

Applying and Obtaining an F-1 Visa

ABROAD

for a Degree Program at Old Dominion University

This document was prepared by representatives in the HQ SAC Office of the Legal Advisor in coordination with Old Dominion University (ODU) Visa & Immigration Service Advisors (VISA) officials and provides general information for applying and obtaining an F-1 Visa for a Degree Program at ODU.

This information is offered as a courtesy, it is strictly informative in nature and does not, nor is it intended to, constitute legal advice or counsel. Consult officials in the VISA office at ODU for

for information and guidance on this matter.

This document ONLY addresses the process for applying for an F-1 (Student) visa abroad.

HQ SAC Office of the Legal Advisor are not involved in the administrative process of applying for a visa abroad. Consult officials in the VISA office at ODU for information and guidance on this matter.

For information regarding submitting a visa change of status in the United States, please contact representatives in the HQ SAC Office of the Legal Advisor.

Requirement to remain in a derivative (NATO or A) visa status. Generally, the dependents of NATO or PfP personnel are required to remain in a derivative NATO or A category visa status. There are exceptions, such as when an unmarried son or daughter, who is on full-time duty/employment contract, reaches their 23rd birthday. Please contact representatives in the Office of the Legal Advisor for additional information.

TIMELINE & CHECKLIST APPLYING FOR A VISA OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

60 to 90 days before eligible: Consult officials in the VISA office at ODU for information and guidance. Also, consult appropriate U.S. Embassy or consulate abroad regarding visa application requirements. Gather required forms and supporting documentation. Information can also be found at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en.html>

30 days before eligible: Request the Form I-20

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NOTE: HEALTH INSURANCE Once you have F-1 visa status (i.e. once you have entered the U.S. on the visa) you will be REQUIRED to enroll in health insurance. Once you have entered the U.S. on the visa, you will be required to enroll in health insurance. The enrollment procedure will be provided by the VISA office when you meet with your VISA advisor. There are two exceptions to this requirement: 1) sponsorship of all education and living expenses by the home government and the insurance is provided by a U.S. carrier or 2) a spouse or parent in the U.S. is employed by a U.S. company and is provided with a health plan that provides coverage for dependents. For further details on international student health insurance requirement and plan, please visit the International Student Health Insurance Requirement page (<http://odu.edu/international/insurance#tab132>).