



Student Visa and U.S. Higher Education

A U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad Face book Chat, held on

May 16th, 2014 from 03:00pm – 04:00pm

Facebook Chat Transcript

US Vice Consul: Thank goodness it's Facebook Fridays with the U.S. Consulates. Consulate General Hyderabad! We're here for the next hour to answer your questions.

Student: Hello Officer, My question is regarding the TOEFL score card. Can I get the printout of my TOEFL score sheet from the website instead of the original score card that ETS mails us when I come for my VISA interview have not got my original score card from the ETS due to some issue and they told me that I might have to apply to get another one and that it would take time before I receive the same. I was told even a printout would suffice during the interview. Please do let me know if this would be enough. Thanks a lot for your help.

US Vice Consul: Good afternoon Shravya - In order to apply for a student visa, all you need is a valid I-20 form and passport. That said you should bring whatever documents you feel will support your application. Just keep in mind that nonimmigrant visas are not document-based, and the officer may not ask to see your documents. Good luck!

Student: Thanks a lot for your reply and time, officer. I am sorry but could you tell me if it would be ok if I get the print out. The reason I am asking this is because people give contradictory replies regarding what is required and what is not. Rest of my documents is in order.

US Vice Consul: No problem Shravya - Allow me to reiterate my previous response, "Bring whatever documents you feel will support your application."

Student: Good Afternoon! I am planning to apply for a F1 Visa. Is it compulsory for me to schedule a Visa appointment with the Consulate which is closest to my current place of residence? I currently work in Bangalore but my hometown is Hyderabad. So I would prefer having to schedule the interview at the Hyderabad Consulate. Can I do this, or do I have to necessarily schedule it at the Chennai Consulate (which is closer to Bangalore). Kindly let me know. Regards, Nisha

US Vice Consul: Hi Nisha - You can apply from any consulate you like. Make it easy on yourself and pick the one most convenient for you!

Student: I am a student from IIT Hyderabad applying for an F-1 visa at the Hyderabad consulate. In this context, on creating a new DS-160 application via <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>, the "expiration date" displayed below the OMB control number and the form number reads 4/30/2014. There is no option to edit this field since it is auto generated. I have tried to create new applications many times and the same repeats. Please clarify whether this is all right.

US Vice Consul: Hi Sudarshan! Your question is better dealt with through email: support-india@ustraveldocs.com

Student: Dear Officer, first of all let me Thank you for taking your time out of your busy schedule to answer our questions. I really appreciate it.

And my question is. I want to pursue my Master's and apply for the Visa in the near future but one of my friends who already completed his Master's told me that I am not eligible for the US Visa now, as I completed my graduation in the year 2008 and its more than 5 years. Is there any specific term for the Graduates to apply for the Visa to do their Master's?

US Vice Consul: Hi Mohammed Ali - The number of years since you graduated from a bachelors program is not the primary factor that we look at to determine if you're qualified for an F-1 visa. We look at a variety of factors to determine if you are a credible student. There is NO formula for a successful interview!

Student: Thanks for your reply Officer. I have another question for you though. My Percentage of Bachelors program is less than 60% will that have any negative impact on my Visa interview?

US Vice Consul: Allow me to counter with another response. There is NO formula for a successful F-1 interview! Good luck!

Student: My friend got me worried about it but Thank you very much for clearing it up!!!!

Student: Hello Officer, My question is regarding relative staying in USA, I am done with my engineering and want to do MS in USA but my elder sister is green card holder, some of my friend were saying that if u have any immediate relative in USA u will be denied F1 visa, is this true sir?

Student: Hi Abdul – each visa adjudication is determined on its own merits. We look at many factors when determining whether a person qualifies for an F-1 visa. The best way to handle this is. With the truth! Hiding information from a visa officer is a surefire way to a rejection.

Student: Dear Visa Officer, My question is related to the student visa process. I have received one admit from Aalborg University in Denmark. I have applied for the student visa + Residence permit in the Danish embassy in New Delhi. The program I am going to have a mandatory study abroad semester for non-EU citizens. This study abroad will be in Columbia University, USA and the duration will range from 12 Weeks to 20 weeks depending on the situations. Should I apply for a F1 visa or B1/B2 visa in this case? As an Indian citizen, should I come to India to apply for my visa again or can I apply for the same while in Denmark? I have been really confused reading so many pages at so many websites. Please guide me.

US Vice Consul: Hi Dheeraj - If you are applying for a US visa, you can apply for an interview anywhere we have an embassy or consulate. However, it might be more useful for you to apply from the location from which you have the stronger ties. As for determining which visa class to apply for, you should reach out to your educational institute for guidance.

Student: Hello! I had my Visa Interview today. My visa is approved. I submitted my original I20 along with my passport with the official. Can I collect it along with my passport? Also, I just realized I did not sign on the I20. Will this pose any problems? Thanks!

US Vice Consul: Hi Sai! I-20 should be with your passport when the visa is ready to be placed in it. Not signing the I-20, should not cause you problems.

Student: Hello officer, I would like to know when the US Consulate Hyderabad will be organizing student visa day at Hyderabad.

US Vice Consul: Thanks for your interest! Hyderabad will not be conducting a special Student Visa Day this year, but students holding valid I-20 forms are invited to secure appointments to apply for their F1 visas any time within the 120 days allowed by the Department of Homeland Security.

Student: hi sir you have told that you will see the totally of student at the time of visa interview. But my question is at the time of interview student might feel very tension because his total career will depend on the moment a normal person get tension at that moment. .as a normal human being you can

also understand that situation. Then why will you reject his visa. Will you think he do any crime or any other reason. Because students struggle for many days for their process, starting from selecting universities to writing exams you can expect how hard it would be if visa got rejected.

US Vice Consul: Top of the afternoon to you Mr. Sunny! Feeling nervous or "tension" is normal. The key is managing stress. Just remember the decision is nothing personal it's not a judgment on your character. We're just applying the law.

Student: Currently I am on H1B visa and I have a question related to stamping I 797 Expiry date: 30 SEP 2014.

US Vice Consul: Hi Munikumar - I can appreciate your situation. However, this is a forum primarily for F-1 student visas. If you have a question about your H-1B visa, reach out to us visa email: support-india@ustraveldocs.com

Student: Hmmm it's been 3 days and I don't see any one answered my post.