

Before Applying for a Visa

Before applying for a student visa, all applicants must pay a \$100 SEVIS fee. This must be paid at least three days prior to going to the Embassy or Consulate for your visa interview. This fee is only for the F-1 student, not any F-2 dependents.

This fee can be paid three different ways: electronically, by mail or by Western Union.

To pay electronically, go to <https://www.FMJfee.com> and complete the I-901 form, pay online with a Visa, Mastercard or American Express credit card, and print out a receipt. Be sure to write your name **EXACTLY** as it appears on the I-20. Make copies of the receipt and keep them with your important immigration documents. You may have to try several times to get to the site. It is a very busy site and you may not get on the first time.

To pay by mail, go to <https://www.FMJfee.com> and electronically complete the I-901 form (or print it to fill out by hand), print out the form, and mail it in with a check, international money order or foreign draft (from a US bank). The check should be made out to "The Department of Homeland Security" and should be for exactly \$100. Make sure to write your name **EXACTLY** as it appears on the I-20. Make copies of the I-901 and keep them with your important immigration documents. A Form I-797 confirmation receipt should be sent to you within three days of processing the fee. Make copies of this receipt to keep with your other immigration documents. You cannot make your visa interview appointment until three days **AFTER** you receive the I-797 receipt.

You can also pay by Western Union in 130 countries. Go to http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/wu_instr.htm and print out the sample form. It will help you fill out the Western Union forms better. Fill out and print out the I-901 form to take to the Western Union office with you. Go to the nearest Western Union and ask for the **BLUE FORM (Payment Services or Quick Pay)**. The color of the form may NOT be blue, but that is the name of the form. The Western Union receipt is the receipt that you will need to take to your visa appointment.

Directions to the I-901

1. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Yes" (you hold a valid I-20)
2. Enter your personal information. Remember, American dates are Month, Day, Year.
3. The ELC's school code is **DEN214F00135000**.
4. Your SEVIS number is on the upper right-hand corner of your I-20. It starts with N and has 10 numbers.
5. Make sure all the information is correct.
6. Choose First Class mail or Expedited Delivery.
7. Print at least two copies.

The Department of Homeland Security will keep a record of your payment in your SEVIS record, but you should also have copies to use in the future.

If you are applying to more than one school, you must decide which school the SEVIS fee will be applied to. If you change your mind, you can move the SEVIS fee to another school by bringing the two I-20s to the Embassy/Consulate.

If you are denied a visa, the SEVIS fee will not be refunded. But, if you apply for a visa again within 12 months, the SEVIS fee is still valid and you will not have to pay it again.

The SEVIS fee must be paid before you go to your visa appointment.

For more information, please contact the ELC at elc@du.edu or 303-871-3075 or visit these websites.

United States Visas

<http://www.unitedstatesvisas.gov/>

US Embassies and Consulates

http://travel.state.gov/visa/questions_embassy.html

Tips for Students

<http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/index.htm>

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

<http://www.ice.gov/sevis/index.htm>