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

**1. Accept Offer of Admission and pay deposit***
- Access & complete the above steps at [https://calcentral.berkeley.edu/](https://calcentral.berkeley.edu/)
- *Except EAP & readmitted students.

**2. Create bConnected accounts**
- Review all Tasks & Notifications in Cal Central

**3. Access and complete the NIF Task**
- Congratulations! Your NIF is complete
- BIO reviews your NIF
- BIO mails your I-20 or DS 2019

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

**4. Make Visa appointment***
- Log into NIF to obtain SEVIS ID number
- Pay SEVIS fee using SEVIS ID number*
- Check out BIO’s pre-arrival resources
- Receive I-20 or DS 2019
- Make arrival plans (no earlier than 30 days prior to I-20 or DS 2019 start date*)

**5. Enter the U.S. with proper documents**
- Complete arrival confirmation & address reporting tasks
- Be sure you are registered (enrolled & tuition/fees paid)
- Welcome to Cal! Attend orientation

*Pay SEVIS fee at least 3 days prior to visa appointment

Consult your US Embassy/Consulate for visa processing times as they vary

*This may not apply to Canadian citizens or SEVIS transfer students

Approximate Processing Times:
- Please note: It may take 24-48 hours to gain access to all tasks.

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