

Visa Renewal

Step 1: Schedule an appointment for your visa interview

- Review the website of the US Embassy or Consulate abroad where you will be renewing your F-1 or J-1 visa
See: <http://usembassy.state.gov>
- Schedule your visa appointment for the earliest date possible after your arrival in that country
- Take note of any unique procedures or documents required by that embassy or consulate

Step 2: Prepare your visa application

- Complete the **DS-160 Visa Application Form**
See: <http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/forms/ds-160--online-nonimmigrant-visa-application.html>
- Prepare supporting documents required for your visa appointment:
 - ✓ **Recent travel signature on your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019** – Travel signatures are generally valid for one year, but it is recommended that your signature be less than 6 months old if you are traveling to renew your visa
 - ✓ **Proof of Enrollment** – Choose ONE of the below enrollment verification options:
 - **Official Transcript**
 - **Verification of Enrollment**
**You can find these documents at your school's Student Services Office*
 - ✓ **Original funding documents** – Students should be prepared to show original financial documents demonstrating sufficient financial resources for one full year of study (F-1 students) or the length of the academic program (J-1 students). Appropriate financial support documents can include:
 - If **personally funded**: an original bank statement or bank letter in your name
 - If funded by **family or sponsor**: original bank statement accompanied by affidavit of support
 - If funded by **Tufts University**: A letter on Tufts letterhead, detailing the amount of funding
 - If you have **already paid tuition** for the next semester, you may wish to print out your eBilling receipt from Tufts eBill.
 - ✓ **Proof of SEVIS fee payment** – See: <https://www.fmjfee.com/>

NOTE: Post-Completion OPT or STEM extension

If you are currently on post-completion OPT or OPT STEM extension, in addition to the above named documents (with the exception of Proof of Enrollment), you will also need to bring your **Employment Authorization Document (EAD)** card. We also suggest bringing your **employment offer letter** if you have a job; this may help you in the case that you need to prove you are employed in the U.S.

**Please note: The International Center does not recommend renewing your visa in a third country (country that is not your home country). Since refusal in a third country is more likely than at home, students should plan to travel home to renew their visas. Be sure to plan in advance and keep an eye on your visa expiration date!*