



How to get the Form I-20 and F-1 visa

The following information will take you step by step through the process of getting your Form I-20 and F-1 visa in order to study at GEOS Languages Plus. Please be sure to read this information carefully and follow the directions exactly.

Before GEOS can issue a Form I-20 you must do the following:

- Complete an application for admission to our school and submit a copy of your passport.
- Pay the \$150 application fee (non-refundable) and the \$60 document-shipping fee. These fees can be paid by major credit card, international money order in U.S. dollars, and payable to GEOS New York Corporation, or wire transfer to our school's account – bank information will be provided on the invoice that will be sent when we receive your application.
- Fax or email an Affidavit of Support and/or a statement from your bank or your sponsor's bank translated into US dollars, which indicates that you have the financial support for the period of time you wish to study*. **Any financial statement must be written in English and dated within the last two months.**

*(The total amount must equal the total tuition, application fee, and the estimated cost of living in the area you will be living. We estimate this at about \$1,000 per month. For example a student studying at GEOS Languages Plus, Los Angeles for 6 months should have approximately \$16,710).

Once we have received your completed application form, passport copy, proof of financial support, and you have paid the application and shipping fees (\$210) we will process your I-20. Processing usually takes 1 to 2 business days. We will send the original I-20, acceptance letter, and other pre-departure documents to you by courier. The tracking information will be sent by email.

Traveling with a dependent (spouse/children) – if you are planning to travel with your spouse/children and they will **not** be studying full time you may add them to your I-20 and apply for an F2 visa. If your spouse is planning to study full time, he/she will need to apply for his/her own F1 Visa.

To be added as a dependent to your I-20 we will need the following documents:

1. Copy of each dependent's passport
2. Updated financial support documents that include enough funds to cover each dependents living expenses (\$1000/mo for your spouse and \$500/mo for each child).

Each dependent will be added to your I-20. When the original documents are printed there will be dependent I-20s included in the document packet we will send to you.

Once you receive your I-20 packet you will need to apply for an F-1 Visa. Please review the steps outlined on page 2 of this document to learn how.



APPLYING FOR AN F1 VISA:

- Receive an I-20 from an approved school in the U.S.
- Pay the I-901 Fee (\$200)*. This fee should be paid before going to the US embassy or consulate appointment. The fee is non-refundable and may be paid through two different methods:
 1. On-line at www.fmjfee.com
 2. Western Union Offices which offer Quick Pay services
 - If you would like more information on payment options and forms for the I-901 Fee, please visit www.ice.gov/graphics/sevis/i901/index.htm Also, remember that you must bring a printed copy of the instructions and the sample of the completed Western Union form (from the website) to the Western Union Agent in order to correctly process your payment. Furthermore, a properly completed Western Union receipt serves as immediate proof-of-payment for a visa interview at a U.S. consulate and for admission at a U.S. port of entry.
 - Further information about being a student in the U.S. may be found at www.ice.gov/graphics/sevis/students/academic.htm
- Make an appointment for an interview at your local US embassy or consulate.

In order to get a student visa you must gather the following documents and bring them to the US embassy or consulate in your country:

- The form I-20
- I-901 Fee Proof-of -Payment
- A valid passport
- Two passport size pictures
- The affidavit of support and / or bank statement (the same one used to apply for the I-20)
- The visa application form**

*Dependents do not have to pay the I-901 fee.

**The visa application form is available at the US embassy or consulate in your home country. It is advisable to contact them before you go to find out what other documents, if any, are required.