

# Preparing for your F-1 Visa Interview

## 2. Complete visa Form DS-160: Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application

Form-DS-160 is submitted electronically to the Department of State website via the <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv>

If you have questions on how to complete the form, please visit <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/forms/ds-160--online-nonimmigrant-visa-application.html>

When complete, print and keep the DS-160 barcode page. (You will not need to print the full application.)  
NOTE: You should decide which school you want to attend BEFORE you apply for the visa, or pay for the visa fee (Step 5), because the name of the school that issued your I-20 will be written on the visa.

## 3. Follow the U.S. Embassy/Consulate's instructions to schedule an interview for your F-1 student visa as far in advance as possible. Many consulates recommend that appointments be made more than 90 days from the intended date of travel, but some can make earlier arrangements for interviews.

