification. If you do not have a copy of the letter, please contact the admissions team.

ACTIVATE NYU ACCOUNT

You may have already completed this step during the pre-program phase, however, if you did not activate your NYU account, follow the steps outlined below.

- > Go to <http://start.nyu.edu>
- > Enter your NetID
- > Click the “Start!” button and follow the instructions

DETERMINE YOUR STATUS

In order to study at NYU, you will need to obtain a student status. F-1 status is the most common type and is for academic students who are pursuing a degree or certificate. If you decide on F-1 status, you will need to apply for an I-20 (see Step 2).

If you have questions about determining your visa status, please contact OGS at newinternationalstudents@nyu.edu and copy your program manager. Once you know your desired status, you can begin next steps.

STEP 2

If you have determined to enter the U.S. with a F-1 student visa, you will need to apply for an I-20.

> What is the I-20?

The I-20 is a very important document issued for F-1 students. The document is necessary to apply for the U.S. visa stamp and is used for initial entry into the U.S. The I-20 is also used to

ensure that you have sufficient funds to cover your educational and living expenses during your stay in the U.S.

Please submit your I-20 application as early as possible in case of visa delays. If you do not do so, you may encounter difficulty in arriving on time for the module.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND DOCUMENTATION

Fill out the I-20 application (located on the [OGS website](#)) and check all to ensure a complete application.

- Your completed I-20 application
- Copy of your NYU admission letter (electronic version is fine)
- Copy of your passport photo page
- Financial documentation (receipt of program payments is fine)
Note: Students must show at least \$16,000 USD of financial responsibility in Section D of the I-20 application
- Photocopy of I-94 and I-20 (if applicable)

Note: When filling out the form, please be sure to select “Stern Global Degree Programs (MSRM MSGF TRIUM or MSBA)” when choosing your program. If you have questions about the visa application process during subsequent modules, please contact OGS at newinternationalstudents@nyu.edu. DO NOT email ogs@nyu.edu.

APPLICATION APPROVAL

After reviewing your I-20 application and determining that you have sufficient funds to enroll in the program, OGS will issue your I-20 to your **NYU** (not Stern) email account.

Please note that the standard processing time is about two weeks once the OGS receives your completed application.

It is very important that you retain your original I-20 and all subsequent copies issued throughout your stay in the U.S.

Once you receive your I-20, you can proceed to the next step to learn how to pay your SEVIS fee, which is required to apply for your visa.

STEP 3

Upon receipt of your I-20 from OGS, you will need to pay your SEVIS fee. You cannot continue your journey to the U.S. or schedule a visa interview until you have paid this fee.

> [What is the SEVIS?](#)

The SEVIS or Student and Exchange Visitor Information System is the U.S. government database for tracking international students, scholars, and their dependents. Your SEVIS record is used to issue your I-20 and then updated when you obtain a visa, enter the U.S., report to school, and / or should other circumstances change.

For the instructions on paying the fee and the current amount of the SEVIS fee:

> Go to <https://fmjfee.com>

The two numbers needed to pay the fee are both listed at the top of your I-20.

> SEVIS ID Number
> NYU School Code: NYC214F00169000

Note that you must pay the fee *at least* 3 business days prior to your visa interview. You must also have your I-20 before paying the fee as you must use your SEVIS ID. Once you have paid your SEVIS fee and have a print out of your receipt (keep a copy of the receipt), you will be able to start the next step of the process of applying for your student visa.

STEP 4

Student visas can be issued up to 120 days in advance of your course of study start date. For specific information and instructions on applying for a visa in your country:

> Go to <http://ustraveldocs.com/>

Remember to bring the following documents with you to the visa interview:

- Your I-20
- Your letter of admissions for the program
- Financial documentation
- SEVIS fee receipt
- Your passport (ensure it is valid for at least six months in the future)
- Any other documentation as required by the consulate you are applying at

Once your visa application is approved, the F-1 visa will be placed into your passport and returned to you. *If you experience any visa delays or issues, please contact your program manager and OGS as soon as possible.*

STEP 5

It is now almost time to arrive to the U.S. for your module!

Your SEVIS document lists the latest date you can report to NYU. This date is specified in Section 5 of the I-20. You may only enter up to 30 days prior to this date. While you may want to arrive sooner, U.S. law prohibits you from doing so.

Before you fly to the U.S., please ensure you have the following documents with you on your person. You will need to present the documents to the customs officer.

- Your passport
- Your student visa
- Your original I-20

You should also have your letter of admission and financial documentation with you as you may be asked for this by the customs officer.

You may be electronically fingerprinted and photographed when you enter the U.S. This is routine procedure for anyone entering the U.S. with a visa and is part of the safety measures taken by the U.S. government.

If you are entering by air or sea, the inspector will stamp the passport and mark it F-1 and 'D/S' (duration of status).

STEP 6

Once you enter the U.S., you must attend an OGS check-in during the module. Your program manager will provide you with the date and time of your scheduled check-in.

Bring the following documents with you for the check-in:

- Your passport
- Your [I-94 Record](#) (this may be printed OR viewed on an electronic device)
- Your original I-20

Please be advised, you cannot complete the check-in process without bringing ALL of your required documents.

Good luck and safe travels!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is there anything else I should be aware of prior to traveling to New York?

Please make sure that your passport is valid for at least six months after your return date home and have two or more blank pages.

Make two copies of all your travel documents in case of emergency. Leave one copy with a trusted friend or relative at home and carry the other separately from your original documents.

I have a business and / or tourist visa to the U.S., why do I need to apply for the F-1 student visa?

We advise all international students to enter the U.S. in a visa category that permits study. As studying on a tourist visa or ESTA is a violation of status, the I-20 for the F-1 student visa is the best option for those students who do not otherwise have a status that allows study. Obtaining the visa impacts your *legal* immigration status and not necessarily your academic status.

If I am in the U.S. on a work visa, do I need to apply for the F-1 student visa?

If you are currently in the U.S. on a work visa, you do not need to apply for the F-1 student visa. You can study incidental to status.

If I am a citizen of Canada or Bermuda, do I need a F-1 student visa?

If you are a citizen of Canada or Bermuda, the visa stamp is not required, meaning you do not need to apply for a F-1 student visa. *However*, you do need the I-20 and pay the SEVIS fee in order to enter the U.S. in F-1 status.

When can I enter the U.S. on the F-1 student visa? How long can I stay in the U.S. on the F-1 student visa?

You may only enter up to 30 days prior to the start date listed on your I-20. At the completion of the module, you have a 'grace period' in which you have 60 days to leave the country.

My visa does not expire until after the end of the program. Why do I need to re-apply for a student visa for the next module?

Given the unique modular nature of the Global Degree Programs, the I-20 can only be issued for each module and one F-1 record cannot be maintained for the entirety of the program.

The visa expiration date is based solely on reciprocity agreements and is only issued so that you can use it for the duration of the module (as posted on your I-20). It is more important to pay attention to the dates listed on the I-20 for these purposes. Therefore, you will need to apply for a new I-20 and receive a new SEVIS ID number.

You will need to check with your local U.S. consulate if you need to re-apply for a new student visa. Typically, if you return within 5 months to the U.S., you do not need to re-apply, and **we would always defer to the U.S. consulate for final say.**

Can I enter the United States with my unexpired student visa even if I have a new SEVIS ID number?

The US Department of State (the government agency issuing visas) Consulate Field Advisory Manual states that students should get a new visa. In practice, however, US Customs and Border Protection (the government agency you interact with when traveling into the US) has not indicated that this will be a problem and remains consistent in admitting students who are in this situation into the United States without issue.

Am I able to obtain work permission (Optional Practical Training, Curricular Practical Training) as a F-1 student in this program?

No, unfortunately, F-1 students must maintain status for two full consecutive semesters before they are eligible. Thus, students participating in Global Degree Programs, which are *modular* in nature and only take place in the U.S. for short periods of time, are not eligible for OPT or CPT.

Do I need a student visa for NYU graduation in May?

Given that graduation is not an academic module (no lectures or teaching), a F-1 student visa is not required for your visit. You will likely need to apply for a tourist visa to the U.S. if you do not have one already.