



# Preparing for your summer in Berkeley

Presented by:  
**Berkeley International Office**  
2150 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 500  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
[internationaloffice.berkeley.edu](http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu)

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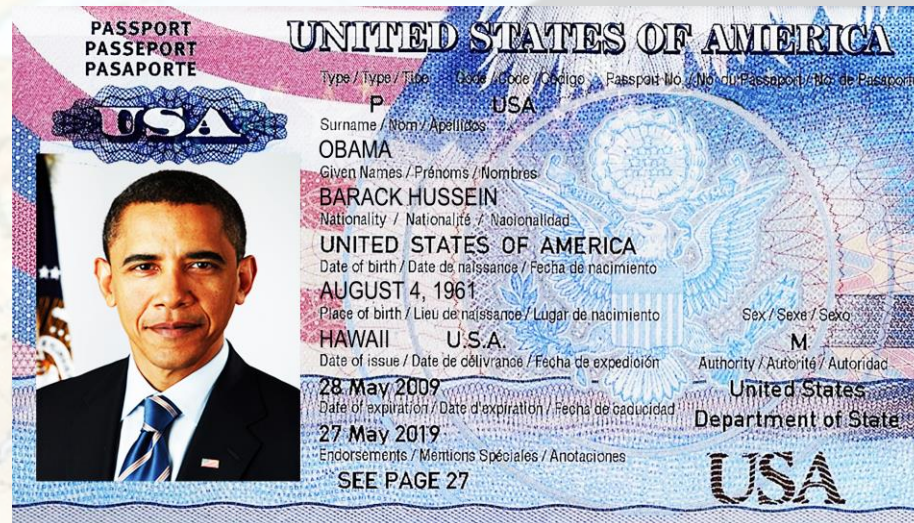




# Get your passport ready

Renew your passport if it will expire in the next 6 months.

Photocopy the biographical page to carry with you after arrival in the U.S.



# Understanding your I-20

SEVIS ID number  
Log into [VSIS](#) to  
view the SEVIS number

You may enter the U.S. up to  
**30 days** before the start date

Expiration Date  
You are allowed **60 days** to depart the U.S.  
or transfer to a new school after the  
expiration date.

**Carry the I-20 with you when you  
travel. Do not pack it away in your  
luggage!**

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement		I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status OMB NO. 1653-0038	
<b>SEVIS ID: N0004705512</b>			
<b>SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME</b> Doe Smith		<b>GIVEN NAME</b> Joan	<b>CLASS</b>  <b>F-1</b>  <b>ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE</b>
<b>PREFERRED NAME</b> Joan Doe-Smith		<b>PASSPORT NAME</b>	
<b>COUNTRY OF BIRTH</b> UNITED KINGDOM		<b>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP</b> UNITED KINGDOM	
<b>DATE OF BIRTH</b> 01 JANUARY 1980		<b>ADMISSION NUMBER</b>	
<b>FORM ISSUE REASON</b> INITIAL ATTENDANCE		<b>LEGACY NAME</b> Joan Doe-Smith	
<b>SCHOOL INFORMATION</b>			
<b>SCHOOL NAME</b> SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies		<b>SCHOOL ADDRESS</b> 9002 Nancy Lane, Ft. Washington, MD 20744	
<b>SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL</b> Helene Robertson PD50		<b>SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE</b> SAL214F4444000 03 APRIL 2015	
<b>PROGRAM OF STUDY</b>			
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b> DOCTORATE	<b>MAJOR 1</b> Economics, General 45.0601	<b>MAJOR 2</b> None 00.0000	
<b>NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH</b> 72 Months	<b>PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY</b> Required	<b>ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES</b> Student is proficient	
<b>PROGRAM START DATE</b> 01 SEPTEMBER 2015		<b>PROGRAM END DATE</b> 31 MAY 2021	
<b>FINANCIALS</b>			
<b>ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 MONTHS</b>		<b>STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR: 9 MONTHS</b>	
Tuition and Fees	\$ 23,000	Personal Funds	\$ 3,000
Living Expenses	\$ 6,000	Scholarship and Teaching Assistantship	\$ 29,000
Expenses of Dependents (1)	\$ 3,000	Funds From Another Source	
Other	\$	On-Campus Employment	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 32,000</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 32,000</b>
<b>REMARKS</b> Orientation begins 8/25/2015. Please report to ISSS upon arrival.			
<b>SCHOOL ATTESTATION</b>			
I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I executed this form in the United States after review and evaluation in the United States by me or other officials of the school of the student's application, transcripts, or other records of courses taken and proof of financial responsibility, which were received at the school prior to the execution of this form. The school has determined that the above named student's qualifications meet all standards for admission to the school and the student will be required to pursue a full program of study as defined by 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6). I am a designated school official of the above named school and am authorized to issue this form.			
<b>X</b>	<b>DATE ISSUED</b>	<b>PLACE ISSUED</b>	
<b>SIGNATURE OF:</b> Helene Robertson, PD50	21 April 2015	Ft. Washington, MD	
<b>STUDENT ATTESTATION</b>			
I have read and agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay. I certify that all information provided on this form refers specifically to me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I seek to enter or remain in the United States temporarily, and solely for the purpose of pursuing a full program of study at the school named above. I also authorize the named school to release any information from my records needed by DHS pursuant to 8 CFR 214.3(g) to determine my nonimmigrant status. <b>Parent or guardian, and student, must sign if student is under 18.</b>			
<b>X</b>	<b>DATE</b>		
<b>SIGNATURE OF:</b> John Doe Smith			
<b>NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>ADDRESS (city/state or province/country)</b>	<b>DATE</b>
	<b>SIGNATURE</b>		

# Understanding your I-20

Make sure you keep all I-20  
pages together.

Travel Signature  
Located on page 2  
of the I-20.

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

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status  
OMB NO. 1653-0038

SEVIS ID: N0004705512 (F-1)

NAME: John Doe Smith

## EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION

EMPLOYMENT STATUS	TYPE
EMPLOYMENT START DATE	EMPLOYMENT END DATE
EMPLOYER NAME	EMPLOYER LOCATION
COMMENTS	

## CHANGE OF STATUS/CAP-GAP EXTENSION

REQUESTED VISA TYPE	REQUEST/PETITION STATUS	RECEIPT NUMBER	BENEFIT START DATE/REQUEST DATE
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## EVENT HISTORY

EVENT NAME	EVENT DATE
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## OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

AUTHORIZATION	START DATE	END DATE
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## TRAVEL ENDORSEMENT

This page when properly endorsed, may be used for reentry of the student to attend the same school after a temporary absence from the United States. Each certification signature is valid for one year.

SCHOOL OFFICIAL	TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE ISSUED	PLACE ISSUED
Heidi Church	DSO	X Heidi Church	05/25/2016	Berkeley, CA
		X		
		X		
		X		



# Pay the SEVIS fee

Pay SEVIS (i-901) fee at least 3 days prior to visa interview.

Visit the [SEVIS fee web page](#) for more details.

Make copies of the SEVIS fee receipt (i-797) & carry during travel.

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services		I-797C, Notice of Action	
<b>THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>			
RECEIPT NUMBER CCY 00000000000001		CASE TYPE: I-901 - Application	
RECEIVED DATE SEP 1, 2004	PRIORITY DATE	APPLICANT ZHANG SHENGLI	SEVIS ID: N0051664668
NOTICE DATE November 04, 2004	PAGE 1 of 1	ASC CODE N/A	
ZHANG SHENGLI ROOM401, BUILDING NO.1, HAIDIAN DISTRICT BEIJING 100083 CHINA			NOTICE TYPE: Receipt Notice Amount Received: \$100.00
ZHANG SHENGLI			
Your I-901 fee transmittal form has been received. Please notify us immediately if any of the above information is incorrect.			
This fee payment is valid <b>only</b> for your particular course of study or program. If you fall out of status, apply for a new F-1, F-3, M-1, M-3 or J-1 non-immigrant visa, or if you want to change your non-immigrant category to an F-1, F-3, M-1, M-3 or J-1, you may be required to pay another fee.			
Bring this receipt to the consulate as proof of payment of the SEVIS fee.			
Applicant Status: J-1		Receipt Copy: 01	
Date of Birth: 01/01/1970		Amount Received: \$100.00	
Program Number: P-1-00001			
<b>SAMPLE</b>			
I-901 Student/Exchange Visitor Processing Fee P.O. Box 970020 St. Louis, MO 63197-0020 Customer Service Telephone: 785-330-1048 This form issued by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement			

Form I-797C (Rev. 11/28/03) N

# Make a visa appointment

Read our [Applying For A Visa](#) webpage.

Visit the [U.S. Department of State](#) website for more details, at least one month in advance.



# Check visa for accuracy



Visa type: F-1

Expiration date

Number of Entries allowed:  
M = multiple

The visa is used only for **entering** the U.S.

If it expires while you are here, there is **no need to renew it**.

If you leave the U.S., your visa must be **valid for re-entry**.



# Keep documents safe

- Photocopy ALL your documents.
- Store originals and copies in two separate and **safe** locations.
- Carry photocopies of all your documents at all times.
- Take your **original** documents when traveling out of the area.

*Keep all original documents. You could be asked to present them at future visa interviews!*



# Arrange housing early

Housing in the Bay Area is very competitive.  
It is important to plan ahead.

Visit the Berkeley Summer Sessions website for more information about [Options for Student Housing During Summer Sessions.](#)

# Purchase health insurance

The US healthcare system is complex and can get extremely expensive.

[Health Insurance Requirement](#)

J1 /J2 visa holders are held to strict, and higher, health insurance minimum requirements:

[J1 /J2 coverage details](#)



[Overview of the US Healthcare System](#) [video].



# Health insurance options

The Berkeley International Office is aware of the following providers that have options for international students. BIO does not endorse any particular plans, and students should research and compare plans to determine if the coverage is sufficient for their needs.

- [Compass Student Insurance](#)
- [Cultural Insurance Services International](#)
- [International Student Insurance](#)
- [International Student Protection](#)
- [ISO Insurance](#)
- [PGH Global](#)
- [PSI Health Insurance](#)



# Buy a ticket



Recommended Arrival: 1 week before classes

## **30-Day Arrival Limit:**

New F-1 students are NOT allowed to enter earlier than 30 days prior to program start date.

Plan ahead! Refundable tickets are a good option should delays arise.

# Plan transportation from the airport

Most students arrive at:

[San Francisco Airport](#) or [Oakland Airport](#)

Here are some options for getting to UC Berkeley from the airport.



Airport Express Shuttle  
[Bay Porter](#)



Bay Area Rapid Transit:  
[BART](#)



Transit Trip Planner:  
<http://511.org/>





# At the U.S. port of entry

- Follow [Arrival Procedures](#) as outlined by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.
- Don't bring [restricted items](#) to the U.S.
- 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](#)
- See the ACLU's [Know Your Rights](#) resources for Rights at Airports & Other Ports

# At the U.S. port of entry

- Customs & Border Protection may request to inspect your **electronic devices**. Read [tips](#) on how to prepare your device before you travel.
- Consider these questions: 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? Does your online activity show academic dishonesty or anything that violates U.S. laws or your visa status?



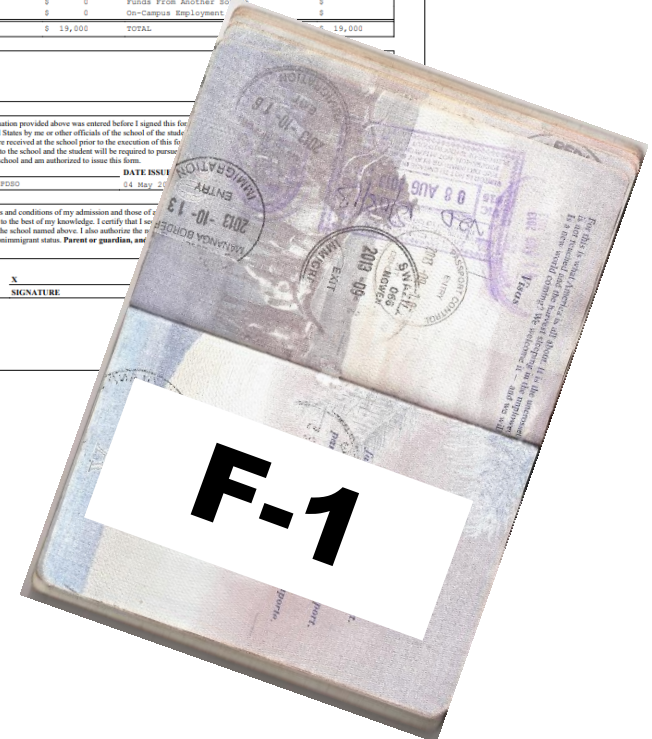
# At the U.S. port of entry

## IMPORTANT!

Present your I-20 and show your F-1 visa to the officer. Say that you are requesting F-1 status.

Entering in a different status can cause problems for your immigration record and your studies. Berkeley International Office can only advise students who enter in F-1 status.

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement		I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status OMB NO. 1653-0038
<b>SEVIS ID: N0004720633</b>		
<b>SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME</b> Sample	<b>GIVEN NAME</b> Student	<b>Class of Admission</b> <b>F-1</b> <b>ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE</b>
<b>PREFERRED NAME</b> Student Sample, II	<b>PASSPORT NAME</b>	
<b>COUNTRY OF BIRTH</b> LAOS	<b>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP</b> LAOS	
<b>DATE OF BIRTH</b> 14 MAY 1995	<b>ADMISSION NUMBER</b>	
<b>FORM ISSUE REASON</b> CONTINUED ATTENDANCE	<b>LEGACY NAME</b>	
<b>SCHOOL INFORMATION</b>		
<b>SCHOOL NAME</b> SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies Helene Robertson PDSD	<b>SCHOOL ADDRESS</b> 9002 Nancy Lane, Ft. Washington, MD 20744	
<b>SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL</b>	<b>SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE</b> BAL215F4444000 03 APRIL 2015	
<b>PROGRAM OF STUDY</b>		
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b> BACHELOR'S	<b>MAJOR 1</b> History and Philosophy of Science and Technology 54.0104	<b>MAJOR 2</b> None 00.0000
<b>PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY</b> Required	<b>ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES</b> Student is proficient	<b>EARLIEST ADMISSION DATE</b> 04 APRIL 2016
<b>START OF CLASSES</b> 01 JUNE 2016	<b>PROGRAM START/END DATE</b> 04 MAY 2016 - 30 MAY 2020	
<b>FINANCIALS</b>		
<b>ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 MONTHS</b>	<b>STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR: 9 MONTHS</b>	
Tuition and Fees \$ 15,000	Personal Funds \$ 19,000	
Living Expenses \$ 4,000	Funds From This School \$	
Expenses of Dependents (0) \$ 0	Funds From Another Source \$	
Other \$ 0	On-Campus Employment \$	
<b>TOTAL \$ 19,000</b>	<b>TOTAL \$ 19,000</b>	
<b>REMARKS</b>		
<b>SCHOOL ATTESTATION</b> I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and that the student is a bona fide student and is not employed in the United States by me or other officials of the school at the time of admission and proof of financial responsibility, which were received at the school prior to the execution of this form. I also certify that the student meets all standards for admission to the school and the student will be required to pursue a full program of study at the school named above and am authorized to issue this form. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>SIGNATURE OF:</b> Helene Robertson, PDSD <b>DATE ISSUED:</b> 04 May 2016 <b>STUDENT ATTESTATION</b> I have read and agree to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of the school specifically to me and to true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I am entering the United States for the purpose of pursuing a full program of study at the school named above. I also authorize the school to report to DHS (ICE 214.3(g)) to determine my nonimmigrant status. Parent or guardian, enter: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>SIGNATURE OF:</b> Student Sample <b>DATE:</b> 04 May 2016 <b>NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN</b> <b>SIGNATURE</b>		
ICE Form I-20 A-B (3/31/2018)		





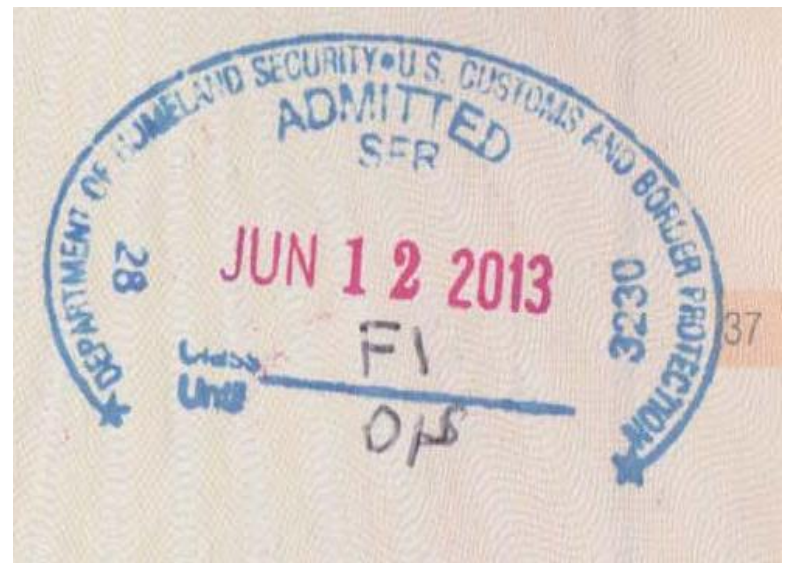
# At the U.S. port of entry

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officer places a stamp in your passport.

This shows your immigration status as F-1 or J-1 and “D/S.”

D/S is an abbreviation for “Duration of Status.”

It means you are legal to stay in the U.S. until the expiration date on your I-20 and as long as you remain a full-time student.

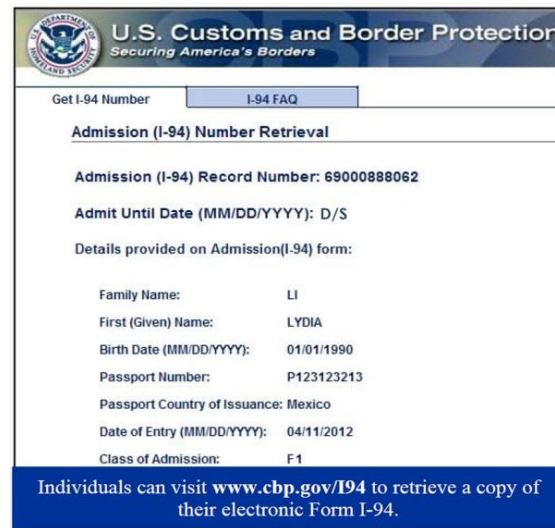


**Port-of-Entry Stamp**

# At the U.S. port of entry

**I-94:** Arrival-Departure record.  
Your Proof of Legal Entry into the U.S.

You will be asked to complete the Form I-94 and present it at the port of entry.



The screenshot shows the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website. At the top, there is a header with the agency's name and logo. Below the header, there are two tabs: 'Get I-94 Number' and 'I-94 FAQ'. The 'I-94 FAQ' tab is selected. Under this tab, there is a section titled 'Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval'. This section displays the following information: 'Admission (I-94) Record Number: 69000888062', 'Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): D/S', and 'Details provided on Admission(I-94) form:'. Below this, there is a table with personal information: 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, and Class of Admission: F1. At the bottom of the page, there is a blue banner with white text that reads: 'Individuals can visit [www.cbp.gov/I94](http://www.cbp.gov/I94) to retrieve a copy of their electronic Form I-94.'

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Securing America's Borders	
Get I-94 Number    I-94 FAQ	
<b>Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval</b>	
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 <a href="http://www.cbp.gov/I94">www.cbp.gov/I94</a> to retrieve a copy of their electronic Form I-94.	

## Electronic Record

Print a copy of your electronic I-94 on <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov> upon arrival at Berkeley.

# ✓ **Preparing for your summer in Berkeley**

**Review the other Summer Tutorials!**

- [Arrival Essentials](#)
- [Finding your way on campus](#)

[internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/students/summer](https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/students/summer)