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USA Visa Guide

1. Intakes Available

- **Fall Intake:** Starts in August/September.
- **Spring Intake:** Starts in January.
- **Summer Intake:** Limited options, starts around May/June.

2. Student Visa Types

- **F-1 Visa:** For full-time academic studies. Students must be enrolled in a program that awards a degree, diploma, or certificate.
- **J-1 Visa:** For exchange visitors participating in programs that promote cultural exchange. These include au pairs, scholars, and professors.
- **M-1 Visa:** For vocational or other non-academic programs, excluding language training.

3. Cost to Study

- **Undergraduate Programs:** \$20,000 – \$50,000 per year.
- **Graduate Programs:** \$20,000 – \$60,000 per year.
- **Community Colleges:** \$6,000 – \$20,000 per year.

4. Top Courses

- Computer Science
- Business Management
- Engineering
- Health Sciences
- Data Science
- Arts and Humanities

5. Scholarships

- **Fulbright Foreign Student Program:** For graduate students, young professionals, and artists.
- **Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program:** For experienced professionals.
- **AAUW International Fellowships:** For women pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral study.
- **Scholarships by Universities:** Various universities offer scholarships based on merit, need, or specific criteria.

6. Top Universities

- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Stanford University
- University of California, Berkeley
- California Institute of Technology (Caltech)
- Princeton University

7. Cost of Living

- **Urban Areas (e.g., New York, San Francisco):** \$1,500 – \$3,000 per month.
- **Suburban Areas:** \$800 – \$1,500 per month.
- **Rural Areas:** \$500 – \$1,000 per month.

8. Job Prospects

- **Optional Practical Training (OPT):** Allows F-1 students to work for up to 12 months in their field of study post-graduation. STEM graduates can extend this period by 24 months.
- **Curricular Practical Training (CPT):** Allows F-1 students to work in their field of study during their program.
- **On-Campus Employment:** F-1 students can work up to 20 hours per week during the academic term and full-time during breaks.

Application Process for F-1 Visa

1. **Get Accepted by a SEVP-approved School:** Receive Form I-20 from the school.
2. **Pay the SEVIS Fee:** This is required for your Form I-20 to be activated.
3. **Complete the DS-160 Form:** Fill out the Nonimmigrant Visa Application form online.

4. **Pay the Visa Application Fee:** Pay the MRV fee, usually around \$160.
5. **Schedule and Attend a Visa Interview:** Schedule an appointment at a US embassy or consulate.
6. **Prepare Required Documents:** Including Form I-20, DS-160 confirmation page, visa application fee receipt, passport, and financial proof.

Tips for Visa Interview

- **Be Honest:** Provide truthful answers.
- **Understand Your Program:** Be prepared to explain why you chose your specific course and institution.
- **Financial Stability:** Demonstrate sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses.
- **Ties to Home Country:** Show your intention to return home after your studies.

This guide serves as a comprehensive overview of the process, costs, and opportunities associated with studying in the USA for the 2024-2025 academic years.

If you need any more information regarding your USA student visa, our international education experts will be more than happy to guide you through the process. Walk into your nearest ADVENT EDUCATION office or fill up the inquiry form and we'll get in touch with you. Call our customer care number at **+91 91635 65349**

Disclaimer

All information provided in this guide is based on the latest official information available on the USA government website at the time of the last update. Students are advised to check for any recent changes with our experts before proceeding or visit <https://travel.state.gov/> for the most current information.