



Obtaining Your Form I-20

1. Receive official acceptance to the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts.
2. Complete and return your signed Enrollment Agreement.
3. Request and pay for a transcript evaluation to be mailed to the **International Student Advisor,**
Tara Kent 39 W 19th Street, 2nd Floor. New York, NY 10011
4. Complete the Form I-20 Application.
5. Obtain the required supporting documentation and a copy of your passport.
6. Submit Application, supporting documentation, and passport via e-mail to your admissions coordinator.
7. If you are currently studying in the U.S., you must also submit
 - A copy of current I-20
 - The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts SEVIS Transfer Form (Signed by the school you are transferring from). You may request this form from the International Student Advisor.
8. If you will receive free room and board from a sponsor, that sponsor must complete the Sponsored Housing Affidavit. In addition, a copy of the lease, deed, or utility bill should be submitted as supporting documentation.



After Receiving Your Form I-20

After you have completed and submitted all of the required documents to the International Student Advisor (ISA), the ISA will review documents and issue a Form I-20 as long as all requirements are met.

Obtaining your F-1 Visa (Citizens of Canada, Bermuda, or residents of certain other island, generally do not need a visa)

1. Upon receipt of your Form I-20, identify your closest U.S. embassy or consulate. Locations can be found here: <http://usembassy.state.gov/>
2. Schedule an appointment for a visa interview. Make the first appointment available. If the appointment is not soon enough, inquire about expedited service (where available) or consider an appointment at another U.S. embassy or consulate in your country.
3. Bring the following items to your appointment:
 - a) Your official SEVIS Form I-20 issued by NYCDA.
 - b) Proof that you paid the \$200.00 SEVIS fee. www.fmjfee.com
 - c) A completed non-immigrant visa application.
 - d) The appropriate visa application fee (consult the consulate)
 - e) A valid passport.
 - f) Acceptance and/or scholarship letters from NYCDA.
 - g) Transcripts and diplomas from previous schools.
 - h) TOEFL scores (if applicable).
 - i) Evidence of financial ability (all financial documents that you sent NYCDA in support of your Form I-20. These must be original documents).
 - j) Proof of dependents and their relationship to student (if F-2 visas are required).
 - k) Evidence of social and economic ties to home country. Most visa denials are the result of the consular officer believing that it is the non-immigrant's intention to remain in the United States longer than the student's status allows. The burden of proof is on the student to convince the officer that you have "compelling ties" to your home country and that you intend to return there. Examples of evidence of compelling ties includes property deeds and/or automobile registration.
 - l) You may not enter the United States for the purpose of study more than 30 days before the start of your term.
 - m) Be sure to bring your passport, Forms I-20 and I-94 with you to orientation.



Helpful Information

Do all international students need a Form I-20?

No, not all international students need to obtain a Form I-20. US permanent residents and individuals on most non-visitor visas do not require an I-20. B visitors, F-2 dependents, and tourists in the U.S. through the Visa Waiver Program must apply for a Form I-20 and change of status to F-1 student before they commence their studies at NYCDA. If you do not have legal status, you may still attend school but you are not eligible to change status and you do not need a Form I-20. It is your responsibility to maintain legal status in the United States. The ISA will provide unofficial guidance on immigration procedures and regulations, but it is the responsibility of the student to obtain the advice of an immigration attorney, if necessary.

I received a five year visa, does this mean I can stay in the U.S. for five years?

Unfortunately, no. You must maintain legal status while you remain in the United States. Your student visa is only valid while you attend school full time and for 60 days after program completion or Optional Practical Training (authorized work for one year after program completion). After that time, you must leave the U.S., attend another school, or arrange to change to another status.

Where can I live during my studies in the U.S.?

Dorms: NYCDA has accommodations available for students; however, space is limited. As soon as you decide that you want to reside in the dorms, contact Student Services at **(646) 216-2872** to check availability and reserve a room

Housing Sponsor: You may have your own sponsor who is willing to accommodate your room and board, free of charge for the entire program (See Form I-20 application for required documents).

Apartment: You may find accommodations on your own; however, we recommend that if you are not familiar with New York City, you stay in our student accommodations for the duration of your enrollment. If you choose this option, you will still need to be able to provide proof of funding equal to \$52,038.

When do I need to make my first payment?

Tuition and housing charges (if applicable) are due once your Form I-20 has been issued. If payment is not received by deadlines specified in acceptance packet, you may be in jeopardy of losing your enrollment status at the Conservatory and having your Form I-20 canceled. Please contact the Business Office at (212) 633-1729.



Can I enter the U.S. on the Visa Waiver Program and attend NYCDA?

Do not enter the U.S. on the Visa Waiver Program (WT or WB): If you are from a country that permits entry into the U.S. as a visitor by solely providing a round trip airline ticket, do NOT do this. You will be permitted to stay for only 90 days. You will not be given more time or allowed to change to F-1 student status.

Can I enter the U.S. with a B-1, B -2 or B1/2 visa and attend NYCDA?

Do not enter the U.S. with a B-1, B-2 or B1/2 visa. If you use a B visa to enter the U.S. you are indicating that you are here as a visitor only. Since you contacted our school about study, this could be viewed as misrepresenting your purpose for entering the U.S. and you might be refused permission to extend or to change your status. Although you might hear from people who say it is easy to enter the country as a visitor and change your status to F-1 Student, this is not true. U.S. federal regulations prohibit B visitors from pursuing a course of study prior to obtaining a change of status to F-1 student.

Can I obtain employment while enrolled at NYCDA as an F-1 student?

You are not permitted to engage in unauthorized off campus employment. On campus employment is permitted by law; however, a very limited number of jobs are available. You may contact student services or your ISA for more information.

Estimated Annual Financial Requirements

	Descriptions	Estimated Cost of Attendance 2014-2015
Costs Paid Directly to NYCDA	Tuition & Fees including \$750 deposit	\$31,200
	Housing and deposits	\$15,804
Other Living Expenses	Books & Supplies	\$546
	Board	\$2,665
	Personal Expenses	\$800
	Transportation	\$1,023
Total	Estimated Direct & Indirect Costs	\$52,038



International Student Loan Information

United Kingdom Career Development Loan (CDL)

This loan will cover up to \$16,436 **USD** per academic year for our UK students who are 18 and older. The application takes 2-3 weeks to be processed, so we urge students to start applying very early. Students can apply online at www.direct.gov.uk/cdl/. Any queries should be directed to the bank at 0800 585 505. As a Learner Provider, we are not permitted to give any detailed information on the Career Development Loans to students. Our learning provider number is 20111.

Canadian Loans

To find out more about Canadian loans, please visit www.canlearn.ca. Access the Canadian loans section on the Alternative Loans section of the New York Conservatory's website. If you have any further questions, you may contact the Financial Aid Office at (212)645-0641.

Additional Outside Financial Aid

- | | |
|--|--|
| a) Institute of International Education | www.fundingusstudy.org |
| b) International Scholarships | www.Internationalscholarships.com |
| c) MeritAid | www.meritaid.com |
| d) International Education Financial Aid | www.iefaf.org |
| e) College Connection Scholarships | www.collegescholarships.com |
| f) Fundsnet Online Services | www.fundsnet services.com |