

How do I apply for the F-1 student visa?

The F-1 student visa may only be obtained by filing an application in person with a U.S. Embassy or Consulate in the country where you hold permanent residence.

<http://www.usembassy.gov/>

In order to be eligible for the F-1 student visa, you must present documentary evidence which will convince the consular officer that:

1. You have been accepted to a school for a full course of study.

Evidence: your form I-20 A-B and FCSL acceptance letter.

2. You have sufficient funds to support your studies and living expenses for the full length of your program.

Evidence: the proof of your financial ability you presented to FCSL. That is: Sponsor's Affidavit of support and supporting documentary evidence (originals, not photocopies).

3. You have the language proficiency to undertake the proposed program of study or that arrangements have been made by your school for you to obtain the required proficiency.

Evidence: TOEFL score and Form I-20 A-B. No TOEFL is needed for ESL students.

4. You fully intend to return to your home country after the completion of your studies. This means demonstrating that you have compelling ties that will cause you to return.

Evidence: if your family owns a business, take letters from the bank describing the business. If your family owns property, take the deed. If you have taken a leave from a job or have the prospect of a job offer, obtain a letter from the company stating that your job will be held until you return or that people with the education that you are seeking are in demand in your country. If you have family residing in your country, discuss your plan to frequently return home to see them.

What should I do if my F-1 student visa application is denied?

If you were denied on the grounds explained in #4, there will be very little that you can do other than to reapply as soon as you have new, additional evidence to present. If you were denied on the grounds that you do not possess the required English proficiency or for any other academic reason, submit the name of the officer, the reason for denial, and the name of the visa post where you applied to FCSL.