

Steps to Obtain an I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for an F-1 Student Visa

- 1. Select a major or program of study (transfer) you can complete at Cañada College:**
<http://canadacollege.edu/degrees/>. You may change your major or program of study while at Cañada College.
- 2. Apply to Cañada College by submitting the following documents:**
 - a. Online admissions application – <https://smccd.edu/international/apply/index.php>
 - b. \$50 application fee –
<http://www.smccd.edu/international/english/documents/SMCCCDCreditCardForm2.pdf>
 - c. Bank statement showing available funds for one year of expenses of at least \$20,000.
 - d. Proof of English Language Proficiency –
<http://www.smccd.edu/international/english/documents/englishLanguageProficiency.pdf>
 - e. Transcripts – Academic records from previous schools. Documents in languages other than English must be accompanied by an English translation. <http://canadacollege.edu/international/resources.php>
 - f. Personal statement explaining your educational and career goals.
 - g. Copy of a valid passport.

You may email your supporting documents to caninternational@smccd.edu. However, original and official score reports showing English language proficiency must be submitted directly to Cañada College before an acceptance letter and I-20 is mailed. Original transcripts must be submitted and may be submitted after being admitted to Cañada College.

- 3. Apply for the F-1 student visa:**
(Transfer F-1 students must submit a Transfer Form to request a SEVIS transfer from your current school within your 60 day grace period and obtain an I-20 from Cañada College before the first day of the semester.)
 - a. Complete the I-901 form and pay the SEVIS fee. <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/>
 - b. Make a visa appointment at the U.S. Embassy nearest you.
 - c. You must bring the following documents to your visa interview:
 - Original acceptance letter from Cañada College
 - Original I-20 form from Cañada College
 - Receipt of SEVIS fee payment
 - Financial documents showing available funds for at least one year of study in the U.S.
 - Academic documents such as transcripts, English proficiency scores, etc.
 - Other supporting documentation as requested by the U.S. Embassy
 - d. If an F-1 visa is granted, the U.S. Consulate will place a visa stamp on your passport and return the I-20 form to you.
- 4. Entering the United States:**
 - a. You may not arrive in the U.S. more than 30 days before the program start date noted on your I-20.
 - b. At the Point of Entry:
 - Present your passport and I-20 form. Your picture and fingerprints will be taken.
 - You will be given an electronic arrival/departure I-94 record that indicates that you are in the U.S. on an F-1 student visa. You should check your I-94 record at www.cbp.gov/i94.
 - c. Attend orientation at Cañada and bring your passport and I-20 on the first day of orientation.