



FALL 2021
**INCOMING STUDENT
WEBINAR SERIES**

COVID-19 Immigration Details and Travel Arrangements

July 6th, 2020

NSU
Florida



Agenda

- Introductions
- Preparing to Arrive in the U.S.
 - Obtaining your I-20, visa, & I-94
 - National Interest Exemption (Entering the US)
- Requirements Upon Arrival
 - Vaccines and Quarantine Guidance from NSU
 - Move-In Dates and Orientation
 - F-1 Check-in
- Q&A
- Important Resources



Disclaimer

- The Office of International Affairs (OIA) is able to provide general guidance. Any advice provided by OIA, including the information in this presentation, should not be construed as legal advice.
- Due to the fluid nature of governmental interpretation, DHS, USCIS, SEVP and other governmental agencies may change their interpretations of these immigration laws/regulations and eligibility requirements for benefits, at any time. OIA is committed to providing advice based on the most current guidance.
- Each case is fact-specific and it is advised that students contact an experienced immigration attorney with questions regarding individual situations.



Introductions



Sarah Chenworth
Director
International Affairs



Preparing to Arrive in the U.S.

THE FORM I-20



NSU
Florida





Office of International Affairs

I-20 Requirements Checklist

GET ACCEPTED

- Gain FULL acceptance to a program of study at NSU. Check your specific program for eligibility criteria and language requirements

COMPLETE I-20 PROCESS FORM

- Download, print and complete the [International Student I-20 Process Form](#). Submit form, with other required documents

BIOGRAPHICAL PAGE OF PASSPORT

- Submit a copy, along with your other documents

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- This should be a bank statement or bank letter. You will need to show an amount equal to ONE year of tuition and ONE year of living expenses. This can also include scholarships or government sponsorships. If funds are not in your name, provide a [Sponsorship Form](#)

FOREIGN ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER

- This is an address and phone number in your home country

TRANSFER AUTHORIZATION FORM

- Only complete if you are a transfer student from another U.S. university
https://www.nova.edu/internationalaffairs/students/forms/transfer_authorization_form.pdf

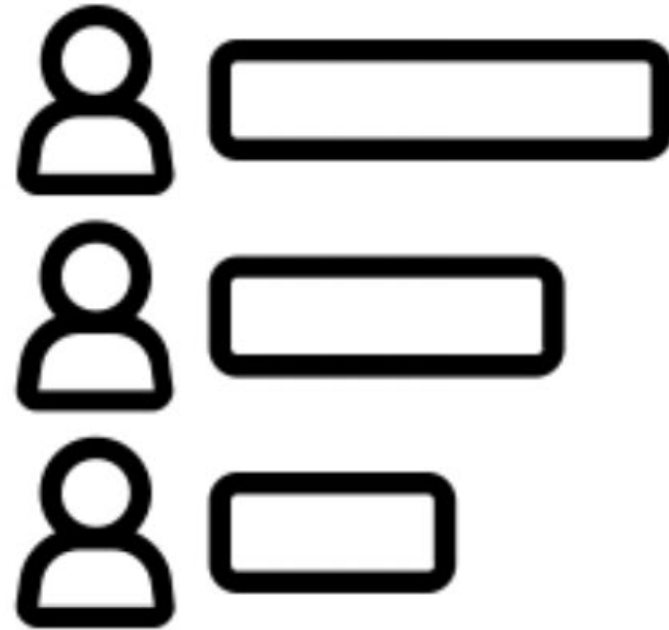
Processing: 5-7 Business Days +
Shipping 3-4 Days

Can be issued electronically or by
mail (electronically is suggested!)

NSU
Florida



**Have you
received your
I-20?**



Preparing to Arrive in the U.S.

THE F-1 VISA



Applying For Your F-1 Visa

- Must have received your I-20; need SEVIS ID to schedule appointment
- Visit www.fmjfee.com
- SEVIS Fee: \$350
 - Schedule Visa Appointment with US Consular Office
 - Consular Office Fee: \$160
- Appointment dates & processing times vary
 - Check your embassy's potential wait time: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/wait-times.html>

NSU
Florida

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement		I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status OMB NO. 1653-0038
SEVIS ID: N0004705512		
SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME Doe Smith	GIVEN NAME John	CLASS F-1
PREFERRED NAME	PASSPORT NAME	



The Interview: What to Expect

- Bring required documents (visit consular office page for specific requirements based on country)
- Interview will be in English. Average time: 3 min.
- Burden of Proof – Sufficient Ties to Home Country & Non-Immigrant Intent
 - Majority of visa denials fall under this reason
- Prepare for questions about NSU and your major



**Have you
received your
F-1 visa?**



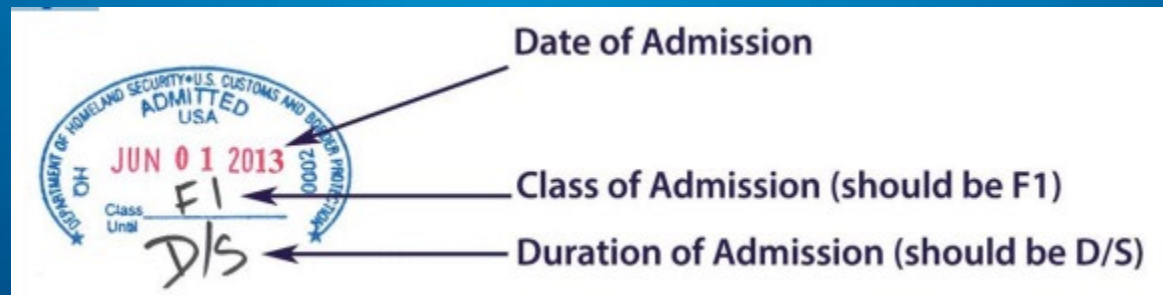
NSU
Florida



Preparing to Arrive in the U.S.

Entering the U.S. & Obtaining your I-94

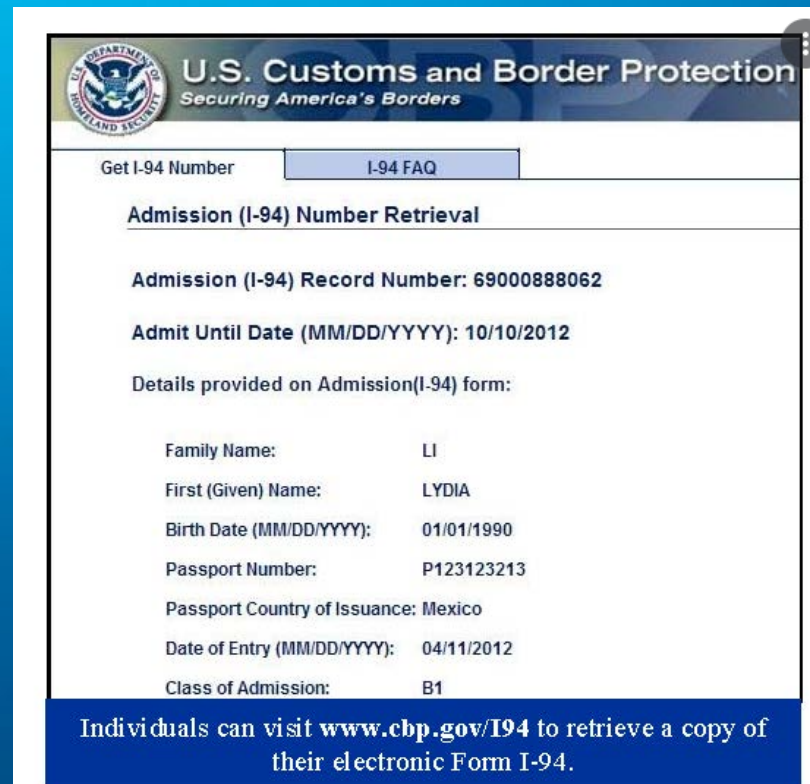
- First entry into the US = PORT OF ENTRY (POE)
- Screened by CUSTOMS & BORDER PATROL (CBP)
- Have passport (with F-1 visa) & I-20 in carry on!
- Have documentation of negative COVID-19 test taken within 3 days of travel
- Check stamp immediately:
 - Not F1 or D/S?
 - Politely ask them to fix before you leave POE – especially if B-1/B-2!



Preparing to Arrive in the U.S.

Obtaining your I-94

- Your form I-94 is proof that you have entered the U.S.
- <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home>



The screenshot shows the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website interface for I-94 number retrieval. At the top, there is a header with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security logo and the text "U.S. Customs and Border Protection Securing America's Borders". Below the header, there are two buttons: "Get I-94 Number" and "I-94 FAQ". The main content area is titled "Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval" and displays the following information:

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 69000888062

Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): 10/10/2012

Details provided on Admission(I-94) form:

Family Name:	LI
First (Given) Name:	LYDIA
Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	01/01/1990
Passport Number:	P123123213
Passport Country of Issuance:	Mexico
Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY):	04/11/2012
Class of Admission:	B1

At the bottom of the page, a blue banner contains the text: "Individuals can visit www.cbp.gov/I94 to retrieve a copy of their electronic Form I-94."

NSU
Florida



National Interest Exemption (Entering the US)

Even if there is a COVID travel ban for your country, F and M visa students can enter the U.S. up to 30 days prior to their program start date.

Your program must begin after August 1st, 2021.

You may not enter the country more than 30 days prior to your program start date.



Entering the U.S. - COVID Requirements

- Vaccines and Quarantine
 - You will need a negative COVID test to enter the United States: PCR or Rapid
 - You still need this even if you are vaccinated

COVID-19 Travel
May 28, 2021

COVID-19 Travel Guidance for U.S. Citizens

Negative COVID-19 test required for all air passengers coming to the United States

The [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) requires all air passengers entering the United States (including U.S. citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents) to present a negative COVID-19 test, taken within three calendar days of departure or proof of recovery from the virus within the last 90 days. Airlines must confirm the negative test result or proof of recovery for all passengers two years of age and over prior to boarding. Airlines must deny boarding of passengers who do not provide documentation of a negative test or recovery.

Please see the CDC's [FAQ](#) for answers to questions about the requirement for proof of negative COVID-19 test or recovery from COVID-19 for all air passengers arriving in the United States.

The CDC recommends that you do not travel internationally until you are fully vaccinated. International travel poses additional risks, and even fully vaccinated travelers might be at increased risk for getting and possibly spreading some COVID-19 variants. Delay travel and stay home to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. If you do travel, follow all CDC recommendations [before, during, and after travel](#).

Humanitarian exemptions to this order will be granted on an extremely limited basis. Information about the criteria for waivers to this order, as well as instructions for requesting a waiver, can be found [here](#).



Vaccines and Quarantine - NSU

NSU is not requiring students to be vaccinated.

Once you arrive to the U.S., you will be able to schedule an appointment to receive a vaccine.

Masks on campus are mandatory in all public indoor or outdoor spaces.

Classes will be held in person - unless otherwise noted by your specific academic program.

Stay up to date: <https://www.nova.edu/coronavirus/index.html>



Move-In Dates

For on-campus students

- “Move-In” begins Monday, August 16th
- You should receive an email from the Office of Residential Life and Housing regarding your move-in date and time (you will only be permitted to move-in during this time due to COVID-19 limitations)
- More information regarding housing will be in our upcoming webinar!
 - “On-Campus Housing, Off-Campus Housing, & Moving”
 - July 20th at 2:00p
 - Registration Link:

https://nova.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMlduyopzsqE9G_Mp_HSFDWNCCbkVQM94Wz

NSU
Florida



New International Student Orientation

Save the Date! Friday, August 20th, 2021 from 3:00p - 4:30p

Required for all Fall AND Summer 2021 New International Students of all educational levels

Registration and Additional Information Forthcoming

Failure to complete the International Student Orientation will result in a registration hold placed on student account, preventing course registration in future terms.



Other Orientations

- Premier Scholarship Programs (Razor's Edge, Presidential, Fischler, Huizenga, Honors program, etc.)
- Graduate & Professional
- Undergraduate Student Orientation



F-1 Check In

Activating your I-20

- All new and transfer F-1 students **must submit the F-1 Check-In Form** in order to have their SEVIS records registered and I-20 activated within 10 days of their program start date.
- Initial students include:
 - Students who are starting a new program at NSU
 - First time NSU students
 - Continuing NSU students starting a new academic program
 - Students who have transferred from another university
 - Students who have been issued a new initial I-20 after an interruption in their status and/or studies (termination, leave of absence, etc.)
- Failure to submit the F-1 Check-In Form by the deadline = SEVIS record terminated.

<https://www.nova.edu/internationalaffairs/students/prospective/checkin.htm>

NSU
Florida



Important Resources

- NSU COVID-19 Updates for All Students: <https://www.nova.edu/coronavirus/index.html>
- Office of International Affairs: <https://www.nova.edu/internationalaffairs/index.html>
- COVID-19 Info for International Students:
<https://www.nova.edu/internationalaffairs/covid19/index.html>
- International Student Orientation:
<https://www.nova.edu/studentorientation/orientation/international.html>
- How to Complete Your F-1 Check-In:
<https://www.nova.edu/internationalaffairs/students/prospective/checkin.html>
- Accessing your I-94 (after arrival): <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home>



Q&A

NSU
Florida



THANK YOU!

NSU
Florida

