

A student must have an F-1 visa or a visa status as indicated on the [Nonimmigrant: Who Can Study](#) chart in order to be enrolled in and attend a school in the US.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

APPLY to and meet all the admission requirements for the [Diocese of Arlington school](#) of choice

RECEIVE letter of acceptance from Diocese of Arlington school

COMPLETE [I-20 application](#) process and pay the [I-901 fee](#) to enter the US on an F-1 Nonimmigrant Student visa

SCHEDULE visa interview with the [local US Consulate](#)

REQUIREMENTS FOR VISA INTERVIEW

An **ORIGINAL SIGNED FORM I-20** issued by the school to which the student was accepted

A **COMPLETED APPLICATION** Form DS-156, together with a Form DS-158

A **PASSPORT** valid for at least six months after the proposed date of entry into the United States

One (1) **2" X 2" PHOTOGRAPH**

A **FEE RECEIPT** to show payment of the visa application fee, a visa issuance fee if applicable and a separate SEVIS I-901 fee receipt

TRANSCRIPTS AND DIPLOMAS from previous institutions attended

STANDARDIZED TESTS SCORES required by the educational institution such as the TOEFL, SAT, GRE, GMAT, etc.

FINANCIAL EVIDENCE showing that the prospective student or sponsor has sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses during the period of intended study

HOLDER OF VISITOR VISA

REQUEST CHANGE OF STATUS for students who enter the US on a B-1 or B-2 visa

COMPLETE the I-20 application process

PAY the I-901 fee

SUBMIT all requested change of status paperwork to appropriate USCIS Service Center

NOTE: *Processing a change of status can take a significant amount of time, please plan accordingly. Student CANNOT attend school until the visa status is changed to F-1*

More information can be found on the [Student and Exchange Visitor Program \(SEVP\)](#) website

TRANSFER STUDENT

APPLY and be admitted to a [Diocese of Arlington school](#)

RECEIVE letter of acceptance from Diocese of Arlington school

COMPLETE [Diocese of Arlington Transfer Report](#) and submit to current school along with a copy of the acceptance letter

If classes are in session, the student must continue to attend classes until the transfer release date

- ***The transfer release date is determined in consultation with the Designated School Official of the current school***

SUBMIT Diocese of Arlington [I-20 application](#) with a copy of the student's current passport and visa to the Diocese of Arlington school

If travel outside the United States is planned, the timing of the transfer needs to take this into account. ***The student must return to the United States with a Form I-20 for the school that holds his or her Active or Initial SEVIS record.***

Travel must be either:

- ***Started and completed before the transfer release date with an Active Form I-20 from the transfer-out school***
- ***Started and completed after the transfer release date with a Transfer Pending Form I-20 from the transfer-in school***

More information can be found on the [Student and Exchange Visitor Program \(SEVP\)](#) website