Immigration Procedures

Apply for your visa and prepare for arrival to the U.S.

WELCOME! We will begin at 8:00 a.m.

Introduce yourself in the chat. Please tell us your name and where you are joining from.

May 10, 2022
Hello

Libby Novak,
ISSS Storrs

Arthur Galinat,
ISSS Storrs
Hello!

Lulu Dong,  
ISSS Stamford

Neena Kapoor,  
ISSS Hartford
Upcoming Webinars

https://isss.uconn.edu/webinars/

Submit questions & View Meeting Info

**May 25** - Finding Housing

**June 7** - Important UConn Business and Deadlines

**June 21** - Student Health and Wellness Requirements and Services
Agenda

ISSS Overview

Getting to Know You

Visa Application Process

Arriving in U.S.

https://isss.uconn.edu/
> New Students and Scholars
> Apply for the Visa
What degree are you starting at UConn?

Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.
What UConn campus are you admitted to?
Have you already obtained a U.S. Student Visa (F-1/J-1)?
USA Student Visa Process

1. Get Admitted and Request UConn I-20: isss.uconn.edu > “Request I-20 or DS-2019”
   The I-20 form needs to be kept safe, as you’ll need it for your visa interview.

2. Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee ($350): www.fmjfee.com > pay online and print receipt for visa interview and travel to U.S.

3. Complete non-immigrant visa application (DS-160) online and pay visa application fee ($160): ustraveldocs.com Fee payment instructions are different in every country! Some countries subject to Visa Reciprocity Fee in addition to visa fee. (China, India, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Iran, South Korea = No Reciprocity Fee)

4. Schedule an appointment for a visa interview: This needs to be done at the U.S Embassy or Consulate in the country where you live. Schedule instructions are different in every country! usembassy.gov and ustraveldocs.com

5. Receive a decision: At your interview you should receive a decision on your application.
USA Student Visa Process

--- LET'S GET STARTED

What type of visa do you need? If you are unsure what type of visa you need, please use the Visa Wizard below to help you determine the correct visa type for your purpose of travel.

The type of visa you must obtain is defined by U.S. immigration law and relates to the purpose of your trip. Depending on where you will be applying for your visa, you can use this wizard to find out what visa type may be most appropriate for your purpose of travel. For some countries, you will be redirected to a third-party site that uses its own tools to help you determine what visa type is best for you. Please answer all questions on the application.

In which country will you be applying for your U.S. Visa? Colombia

In the country you selected, visa applications and interview scheduling are primarily facilitated by a third-party company, Applicant Service Centers. Please visit their website at: [https://ais.usvisa-info.com](https://ais.usvisa-info.com) for additional information on determining what visa type is best for you and how to apply.
Preparing for visa interview

Documents to bring:
UConn I-20/DS-2019, passport, financial documents, I-901 Fee receipt, other supporting documents

Wait in line outside and then a separate waiting room - follow all rules regarding electronics and backpacks!

Go to interview room/interview counter/window for visa interview
Preparing for visa interview

Common Questions from consular officers:

1. School Name
2. Program Name
3. Funding resources
4. Parents’ jobs
5. Future work after graduation

Research Proposal/Study Plan 研究计划 / 学习计划
(Please Write in English) (请用英文回答)

1) Research Area of Interest and Major: (please explain what your major is and what you plan to study) 你的专业和研究方向: (请说明你的专业和学习计划)

2) Advisor or Potential Advisor: (this means your research advisor not academic advisor) 导师或有意向的导师: (是你的研究导师而不是学术导师)

3) Is your program coursework only? If not, please tell us the name of your research project and give a basic description of your research. 你的学习项目只是授课形式？如果不是，请提供你的专项课题的具体名称和内容

4) Research Funding: (Where is the funding coming from?) 研究专项资金: (你的研究专项资金从哪里获得？)

5) Practical Application of Research: 研究课题的实际应用
Visa interview decision

Approval follow up: a slip of paper with passport shipping instruction

Background Checking
- Some students may be subject to Administrative Processing (221g)
- Common for students in sciences
- Technically a refusal, follow all instructions and wait may take 2 weeks - 60 days (or more).

A visa refusal under section 221(g) means the applicant does not establish eligibility for a visa to the satisfaction of the consular officer.

When a consular officer refuses a case under 221(g), she or he will convey whether the applicant is required to provide any further documentation or information, or whether the case requires additional administrative processing.

It is possible that a consular officer will reconsider a visa application refused under 221(g) at a later date, based on additional information or upon the resolution of administrative processing, and determine whether the applicant is eligible for the visa.

Denial
US F-1 visa sample

Expiration date = last date to travel to U.S. with visa.

Travel Document to Enter U.S. only
Entry requirements to the U.S.

– International travelers need to show proof that they are fully vaccinated with an FDA or WHO-approved vaccination for COVID-19.

– Proof of recent negative COVID-19 test also required to board airplane.

– U.S. Center for Disease Control sets full policy/procedures:
  • [Entry rules for Non-Citizen, Non-Immigrant Travelers](#)
Exceptions to COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement

- Children under 18 years of age
- Persons with documented medical contraindications to receiving a COVID-19 vaccine
- Participants in certain COVID-19 vaccine trials
- Persons with valid visas [excluding B-1 (business) or B-2 (tourism) visas] who are citizens of a foreign country with limited COVID-19 vaccine availability

NOTE: No religious exceptions.

- Other limited exceptions apply, but these are not likely to impact incoming international students, exchange visitors and family.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries w/ Limited COVID-19 Vaccine Availability - April 14, 2022</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
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Preparing for US travel

Buy flight tickets

**Luggage** - what to bring, what to expect when you arrive
[https://isss.uconn.edu/prepare-for-arrival/](https://isss.uconn.edu/prepare-for-arrival/) > “What to Bring”

**Documents to have in your carry-on bag:**
I-20 or DS-2019, Passport, Visa, I-901 Fee receipt, Funding Documents, U.S. Address, proof of vaccination and negative COVID test.

**Customs officers**
- Where are you studying? How are you going to get on campus?
- Secondary Inspection, DSO/International Advisor’s contact information
- Canadian/Bermudian Students and B-2 visa status: Keep your passport and I-20/DS-2019 together at port of entry
Quarantine Requirements

• No quarantine required if you are fully vaccinated, and are verified as such by UConn.
• If you travel to the U.S. with an exception to vaccination requirement (not fully vaccinated, you must attest that you will:
  – Be tested for COVID-19 3-5 days after arrival
  – Self-quarantine for 7 days
  – Self-isolate if you test positive for COVID-19
  – Be vaccinated within 60 days after arrival (if you will stay longer than 60 days) where possible. Not yet clear if you will need to show proof of scheduled vaccination.
Upon Arrival at UConn

I-94
- Receipt for Arrival
- Print every time you enter U.S.
- Canadian travelers by land may receive paper I-94 in passport

Entry Stamps
- May or may not receive stamp in passport
Submit Arrival Documents to ISSS

Submit Arrival Documents to ISSS

All international students and exchange visitors must submit arrival documents to UConn by the I-20 or DS-2019 start date listed on your form. This is how you formally report your arrival to the school. If you do not submit your arrival documents, your F-1 or J-1 visa status could be cancelled. Here is how to submit your arrival documents to ISSS by completing **ALL 5 Steps** below:

- Step 1 of 5: Update your personal information
- Step 2 of 5: Print your I-94 Record
- Step 3 of 5: Scan or take photos of your documents
- Step 4 of 5: Submit your arrival documents in ISSS Portal
- Step 5 of 5: J-1 VISA ONLY- Submit Medical Insurance Confirmation Record in ISSS Portal

[https://isss.uconn.edu/arrival-checklist/](https://isss.uconn.edu/arrival-checklist/)
Important Upcoming Dates

- **Wednesday, 5/25/2022** - ISSS New Student Webinar: Finding Housing at UConn
- **Tuesday, 6/7/2022** - ISSS New Student Webinar: Important University Business and Deadlines
- **Tuesday, 6/21/2022** - ISSS New Student Webinar: Student Health and Wellness Requirements and Services
- **Friday, 7/1/2022** - Deadline to submit Health History Form
- **Monday, 8/01/2022** - Deadline to pay fee bill for Undergraduate students
- **Saturday, 8/20/2022** - New Student Move In Date
- **Monday, 8/22/2022** - International Graduate Student Orientation
Questions

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)  international@uconn.edu