

Visa Information for study/internship in the USA


UPDATE: As of 27 May 2025, the United States is implementing wider background screenings for all international student visa applications. This will result in longer wait times and fewer appointment possibilities. **DO NOT WAIT TO MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT!!!**

You can do so here: <https://www.usvisaappt.com/visa/page?country=BE&apiPageName=nivTypes&locale=en> ➞ <https://www.usvisaappt.com/visa/page?country=BE&apiPageName=nivTypes&locale=en>

Applying for a visa to study

All incoming international students must **apply for a student visa** to enter the US.

Steps to follow:

1. Be nominated for and admitted to the partner institution and follow their instructions
2. Get your DS-2019 (this document comes from the partner institution along with other information needed to apply for your visa)
3. Visit the **Student Visa Page** ➞ <https://j1visa.state.gov/programs/college-and-university-student/> for information on how to set up your visa appointment.
4.  Pay the SEVIS fee.
5. Go to the visa appointment (wait times for your application processing may vary)

Important sites for visa info:

Student visa information ➞ <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study.html> (U.S. Department of State – Embassy in Belgium)

Student and Exchange Visitor Program | ICE ➞ <https://www.ice.gov/sevis>


[Link to application platform \(new for U.S. Embassy Belgium\)](https://www.usvisaappt.com/visa/country?country=BE) 

(<https://www.usvisaappt.com/visa/country?country=BE>)

[Direct link to application process](https://www.usvisaappt.com/visa/page?country=BE&apiPageName=nonImmigrantVisaProc&locale=en)  **(<https://www.usvisaappt.com/visa/page?country=BE&apiPageName=nonImmigrantVisaProc&locale=en>)**

[Direct link to schedule appointment \(create account / log-in\)](https://www.usvisaappt.com/visaapplicantui/login) 

(<https://www.usvisaappt.com/visaapplicantui/login>)

Tips for applying for your visa: <https://www.nafsa.org/professional-resources/browse-by-interest/10-points-remember-when-applying-student-visa>  **(<https://www.nafsa.org/professional-resources/browse-by-interest/10-points-remember-when-applying-student-visa>)**

Applying for a visa to intern:

NOTE: In the USA students do internships (not traineeships).

Students wishing to do their internship in the USA must use a sponsor organization to support their application. You will find more information about the process of finding an internship, choosing a sponsor organization and the J-1 visa application process for interns here: **[LEHO - Internships in the USA](https://leho-howest.instructure.com/courses/4161/pages/internships-in-the-usa)** (<https://leho-howest.instructure.com/courses/4161/pages/internships-in-the-usa>)