

UConn

Immigration Procedures

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

WELCOME! We will begin at 8:30 a.m.

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

May 10, 2023

Hello

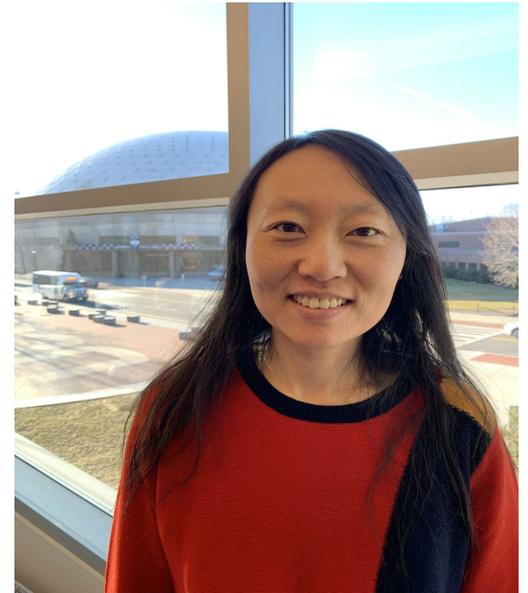
**Arthur Galinat,
ISSS Storrs**



**Dana Foster,
ISSS Storrs**



**Lulu Dong,
ISSS Stamford**



ISSS Overview

Agenda

Introductions

Getting to Know You

Visa Application Process

Arriving in U.S.

<https://iss.uconn.edu/>

> New Students and Scholars

> Apply for the Visa

Upcoming Webinars and Important Dates

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS)



Home About ISSS Resources COVID-19 New Students and Scholars Immigration Academic Departments

Visa Application



Video: Attending a Non-immigrant Visa Interview at the U.S. Embassy - US Embassy London

After receiving your Form I-20 or DS-2019, you may apply for your F-1 or J-1 visa through your nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

It is better to apply for your visa in your home country, although if this is not possible, you may be able to apply in another country as well. You may not apply for your visa inside the United States.

You must apply for the visa using the I-20/DS-2019 issued for the school that you plan to attend.

Citizens of Canada and Bermuda are not required to apply for an F-1/J-1 visa through a U.S. consulate – instead you can present your I-20/DS-2019 to immigration officers when arriving at your port of entry, and they will assess whether you may enter as an F-1 student or J-1 exchange visitor.

I received my I-20/DS-2019 – what do I do next?

The visa interview

Administrative processing



What degree are you starting at UConn?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



What UConn campus are you admitted to?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



Have you already obtained a U.S. Student Visa (F-1/J-1)?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

USA Student Visa Process

1. **Get Admitted and Request UConn I-20:** iss.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, \$220):** 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 until 5/31 and then increasing \$185 on June 1st):** 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

Nonimmigrant Visa Information

- ▶ Visa Types
- ▶ Visa Fees
- ▶ Payment Options
- ▶ DS-160 Information
- ▶ Appointment Wait Times
- ▶ Photos and Fingerprints
- ▶ Visa Waiver Program

Nonimmigrant Visa Application

- ▶ Apply for a Visa
- ▶ Pay My Visa Fee
- ▶ Complete My DS-160
- ▶ Schedule My Appointment
- ▶ Change Document Delivery Address
- ▶ Track & Retrieve My Passport
- ▶ Apply for Expedited Visa Processing
- ▶ Applying for a Visa without an Interview
- ▶ Application Refused under INA 221(g)
- ▶ Submitting 221(g) Documents

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE
CONSULAR ELECTRONIC APPLICATION CENTER

Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application (DS-160)

Apply For a Nonimmigrant Visa

Webstart:

The first step in applying for a U.S. nonimmigrant visa is to complete your application. It takes approximately 90 minutes to do this. After you submit your application, you can move on to the next steps such as scheduling your interview.

Important: Before You Start

- Learn about [Types of Visas](#).
- Use only Internet Explorer 11 or higher, Firefox, or Google Chrome 58 unless completing your application. [Safari and Microsoft Edge are not supported.](#)
- Gather your documents.
- Review the [instructions](#) and [FAQs](#).

Notes:

Other people can assist you with your visa application. Note that under U.S. law (22 C.F.R. 41.103) you must electronically sign and submit your own application unless you qualify for an exemption. Even if someone else helped you complete the application, you (the applicant) must click the "Sign Application" button, or your application may not be accepted.

Please be patient as you use this form. Download times may vary depending on your internet connection speed.

Additional Information

- Write down the Application ID displayed on the top right hand corner of the page. If you close your browser window, you will need your ID to access your application again.
- Save your application frequently. The system will time out after 20 minutes of inactivity, and you will lose all unsaved information.
- Read more about U.S. visas at [travel.state.gov](#).
- Visit the website of the U.S. Embassy or consulate.

How to apply for nonimmigrant visa



For information on the visa interview process, see the videos below:



— 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 travel. 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 as the applicant.

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

Start Over ↻

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> for additional information on determining what visa type is best for you and how to apply.

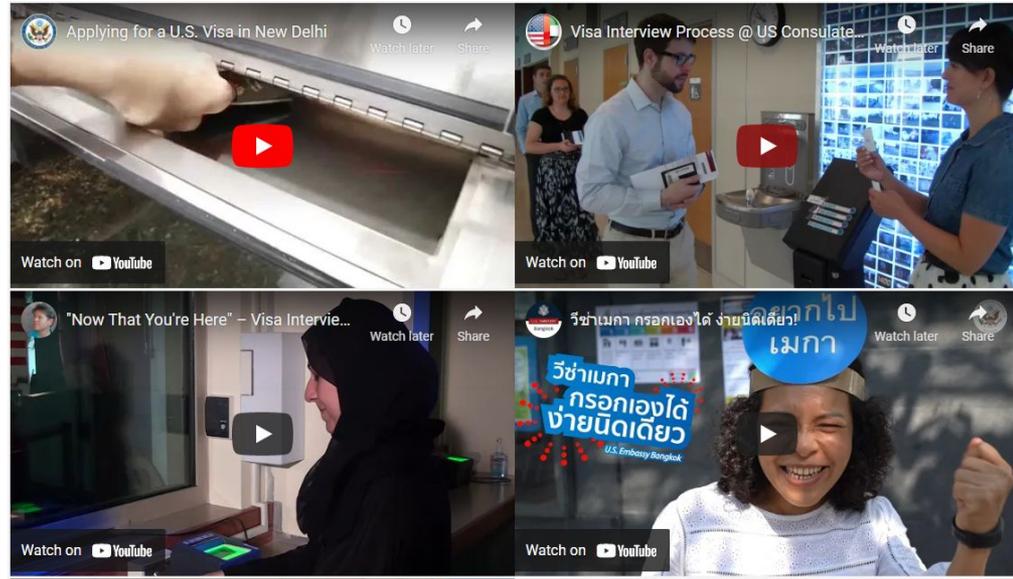
Preparing for visa interview

Documents to bring:

UConn I-20/DS-2019, passport, financial documents, I-901 Fee receipt, DS-160 confirmation page with the barcode, 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. Your US address, undergrad dorm, graduate city, not secured yet
5. Parents' jobs
6. 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: common reasons, incomplete or inaccurate forms, insufficient financial proof, lack of ties to your home country, criminal history, overstaying your previous visa, ect.

2 Different 221 G Notices

Date 9/8/2022

Dear Applicant,

We are unable to conclude processing of your non-immigrant visa application at this time, as we require additional information. Your visa application has been refused under 221(g) of the United States Immigration and Nationality Act, pending the receipt and review of the information and documents as indicated below. Please be advised that for U.S. visa purposes, including ESTA (see <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>), this decision constitutes a denial of a visa.

Please provide the additional supplemental information specified below.

- Valid Passport
- Supplemental Questionnaire. You will receive an email from U.S. Embassy Helsinki. Please fill out the attached questionnaire and return it to helsinkiiv@state.gov
- Employment Contract/Employers' Letter of Support
- Proof of Finances (e.g. last three months bank statements and salary slips)
- Finnish Population Extract (virkatodistus) including all family members
- Recent photo that meets guidelines with your full name written on the back of the photo (<http://cdn.ustraveldocs.com/fi/fi-niv-photoinfo.asp>)
- Notarized Letter of Consent from biological parent(s) and/or court order which grants sole custody including travel decisions
- Criminal Documents: Full court record including case description, charges, and the verdict (criminal record alone not sufficient)
- Criminal History Extract (rikosrekisteriote) from Legal Register Centre <http://www.oikeusrekisterikeskus.fi>
- SEVIS Fee receipt (paid at www.fmjfee.com)
- Other: _____
- Your application requires additional administrative processing and/or additional clearances. We will contact you when the administrative processing is completed.

Please submit your documents via:

- Email - Send PDF files to helsinkiiv@state.gov. Attachments must not exceed 3MB.
- Mail - In order to submit the requested documents, please visit: <http://www.ustraveldocs.com/fi>. Click on "Application Pending Further Action" and then click "This web page" for directions on how to submit the documents via post.
- Hand Delivery - Bring your item to Itäinen Puistotie 14 A, Gate A (Consular Gate).

If you fail to respond within one year of this 221(g) refusal, your application will expire.

To Check the Status of Your Application, please visit <https://ceac.state.gov/ceac/>.

U.S. Embassy Helsinki



Consulate General of the United States of America
5/1 Ho Chi Minh Sarani
Kolkata 700071 (India)

Barcode No. AA _____

Date: _____

Your application for a nonimmigrant visa has been refused for administrative processing under section 221(g) of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act. The visa application will be reconsidered when all documentation is received and administrative processing is complete.

- Please send all the information, as given below to KolNIVAdmin@state.gov, using the subject line "Passport No.....Your Last Name, Your First Name" (example: Passport No. Z1234567 - DOE, John). Your application will not be reconsidered until you submit the requested information.

The e-mail should have the following **separate** attachments:

1st attachment: Résumé/CV to include (MSWord / .pdf):

- a) Detailed résumé/CV, including your professional and academic background.
- b) List of publications.
- c) List of references from your country of birth/residence.
- d) Detailed travel itinerary.

2nd attachment strictly in MSWord with the following information:

- Research:** A detailed abstract of:
 - a) Any research/work you intend to conduct in the U.S.
 - b) All past and/or current research in all countries.
 - c) Your current/past job title and a **detailed** description of your work.
- Attachment (.pdf):** Letter(s) of support from the financial sponsor.

3rd Attachment (.pdf):

- Attachment (.pdf):**
 - a) Letter(s) of recommendation from a United States source and/or letter from the U.S. University / employer.
 - b) Résumé/CV of faculty research advisor
 - c) Letter of invitation

- Please complete the **DS-5535 form attached** with a **blue pen**, scan and send it to KolNIVAdmin@state.gov, using the subject line "Passport No.....Your Last Name, Your First Name" (example: Passport No. Z1234567 - DOE, John). Your application will not be reconsidered until you submit the requested information.

IMPORTANT:

1. Please note the maximum size of each email attachment should not exceed a file size of 2MB. If required you may attach multiple files but each file should not exceed the size limit of 2 MB.
2. Please avoid incorporating charts, images, table formats, symbols and special characters, when preparing the documents.
3. For any information that does not apply to you, please mention "NOT APPLICABLE" under the respective header. Please avoid vague or incomplete information.

Please ensure that you receive an "Auto-Reply" when the e-mail is sent to KolNIVAdmin@state.gov. Processing takes a minimum of 60 days, or longer. We are unable to provide a specific completion timeline. You do not need to return in person to the Consulate unless you are contacted by the consulate. You will receive an email from the Consulate when the process is complete, and if required, you will be guided to submit your passport at the VAC.

- Please pay your SEVIS Fee at: www.fmjfee.com. Scan your SEVIS Fee receipt, as proof of payment, to KolNIVAdmin@state.gov and request for a new appointment.
- Other administrative processing. Please email the following to ConsularKolkata@state.gov:

The status of your case can be tracked at this link: <https://ceac.state.gov/CEAC/>
Note: Failure to submit the required information within one year will cause your application to expire.

For further inquiries call -
From India: +91-120-4844644 (or) +91-22-62011000; From U.S.: +1-703-520-2239



General Instructions

- If you are unsure of the answer to a question, please provide a response to the best of your knowledge. For example, if you are unsure of an exact address, provide the city, state, and street name if you can recall them. U.S. Department of State will consider all the information derived from the form in its entirety.
- Failure to answer every question will not necessarily preclude visa issuance, as the application is considered in its entirety.
- If you believe a particular question does not apply to you or your circumstances, please write "not applicable" or "N/A."
- If you need more space to respond to a question, please write the rest of your response on a separate sheet of paper.
- Aside from your name, date of birth, and visa classification, please only provide information not included in your current visa application. For example, if all of your children are listed in your current visa application (Form DS-160 or DS-260), you do not need to list them again.

Personal Information

Surname(s)	Given Name(s)
Date of Birth (mm-dd-yyyy)	Visa Type/Classification

Passport and Travel History

Have you travelled to any country (other than your country of residence) in the last 15 years? Yes No
 If yes, provide details for each trip, including locations visited, date visited, source of funds, and length of stay.

Have you ever held a passport other than the passport listed in your visa application? Yes No
 If yes, provide the following information.

Country of Issuance	Passport Number

Relatives

Siblings (brothers and sisters) - Provide the full name(s) and date of birth of any sibling (full, half, step, adopted), living or deceased.

Surname(s)	Given Name(s)	Date of Birth (mm-dd-yyyy)

Children - Provide the full name(s) and date of birth of any child (minor and adult), living or deceased. Children includes natural children, step-children, and adopted children.

Surname(s)	Given Name(s)	Date of Birth (mm-dd-yyyy)

Supplemental Questionnaires After Visa Interview

- All countries visited in last 15 years
- All previous passports held
- Sibling, children, spouse bio info
- All addresses last 15 years
- All phone # and emails last 5 years
- All social media usernames
- All employers last 15 years

Relatives - Continued

Spouse - Provide the full name(s) of any current or previous spouse or civil/domestic partner, living or deceased.		
Surname(s)	Given Name(s)	Date of Birth (mm-dd-yyyy)

Address and Contact Information

Address - Provide all addresses where you have lived during the last 15 years, if not already provided in your application.			
Address 1		Address 2	
Dates of Residence (mm-dd-yyyy)		Dates of Residence (mm-dd-yyyy)	
Street Address 1		Street Address 1	
Street Address 2		Street Address 2	
City	State/Province	City	State/Province
Postal Zone/Zip Code	Country/Region	Postal Zone/Zip Code	Country/Region

Phone Number - Provide all phone numbers you have used in the last five years, including primary, secondary, work, home, and mobile numbers.			
Phone Number (1)	Phone Number (2)	Phone Number (3)	Phone Number (4)
Phone Number (5)	Phone Number (6)	Phone Number (7)	Phone Number (8)

E-mail - Provide all email addresses you have used in the last five years, including primary, secondary, work, personal, and educational addresses.	
E-mail Address (1)	E-mail Address (2)
E-mail Address (3)	E-mail Address (4)
E-mail Address (5)	E-mail Address (6)

Social Media

Please provide your unique user name for any websites or applications you have used to create or share content (photos, videos, status updates, etc.) as part of a public profile within the last five years. (You do not need to list accounts designed for use by multiple users within a business or other organization.)

Social Media Platform	Social Media Identifier (Name/Handle)

Employment History

Provide the following information on all employment in the last fifteen years, if not already provided in your application.			
Employer Name		Employer Name	
Dates of Employment (mm-dd-yyyy)		Dates of Employment (mm-dd-yyyy)	
Street Address 1		Street Address 1	
Street Address 2		Street Address 2	
City	State/Province	City	State/Province
Postal Zone/Zip Code	Country/Region	Postal Zone/Zip Code	Country/Region
Telephone Number		Telephone Number	
Job Title		Job Title	
Job Description		Job Description	

I understand all the information I have provided in, or in support of, this application may be provided to other U.S. government agencies authorized to use such information for purposes including enforcement of the laws of the United States. I understand all of the information contained in this form and I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is complete, true, and correct. I understand that any willfully false or misleading statement or willful concealment of a material fact made by me herein may result in refusal of the visa, denial of admission to the United States, and, may subject me to criminal prosecution and/or removal from the United States.

Applicant's Signature	Date (mm-dd-yyyy)
<i>For use by United States embassy or consulate official only:</i>	DS-160/DS-260 Barcode Number

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 60 minutes per response, including time required for searching existing data sources, gathering the necessary documentation, providing the information and/or documents required, and reviewing the final collection. You do not have to supply this information unless this collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. If you have comments on the accuracy of this burden estimate and/or recommendations for reducing it, please send them to: PRA_BurdenComments@state.gov.

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

AUTHORITIES: The information on this form is requested pursuant to Section 212(a) and 221 and as required by Section 222 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Section 222(f) provides that the records of the Department of State and of diplomatic and consular offices of the United States pertaining to the issuance and refusal of visas or permits to enter the United States shall be considered confidential and shall be used only for the formulation, amendment, administration, or enforcement of the immigration, nationality, and other laws of the United States. Certified copies of such records may, in the discretion of the Secretary of State, be made available to a court provided the court certifies that the information contained in such records is needed in a case pending before the court.

PURPOSE: The U.S. Department of State uses the information provided on this form to determine an individual's eligibility for a U.S. visa. Individuals who fail to submit this form or who do not provide all the requested information may be denied a U.S. visa. Although furnishing this information is voluntary, failure to provide this information may delay or prevent the processing of an individual visa application.

Entry requirements to the U.S.

- International travelers no longer require proof of COVID-19 vaccination to enter the U.S.

THE WHITE HOUSE



MENU



MAY 01, 2023

The Biden-Harris Administration Will End COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Federal Employees, Contractors, International Travelers, Head Start Educators, and CMS-Certified Facilities

 BRIEFING ROOM  STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

In 2021, the Biden-Harris Administration announced COVID-19 vaccination requirements to promote the health and safety of individuals and the efficiency of workplaces, protecting vital sectors of our economy and vulnerable populations. Since January 2021, COVID-19 deaths have declined by 95%, and hospitalizations are down nearly 91%. Globally, COVID-19 deaths are at their



Preparing for US travel

Buy flight tickets

Luggage - what to bring, what to expect when you arrive
<https://iss.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.

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

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



U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Securing America's Borders

Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 68314040 400

Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): D/S

Details provided on Admission (I-94) form:

Family Name:	Mouse
First (Given) Name:	Mickey
Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	05/09/1954
Passport Number:	BD4726352
Passport Country of Issuance:	England
Most Recent Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY):	06/01/2013
Class of Admission:	F-1

Immigration Check In With ISSS

Arrival Checklist

Student Arrival Checklist

Visiting Scholar Arrival Checklist

Submit Arrival Documents to ISSS

<https://iss.uconn.edu/arrival-checklist/>

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

Upcoming and Past Webinars

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

Wednesday, 5/24/2023- Finding Housing at UConn

Wednesday, 6/7/2023- Bursar's Office and Student Health and Wellness Requirements and Services

Wednesday, 6/14/2023- Information for International Graduate Students- Graduate School

Wednesday, 6/28/2023- Making Friends and Finding Yourself at UConn



ISSS New Student Webinars

Graduate Student Orientation Undergraduate Student Orientation UConn Orientation Events (All Campuses) ISSS New Student Webinars

Orientation for Visiting Scholars

Submit a Question in advance for the ISSS New Student Webinar [↗](#)

April 5, 2023 8:30 am-10:00 am

New Student Webinar: How to Accept Admission and Request Your Form I-20/DS-2019

Welcome new Huskies! Join staff from Admissions, The Graduate School and the International Student & Scholar Services to learn the steps you must take to finalize your admission with UConn and what you need to do to request your form I-20 and start the process to apply for your student visa.

Review Slides [Here](#) [↗](#)



May 10, 2023 8:30 am-10:00 am

New Student Webinar: Immigration Procedures and Applying for Your Visa

Welcome new Huskies! Join ISSS for a webinar for new international students coming to UConn for fall 2023 all about applying for your visa and arriving in the U.S. Meet staff from International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) to learn about the steps needed to apply for your student visa.

Join Here: <https://uconnvtc.webex.com/uconnvtc/j.php?MTID=mae6757d2903c53f88fde3914c0a94563> [↗](#)

Password: Webinars2023



May 24, 2023 8:00 am-9:30 am

New Student Webinar: Finding Housing at UConn

Welcome new Huskies! Join ISSS for a webinar for new international students coming to UConn for fall 2023 all about finding housing. Meet staff from UConn Residential Life and Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services. Learn how to apply for on-campus housing; how roommates are selected and what you need to do to live on-campus for fall 2023. Looking for an apartment off-campus? Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services will discuss strategies for finding housing, finding a roommate and identifying apartments close to campus or the UConn bus line.



Important Arrival Dates

Friday, 8/11/2023 - Early Move-in Date for Graduate Students (additional fee)

Friday, 8/18/2023- Move-in Date for International Graduate and Undergraduate Students who are signed up for International Student Orientation Program through University Orientation.

Friday-Sunday, 8/25-8/28/2023- Move-in for all international Undergraduates who attended University Orientation over the summer.

Important Upcoming Dates

Saturday, 7/1/2023- Deadline to submit Health History Form

Tuesday, 8/1/2023- Deadline to pay fee bill for **Undergraduate students**

Monday, 8/14/2023- ITA Orientation (International Teaching Assistant who never taught in the U.S.)

Sunday, 8/20/2023-Immigration Check-in for Undergraduate students

Monday & Tuesday, 8/21-8/22/2023-“CISS Welcome & Support Program” for Undergraduate students(includes health screening) who signed up for UConn “International Orientation Program”

Monday, 8/21/2023- Mandatory International Graduate Student Orientation for Storrs campus students

Thursday, 8/24/2023-Student Health & Wellness Screening for Graduates students

Friday, 8/25/2023 Deadline to pay fee bill for **GRAD, LAW, LLM**

Questions



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

- arthur.galinat@uconn.edu
- lulu.dong@uconn.edu
- dana.foster@uconn.edu