

Immigration Essentials

Berkeley International Office

Introduction



Important Recent Updates

- BIO has recently received some updated guidance from DHS!
- For F-1/J-1 purposes, you are considered a “new” student if you entered or will enter the U.S. with F-1 or J-1 Initial status **with an I-20/DS-2019 start date for Fall 2021 or later**. Basically- you are a *New* student in your first semester of entry!
- A “continuing” student for visa purposes is a student who entered the U.S. with F-1/J-1 status **with I-20/DS-2019 start date for a prior semester (Summer 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020, etc)**. You are a *Continuing* student after you finish your first semester in the US.

New Student Guidance

- The default instructional mode for Fall 2021 will be primarily in-person and in general, all students are expected to be physically present on campus for Fall 2021.
- **New or Initial F-1/J-1 students** entering the US to begin studies in Fall 2021 must be enrolled in at least one course with in-person instructional mode. Berkeley's instructional model is primarily in-person, but it includes hybrid instruction as well.
- **Continuing F-1/J-1 students** who entered the US in a previous semester and were enrolled continuously are technically allowed fully remote instruction if needed, but most instruction will be in-person.

Late Arrival

Late Arrivals

- **First** contact your academic department to see what options are possible for you.
- BIO will work with students who face arrival difficulties for Fall 2021 to determine the best option for their specific circumstances, including advising on late arrivals, readmission and return after deferral/withdrawal, and how to receive updated I-20/DS-2019 documents.
- Please complete BIO's mandatory [Fall 2021 Arrival Survey](#) so that we can confirm your arrival date and any necessary I-20/DS-2019 adjustment
- If you urgently need an updated I-20 for a visa interview appointment prior to that time, please [contact us](#) and include a copy of your visa appointment confirmation.

Admissions Deferrals

- Newly admitted undergraduates will need to contact the [Office of Admissions](#) to determine if you have an option to defer to a future semester.
- Graduate students should also communicate with their academic department regarding any option to defer.

Arrival Support

- Our [COVID-19 website](#) has arrival letters for students entering in Fall 2021
- The letter states you can arrive up to 30 days *after* the start of your I-20/DS-2019 (if necessary)
- If you'll be arriving more than 30 days after the start of Your I-20/DS-2019, you need an updated I-20/DS-2019 and BIO will work with you on that.
- You **MUST** have the approval of your academic department for Late arrival
- No special notes or annotations are needed on the I-20 or DS-2019 regarding instructional models!

Stay up-to-date

Things can change quickly in the immigration world. Please stay up to date on the latest information and how it could affect your immigration status in the following ways:

- BIO Website, especially:
 - [COVID 19 FAQ](#)
 - [Immigration Policy Updates FAQ](#)
- Read ALL emails from BIO
- Speak with an adviser using our virtual or in-person advising:
<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/students/student-services>



Your F-1/J-1 Student Status

Top 10 Rules for F-1/J-1 Status

BIO Advisers are the resource for information and guidance on questions related to your student visa.

<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/how-maintain-your-fj-student-status>

Stay in Status

1. Keep addresses & phone number updated
2. Full-time units
3. Approval for course reductions and withdrawal
4. Obey laws, regulations, student code of conduct
5. Attend the school on your I-20/DS-2019
6. Keep documents valid
7. Understand travel documents
8. Grace period
9. Work permission
10. Health insurance


First Steps

Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA





Complete your Arrival Confirmation
and keep your address updated!

 **U.S. Customs and Border Protection**
Securing America's Borders

Get I-94 Number **I-94 FAQ**

Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 69000888062

Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): D/S

Details provided on Admission(I-94) form:

Family Name:	LI
First (Given) Name:	LYDIA
Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	01/01/1990
Passport Number:	P123123213
Passport Country of Issuance:	Mexico
Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY):	04/11/2012
Class of Admission:	F1

Individuals can visit www.cbp.gov/I94 to retrieve a copy of their electronic Form I-94.

Go to calcentral.berkeley.edu and complete these Task items:

1. Arrival Confirmation Form (includes uploading I-94)
2. U.S. Address & Phone Reporting Form

*Temporary addresses are ok.
Remember to update again when you find permanent housing.*

CALCENTRAL

My Dashboard My Academics My Finances My Campus

CalCentral Update CalCentral v9.0 Release

Profile

Basic Information
Basic Information
Contact Information
Emergency Contact
Demographic Information

Privacy & Permissions
Title IV Release

Credentials
Work Experience

Profile

Contact Information

Phone Number	Home/Permanent Phone 510/642-1234 ext. 123 Edit	+ Add
	Local Phone (preferred) 510/555-1212 Edit	
Email	Other Email (preferred) sacommunications@berkeley.edu Edit	+ Add
Address	Diploma Address 2111 BANCROFT WAY #4080 BERKELEY, California 94720-4080 Edit	+ Add
	Home Address 2111 BANCROFT WAY #550 Edit	
	Local Address 500 SPROUL HALL BERKELEY, California 94720 Edit	

THEN: Update your LOCAL U.S. Phone & address in Cal Central

If you move or change your email, update Cal Central within 10 days.



Enroll Full Time

COVID-19 special rules: New Students arriving for Fall 2021 must have some instruction which is coded as *in-person*

Full time enrollment is determined by your academic department.

College of Letters & Science requires

13 *units*

Most academic departments require

12

units each semester.



Summer?

Normal F-1/J-1 rules: only *1 class* of online instruction is allowed

Study/Work Balance

Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



Reduced Course Load



Academic
Reasons

Medical
Reasons

Final
Semester*

*degree-seeking
students only

Approval from a BIO Advisor is required.

Notify BIO if you plan to drop below full time enrollment,
withdraw, or cancel.

Reduced enrollment for Academic reasons is limited to
issues during the first semester of arrival in the US.



Employment

Employment

- DO NOT WORK without the correct work authorization!
Learn more in our upcoming “Working in the US” session
- Working without authorization is a serious violation of your F-1/J-1 student visa. If you are uncertain if you need work authorization for certain activities, come check with us first.



Extra Curricular Activities



UC Berkeley takes academic integrity very seriously. Academic misconduct can lead to suspension or dismissal from the university.

*Any impact on your enrollment impacts your F-1/J-1 visa status

Examples of Misconduct



- Cheating
- Plagiarism, self-plagiarism
- Unauthorized group work or collaboration
- Falsification



Extra Curricular Activities are a great way
to meet others and have fun.



Activities that you engage in on & off campus
can impact your visa status.

Be safe, be smart, be peaceful, and respect consent.

Freedom of Expression

- One of the norms of a university environment is the freedom to express oneself in open dialogue and discussion.
- Students should be able to express themselves without fear of any intimidation from others and that any views that they share in classroom discussions or public forums will not be used in an adverse or negative way that could lead to their harm.

Intellectual Property

- Students should be aware that there are certain rights that go along with discoveries or inventions by faculty or other students. You should exercise caution in how you use the discoveries of others.
- For additional information about Intellectual Property you are encouraged to review this presentation:
<https://ipira.berkeley.edu/ip-protection>

Visa Rules \neq CA Laws

Just because it's legal in California...

Does not mean it's OK while you're on a student visa!

You must obey all State AND Federal Laws!





The legal drinking age in the U.S. is...

21



Contact BIO as soon as possible if you have an encounter with law enforcement.

We are here to **help** and **support** you.



Travel & Immigration Document Maintenance

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

1-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-0018

SEVIS ID: N0004705512

CLASS: **F-1**
ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE

PERSONAL INFORMATION
Given Name: John
Family Name: Doe
Country of Citizenship: United States
Country of Birth: United States
Date of Birth: 01 January 1980
Reason for Entry: Student (F-1)
School Information
School Name: Buena Vista University
School Address: 1001 North Main St., Burlington, IA 50814
School Phone: 515-339-1234
School Fax: 515-339-1235
School Email: info@bvua.edu
School Website: www.bvua.edu
Program of Study: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration
Program Start Date: 01 September 2012
Program End Date: 31 May 2015
Program Length: 36 months
Normal Program Length: 36 months
Financial Information
Estimated Annual Costs: \$12,000
Tuition and Fees: \$4,000
Living Expenses: \$5,000
Travel Expenses: \$1,000
Total: \$12,000
Source of Funds: Personal Savings
Signature of Student: John Doe
Signature of Parent/Guardian: Jane Doe
Signature of School Official: [Signature]
Date: 01 September 2012

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

1-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-0018

SEVIS ID: N0004705512 (F-1)

NAME: John Doe Smith

EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION
Employment Status: None
Employment Start Date: None
Employment End Date: None
Employer Name: None
Employer Location: None

REASONS
Reason for Entry: Student (F-1)

STATE OF STATUS/STATUS EXTENSION
Status: F-1
Status Start Date: 01 September 2012
Status End Date: 31 May 2015

HISTORY
Event Date: 01 September 2012
Event Type: Arrival

AUTHORIZATIONS
Start Date: 01 September 2012
End Date: 31 May 2015

ENDORSEMENT
Endorsement: F-1
Endorsement Date: 01 September 2012
Endorsement Location: Portland, ME



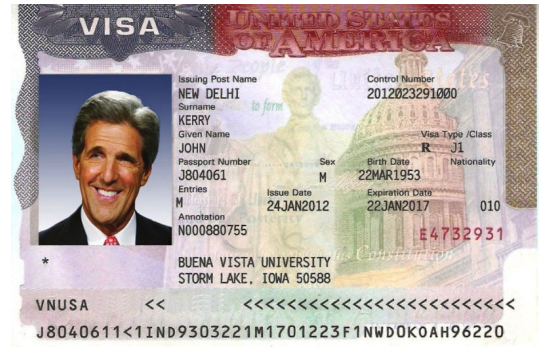
U.S. Department of State
CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXCHANGE VISITOR STATUS (J-NONIMMIGRANT)

1. Exchange Visitor Information
Exchange Visitor Category: J-1
Exchange Visitor Number: 2012023291000
Exchange Visitor Name: JOHN DOE SMITH
Exchange Visitor Date of Birth: 01-01-1980
Exchange Visitor Sex: M
Exchange Visitor Nationality: UNITED STATES
Exchange Visitor Address: 1001 North Main St., Burlington, IA 50814
Exchange Visitor Phone: 515-339-1234
Exchange Visitor Email: info@bvua.edu
Exchange Visitor School: Buena Vista University
Exchange Visitor Program: International Educational Exchange
Exchange Visitor Program Number: P-3-50131
Exchange Visitor Program Start Date: 01 September 2012
Exchange Visitor Program End Date: 31 May 2015
Exchange Visitor Program Length: 36 months
Exchange Visitor Program Normal Length: 36 months
Exchange Visitor Program Financial Information
Estimated Annual Costs: \$12,000
Tuition and Fees: \$4,000
Living Expenses: \$5,000
Travel Expenses: \$1,000
Total: \$12,000
Source of Funds: Personal Savings
Signature of Student: John Doe Smith
Signature of Parent/Guardian: Jane Doe Smith
Signature of School Official: [Signature]
Date: 01 September 2012

2. Exchange Visitor Information
Exchange Visitor Category: J-1
Exchange Visitor Number: 2012023291000
Exchange Visitor Name: JOHN DOE SMITH
Exchange Visitor Date of Birth: 01-01-1980
Exchange Visitor Sex: M
Exchange Visitor Nationality: UNITED STATES
Exchange Visitor Address: 1001 North Main St., Burlington, IA 50814
Exchange Visitor Phone: 515-339-1234
Exchange Visitor Email: info@bvua.edu
Exchange Visitor School: Buena Vista University
Exchange Visitor Program: International Educational Exchange
Exchange Visitor Program Number: P-3-50131
Exchange Visitor Program Start Date: 01 September 2012
Exchange Visitor Program End Date: 31 May 2015
Exchange Visitor Program Length: 36 months
Exchange Visitor Program Normal Length: 36 months
Exchange Visitor Program Financial Information
Estimated Annual Costs: \$12,000
Tuition and Fees: \$4,000
Living Expenses: \$5,000
Travel Expenses: \$1,000
Total: \$12,000
Source of Funds: Personal Savings
Signature of Student: John Doe Smith
Signature of Parent/Guardian: Jane Doe Smith
Signature of School Official: [Signature]
Date: 01 September 2012

See BIO's Travel webpage for all required documents:

<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/entry-us-travel-and-re-entry>



Additional Required Documents:



- Proof of current or next semester's enrollment
- Evidence of current Financial Support
- Proof of [SEVIS Fee](#) payment
- Proof of post-completion employment and authorization*

* After graduation/program completion only

Travel & Entry Tips

- Don't bring restricted items to the U.S. (bit.ly/CBPIlist)
- Be calm and answer any questions succinctly about your academic program and your activities in the U.S.
- Jokes about terrorism, breaking laws, drugs, etc. are never a wise choice.
- Be prepared in case of Secondary Inspection (bit.ly/CBP-SI)
- See the ACLU's Know Your Rights resources for Rights at Airports & Other Ports (aclu.org/know-your-rights)

Electronic Devices

- Customs & Border Protection may request to inspect your electronic devices. See bit.ly/ACLUdevices for tips on how to prepare your device before you travel.
- Are you presenting your best self in social media and messaging apps?
- How would you feel if U.S. immigration looked at all of your photos and messages?
- Is there any possibility it might appear that you are engaged in activities that violate U.S. laws or your visa status or that show academic dishonesty?



Attend the school noted on your
I-20 (F-1s) or DS-2019 (J-1s)

Transferring SEVIS Record

Transfer IN = Must UC Berkeley I-20/DS-2019 & full-time study at UC Berkeley

Transfer OUT = Request I-20/DS-2019 transfer *to another school* for full-time study

Taking classes at another school while still at UCB:

Concurrent enrollment classes at other schools will not count towards your full-time enrollment at UC Berkeley for visa purposes.

Completing your Program

Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA





Keep your I-20 or DS-2019 valid
at all times and understand your
completion date.

I-20

DS-2019





Grace Period

What is my Grace Period?

Your main goal on an F-1 or J-1 visa is to study. When you are finished with that, you will have some time to decide what to do next.

This length of time is called a grace period.

F-1s have a 60 day grace period. J-1s have a 30 day grace period. but must take some actions before their DS-2019 program end date as outlined below.

Action	F-1	J-1
	Timeline	Timeline
Depart the U.S.	60 days after your I-20 program end date	30 days after your DS-2019 program end date
Transfer to a new school (or remain at Cal but change educational level)	60 days after your I-20 program end date	before your DS-2019 program end date
Apply for work authorization or explore employment options	60 days after your I-20 program end date * Start applying 90 days before completion!	before your DS-2019 program end date * Start applying anytime in your last semester!



Health Insurance

Insurance Requirements

Maintaining health insurance is a university requirement until graduation.

Federal immigration regulations require J-1/J-2 students to maintain proper health insurance meeting specific requirements throughout their J program, including period of post-completion employment.



Contact a BIO adviser if you suspect you are a victim of a scam or fraud.

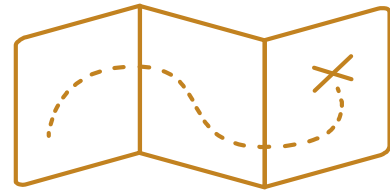
Learn how to identify common scams and how to protect yourself:

More info about Scams and Safety in Berkeley:

<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/living/scams-safety>



Communication from BIO





BIO wants to help you have an enjoyable career during and after your time at Cal.

Remember that any violation of your visa status can have serious consequences.

Update us! Stay enrolled full-time! Work only with authorization!
Don't exceed your grace period for exit! Don't fall for scams!

Be safe! BIO's here to help!