Once you receive admission, follow these steps to NIF and obtain your visa.

**The Arrival Process**

1. **Submit Statement of Intent to Register**
   - Access & complete the above steps at [calcentral.berkeley.edu](http://calcentral.berkeley.edu)
   - *Except EAP & readmitted students.

2. **Create CalNet & bConnected accounts**
   - BIO reviews your NIF
   - **Incomplete NIFs:** BIO will email you. This may delay processing
   - **Congratulations! Your NIF is complete**
   - Complete the [iStart 101 Course](#)

3. **Submit Statement of Legal Residence**
   - **BIO mails your I-20 or DS 2019**
   - **Log into NIF to obtain SEVIS ID number**
   - **Pay SEVIS fee using SEVIS ID number**
   - **Check out BIO’s pre-arrival resources**

4. **Access and complete the NIF**
   - **Make Visa appointment**
   - **Receive I-20 or DS 2019**
   - **Apply for & obtain Visa**
   - **Make arrival plans (no earlier than 30 days prior to I-20 or DS 2019 start date)**

5. **Access & complete the above steps at calcentral.berkeley.edu**
   - Please note: It may take 24-48 hours from SIR to gain access.

- **Approximate Processing Times**
  - **1-5 days**
  - **10-15 business days**
  - **1-4+ weeks**
  - **1-3 months (average)**

**Consult your US Embassy/Consulate for visa processing times as they vary**
- *This may not apply to Canadian citizens or SEVIS transfer students*

**Enter US with proper documents**
- **Complete online arrival confirmation**
- **Be sure you are registered (enrolled & tuition/fees paid)**
- **Welcome to Cal! Attend orientation**

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