



## **Office of International Students and Scholars Services (OISS)**

### Preparing for an F-1 Visa Interview

This information is for students who plan to study in the United States for the first time. For information on bringing dependents to the U.S., returning to continue studies, renewing your visa, or for more details on applying for a student visa, please visit the [Office of International Students and Scholars Services](#), the [U.S. Department of State](#), and [Study in the States](#).

### Steps:

1. Complete and submit the [I-20 Request E-form](#). You will need to upload financial documentation that equals or exceeds the cost of attendance and a copy of your biographic passport page. To avoid delays please submit financial documentation that meets the or exceeds your cost of attendance, which is your tuition and fees + living expenses.
2. After you receive an I-20 form from Hartford International, please review it carefully, print, and sign on page one. Please double check that your name is spelled correctly, and your date of birth is correct.
3. Pay your SEVIS I-901 fee. If you are a fully funded MAP student, this fee has already been paid and confirmation was shared via email. All other students must pay their SEVIS I-901 fee. To pay the fee, click [here](#). If you need assistance, please watch this [video](#). Be sure to make copies of your receipt and keep it with your other important immigration documents. If you have paid this fee within the last twelve months, you do not need to pay again.
4. Complete the [DS-160 Form online](#) and pay the visa application fee by following instructions on your local U.S. Embassy's or Consulate's website.
5. Follow the U.S. Embassy/Consulate's instructions to schedule an interview for your F-1 student visa. It is important to apply for your F-1 visa as soon as possible. When you have booked your appointment date, please email the Office of International Students and Scholars Services with your appointment date.
6. Prepare and bring to your visa interview the following:
  - A passport valid for at least six months
  - Form I-20
  - School admission letter and scholarship letter, if applicable.
  - Two 2"x 2" photographs in the [prescribed format](#)
  - A receipt for the visa application fee (MRV fee)
  - A receipt for the SEVIS I-901 fee.
  - Financial evidence that shows you have sufficient funds to cover your tuition and living expenses during the period you intend to study.
  - Any information that proves that you will return to your home country after finishing your studies in the United States. This may include proof of property, family, or other ties to your community.



## Hartford International

UNIVERSITY FOR RELIGION & PEACE

7. Attend your visa interview. Remain calm and answer all the Consular Officer's questions openly and honestly. Make sure you can clearly and concisely state your intended study purpose and why you are particularly interested in studying religion/peacebuilding/chaplaincy. Here are some additional [interview tips](#).
8. After your visa interview, please email the Office of International Students and Scholars with an update.
9. Good LUCK!