



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING IMMIGRATION STATUS

PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

Review Pre-Arrival Guide on our website:

global.rutgers.edu

1. Inform Rutgers that you are accepting your offer of admission.

Inform other schools you have decided not to attend.

2. Obtain valid passports.

Your passport must be valid at least 6 months into the future.

3. Pay the SEVIS I-901 Fee online and print your receipt. This fee must be paid BEFORE applying for a visa.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) I-901 SEVIS Fee is required for all new F-1 students who have been issued an “initial” Form I-20. The fee is payable one time for each separate program in which the F-1 participates. It extends from the time the visitor is granted F-1 status to the time he or she changes immigration status or completes the program and departs the U.S. The fee is collected by DHS for the operation and maintenance of SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System).

To learn more about the SEVIS fee and to pay the fee online, please visit: www.ice.gov/sevis/i901

All F-1 visa applicants: \$350

Nonimmigrants already in the U.S. on another immigration status (e.g. H-4) who are applying for a change to F-1 status must pay and obtain a payment receipt BEFORE applying for the change of status. Canadians are required to pay and obtain a receipt BEFORE proceeding through a U.S. port of entry.

4. Apply for a student visa at the U.S. embassy or consulate, if required.

Visit the U.S. State Department website (usembassy.gov) for details and to locate a consulate. Be sure to use the I-20 issued by the university that you plan to attend. Currently, citizens of Bermuda and Canada do not need a visa to enter the U.S.; they must still pay the SEVIS fee.

Students with a valid F-1 visa do not need to apply for a new visa. Please check with your local consulate to confirm.

Contact International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) in case of any visa delays:

globalservices@global.rutgers.edu

5. Make your travel arrangements

F-1 students may not enter the U.S. more than 30 days before the program start date listed on the I-20.

POST-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

Review detailed Post-Arrival Guide on our website:
global.rutgers.edu

You will also receive detailed information and instructions for these steps via email.

1. Attend International Student Orientation: Monday, August 24

For more information, visit global.rutgers.edu.

2. Check-In & Document Verification:

Students must complete a mandatory check-in process to activate their SEVIS records. This process can be completed upon your arrival by accessing the online RGlobal student portal at global.rutgers.edu.

3. Complete the mandatory Staying in Legal Status Workshop.

This workshop discusses important information about maintaining your legal status. You can complete this workshop online prior to your arrival at Rutgers.

4. Register for classes.

If you fail to register for classes prior to the last day of Rutgers' add/drop period you will fall "out of status" with the USCIS.

5. Complete the On-Campus Employment Workshop online IF you plan to obtain an on-campus job.

Students will receive assistance completing forms necessary to work on campus and apply for an SSN (if eligible). Must provide: passport and I-20.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)

Eligible F-1 students must apply for a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN) when they obtain an offer for an on-campus job. Before submitting the SSN application to the U.S. Social Security Administration, students must have a job confirmation letter and other documents from ISSS.



Rutgers Global – International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

180 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8537

Website: global.rutgers.edu | Email: globalservices@global.rutgers.edu | Phone: 848-932-7015 | Fax: 732-932-7992

Useful Resources:

Study in the States: studyinthestates.dhs.gov | *Education USA:* educationusa.state.gov