

DREW

Drew University • Office of College Admission
36 Madison Avenue • Madison, NJ 07940 • USA
973.408.3739 • cadm@drew.edu • Fax: 973.408.3068

F-1 STUDENT VISA INFORMATION

STUDYING IN THE USA

In order to study legally in the United States, you will need a student visa. To obtain a student visa you will need to be issued an I-20. Drew University is authorized to issue the form I-20 to enable international students to apply for F-1 student visas. In order to secure an I-20 from Drew University, you must be admitted to the University and you must be able to provide documentation verifying your ability to pay for your education and support yourself while in the U.S.

WHAT IS A FORM I 20 AND DO I NEED ONE?

A Form I-20 tells the U.S. government that you are eligible for F-1 student status. It certifies that:

1. You are or expect to be a “bona fide” student.
2. You meet our admissions requirements
3. You will pursue a full course of study.
4. You proved you have enough money to study and live in the U.S. without working illegally or suffering from poverty.

DOES EVERYONE NEED AN I 20

NO. Some international students do not need -20s. J-1 students need a Form DS-2019. F-2 dependants must obtain an I-20 and apply for a change of status to F-1 to pursue a course of study that is not vocational or recreational in nature. If you are maintaining another nonimmigrant status in the U.S., you do not have to have an I-20 and may attend school full- or part-time. Dependent children in E,H,I,J,L,M,N,O,P,R, or S status need to change status after their 21st birthday or if they marry. If you have no legal status, you may attend school, but you are not eligible to change status or obtain an I-20.

TIP #1

It is highly recommended that at least part of your financial support comes from your home country. This is important for getting your student visa!

WHAT ARE THE RULES FOR GETTING AN I 20?

1. You must be a “bona fide” student, accepted to a full-time program of study.
2. You must provide us with evidence that you can support the costs of living and studying in the U.S. for every year of your program of study.
 - **Do not expect to work in the U.S. to help meet your annual costs.** On-campus employment is limited and competitive; off-campus employment is strictly controlled by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.
 - **Carefully review the estimated cost of attendance on Drew’s website.** This is the amount that you must prove you can support for every year in your program of study.
 - **These requirements are not negotiable.** They represent a modest average budget that does not include luxuries. We strongly recommend that you budget at least 10% more if possible. We also suggest that students and their families look closely at the cost of living and studying in the U.S. and make careful plans to be sure their needs will be met.
 - **Expect annual increases in tuition and living costs of approximately 10%.**

SOURCES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial support can come from any combination of the following sources in the U.S. or abroad:

1. **Personal funds** that come from our own resources- not those of your relatives. Unless you have enough cash to support yourself for our entire program of stud or can prove other sources of personal income, you will need a sponsor with an income sufficient to support you.
2. **Funds from this school** such as scholarship. Drew offers scholarships to international students based on academic performance. These scholarships are limited and will only partially cover your tuition.
3. **Funds from “Sponsors”** (parents, relatives, friends, governments, and organizations: You may have as many sponsors as you need. If you have a sponsor they must complete the Affidavit of Support and provide financial documents as support. A separate Affidavit o support must be completed by each sponsor.

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DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE REQUIRED

Complete the application for I-20 and submit with financial evidence by mail, fax, or e-mail attachment. We recommend that you submit these documents at the time of application in order to issue your I-20 more promptly.

All documents must be:

1. In English.
2. Less than two months old.
3. Photocopies or faxes, not originals. You will need the originals for the American Embassy when you apply for your visa.

SPONSORS OF CASH SUPPORT:

1. Affidavit of Annual Cash Support

This form should be completed by each sponsor. All questions must be answered.

2. Proof of Income

Individual Sponsor (any of the following):

- Salary statement on letterhead stationary with most recent pay stubs, or
- If self-employed, salary estimate from private accountant or bank, or
- Income tax returns or receipts with most recent pay stub, or
- Pay stubs for at least six months, or
- Documentation of investments

Company Sponsor

- Original letter on company letterhead stating annual support from the company

3. Bank statement in the Name of the Sponsor

A monthly statement of balances and deposits indicating the type of currency. If another person's name appears on your bank statement, that person must complete a separate affidavit or submit a statement permitting those funds to be considered as financial support for the student.

PERSONAL FUNDS:

Bank/Asset Statement in Your Name

A monthly statement of balances and deposits indicating the type of currency.

SCHOOL FUNDS:

Cop of Your Award Letter

Upon admission, Drew will provide you with a letter stating exactly what you will be receiving and for how long. Only students who are academically qualified for a merit scholarship will receive an award letter.

TIP #2

A sponsor should promise only as much money as he or she is able to give you. Some sponsors believe that the more money they promise to give, the easier it will be to get your I-20

The most common reason for rejection of financial documents is that we do not believe the sponsor can afford to give as much as promised. A sponsor should promise only what he or she intends to give and only as much as can be afforded.

TIP #3

If there is no proof of income submitted, bank statements must prove that there are sufficient funds to cover the first year of study.

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APPLICATION FOR FORM I-20

PART I: PERSONAL INFORMATION *(Please attach a copy of your passport)*

Name in passport: Last Name (Family/Surname)

First Name (Given Name)

Foreign Address Number and Street

City

Province/State

Postal Code

Country

Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Month Day Year

Country of Birth: _____

Gender: Male Female

Marital Status: Unmarried Married

Country of Citizenship _____ Country of Permanent Residence _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

PART II: COMPLETE IF YOU ARE IN THE U.S. NOW *(If not go to part III)*

Have you been notified of your admission to Drew University? Yes No

(Drew will issue your form I-20 once you have been admitted and the required financial documents have been received)

What is your immigration status: _____ *(You can attend regardless of your immigration status)*

If you are currently in F-1 Status, what is your SEVIS ID Number? _____

Current School: _____ SEVIS Advisor Name: _____

Advisor Phone: _____ Advisor Email: _____

SEVIS Transfer Release Date: ____/____/____ *(Please confirm your release date with your advisor)*
Month Day Year

Check **ONE** of the following that indicates for what your new I-20 will be issued:

- Transferring/changing U.S. schools Reinstatement to F-1 Status

Do you plan to travel outside the U.S. before school starts?

Yes Tell us how you would like to get your I-20 in Part II

No If you are F-1, you will receive school transfer or other instructions. If you hold another status, we must meet with you before issuing your form I-20.

PART III: COMPLETE THIS SECTION IF YOU ARE NOT IN THE U.S. NOW

Did you recently attend school in the U.S. in F-1 student status?

No

Yes *If yes, what was the last date of your attendance?* _____

If you attended a U.S. school last term and are just home on holiday between academic terms, you are considered a "School Transfer" and need to have your record transferred to us before your form I-20 may be issued. Please contact your SEVIS advisor at your previous school immediately to authorize the release of your record to us.

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APPLICATION FOR FORM I-20 (CONTINUED)

How should we give you your Form I-20?

Hold for pick-up by:

Name	Phone	Email
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Mail to the following address: _____

Send by regular mail (7-14 days) Send by express mail

PART IV: STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT (read instructions carefully in this section)

What will your major be? _____

What are your total estimated annual costs? _____

(Please visit www.drew.edu to assist you in determining the costs for your program of study)

ANNUAL COST WORKSHEET (Please check the means by which you will support yourself each year)

SOURCE OF SUPPORT

ANNUAL AMOUNT

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Funds. The amount available to me from my own resources every year | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash funds from a sponsor to be given to me every year | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash funds from a second sponsor to be given to me every year | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash funds from a third sponsor to be given to me every year | \$ _____ |

Total amount available to me every year of study **Total:** \$ _____

The following documents are enclosed to prove my financial ability as indicated above:

My personal documents:

- Bank/Asset Statement
- Proof of Income

Cash Sponsor's Documents: (Attach all three)

- Affidavit of Support
- Proof of Income
- Bank Statement

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AFFIDAVIT OF ANNUAL SUPPORT AND PROOF OF FINANCES

WHAT DOES AFFIDAVIT MEAN?

By completing this affidavit, you are swearing to the U.S. government that you will provide this student with a specific amount of money from your own financial resources *for every year* he or she is going to study at Drew University and live in the U.S. You are also proving that you can afford the support you are promising with the documents you have attached.

Before signing it, you must understand that you are making a financial commitment to the student that should not be broken. Sponsors who fail to provide the promised support force students to drop out of school and cause pain and suffering. Do not expect that the student will be able to help support the costs through employment. Employment is strictly controlled by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and very limited.

HOW TO COMPLETE THIS FORM

- **Each sponsor** should complete a copy of this form.
- Fill this form out completely in English. Promise only the amount of money you are able to give.
- Attach evidence (as outlined) proving your ability to provide cash support for every year of the student's study.

SWORN PROMISE OF CASH SUPPORT

I _____, promise that I can and will give _____
My Name Student's Name

no less than US \$ _____ in cash for every year of his/her study at Drew University.

My relationship to the student is _____.

My financial documents are attached: Proof of income Bank statement(s) Other: _____

My address is: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

I swear that the information provided is true and correct: _____
(Sponsor's signature)