

What to Do With the I-20 or DS-2019 Certificate of Eligibility

Students Coming to the United States from Abroad

DS-2019	I-20
Apply for a J1 Visa	Apply for an F1 Visa
Read the <i>Instructions</i> on page 2 of the DS-2019	Read the <i>Instructions</i> on page 3 of the I-20
Sign the Exchange Visitor Certification box at the bottom of page 1 of the DS-2019	Sign page 1 of the I-20 under Student Attestation
Your I-20/DS-2019 name should match your passport name except the I-20/DS-2019 will not show any punctuation or symbols	

Most visa issuing offices have websites that can be found at <https://www.usembassy.gov/>

Finances

- We estimate an international student at the Emporia State University will need the amount of money indicated on the *I-20 or DS-2019*.
- When you apply for the visa, the Consular officer will require evidence you have financial support for one year (or the length of your stay if less than 1 year).
- **Funding should be secured prior to your arrival in the United States. It is possible to find on-campus jobs or scholarships, but you should not rely on this during your first year in the U.S.**

Entering the U.S. If you use an I-20 or DS-2019 issued by the Emporia State University to enter the U.S., **you must arrive at Emporia State no later than the report date indicated on your I-20/DS-2019.** If you must arrive later, please contact us in advance.

Paying the SEVIS Fee (With Form I-901)

Before applying for your visa, you must pay a one-time fee of \$350 to the US Department of Homeland Security.

*Note: F-2 and J2 dependents only need to prove that the F1 or J1 student has paid the fee.

You will need the following codes and numbers:

ESU's F-1 (I-20) school code: KAN 214F 00271000 ESU's J-1 (DS-2019) Program Number: P100042

Your SEVIS ID# : Located in the upper right corner of the I-20 or DS-2019; begins with an "N"

To Pay the Sevis Fee online or by mail, please go to this link: <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.html>

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT VISA INTERVIEW

- The interview will be conducted in English.
- Interviews are generally very brief.
- Keep answers to the officer's questions short and to the point.
- Do not take family members or friends with you to the interview.
- Maintain a positive attitude: be friendly, courteous, and confident that you will receive the visa.
- Be prepared to show strong ties to your home country (something that will bring you back to your home country once your education is complete). Do not state that you intend to work or stay in the United States, even temporarily, after completing your studies.
- Organize your supporting documentation so that it can be logically presented without hesitation or fumbling through a briefcase.
- Be prepared to show evidence that sufficient financial resources (at least equal to the amount indicated on the I-20 or DS-2019) are readily available for your support.
- If you are married, especially with children, and your family is remaining behind in your own country, be prepared to address how they will support themselves in your absence.
- Share information about your academic achievements, thus far, in your own country.
- Be prepared to discuss what you expect to get out of your education - why did you choose this university and how will it benefit you?
- Be prepared to address a mandatory military service if your country has one.
- Be aware that F-2 dependents cannot, under any circumstance, be employed in the U.S. J-2 dependents can apply for work permission, but income cannot be used to support the J-1 student. You must show sufficient financial resources to support dependents.