

# WEBCCHAT

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## May 2010 Transcript

Embassy of the United States of America  
Kathmandu, Nepal

### Student Visa Webchat Questions and Answers

For one week in May 2010, the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section collected dozens of questions from students and others about visas to study in the United States. Please find below the questions and the answers from this webchat.

If you have additional questions about applying for a student visa or any other kind of visa, please check the U.S. Embassy's website: <http://nepal.usembassy.gov>.

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112. dhruba: i have a job as a general manger in carpet industry and i supply threads for making the carpet to the same industry i work. is there any problem if i haven't registered my factory which supplies threads to the industry?

There is no requirement that your factory be registered. We are only concerned about the ability to pay for the travel, or for students, also the tuition and living expenses. The only required documents for any student visa interview are the valid I-20 and academic transcripts. All other documents, including a PAN/registration document, are considered supporting documents and may be helpful, but they are not required. The Consular officer may request financial documents from the applicant to prove that the business can support the student. At the very least, the applicant should always be prepared to explain their financial resources.

113. Prajula: I have completed my undergraduate studies here in the US, and my student visa has expired. And, I am starting my Masters studies starting this fall here at US. Will it be okay if I renew my visa only after my first year of graduate school? I plan to reapply for visa from Nepal; what kind of supporting documents do you suggest to present at the time of application? Thanks for your help.

A visa is an entry document only. As long as you remain in valid student status while in the

U.S., you are lawfully present in the U.S. Once you leave the country, though, you will need to apply for a new student visa. The only required documents for any student visa application are your visa application, a valid I-20, and academic transcripts. All other documents are considered supporting documents and are not required. You need to be prepared to discuss your studies and financial resources at the interview.

116. Sarbesh Pandey: What further documents if needed to apply for a post graduate course?

Post graduate student visas have the same documentary requirements as any other kind of student visa. The only required documents for any student visa application are a valid I-20 and academic transcripts. All other documents are considered supporting documents and, although they will be taken into account at the time of the interview, they are not required.

117. Sarbesh Pandey: If a student is applying for a post-graduate course in the US and suppose he has got about 3.15 in his GPA but has a high GRE and TOEFL scores, will he be rejected in the visa?

Consular officers are required by law to evaluate three things while conducting student visa interviews: 1) The intent of the applicant to study in the U.S.; 2) If the applicant has credible sources of income to cover the entire length of study in the U.S.; and 3) The applicant's intent to depart the US upon completion of their studies. Although grades and test scores do sometimes help show the applicant's intent to study in the United States, they are not the only thing taken into consideration. Consular officers also consider the applicant's intent to study, as demonstrated by knowledge of their particular course of study and reasons for choosing their university.

118. bectash: Even though it is so much clear that most of the Nepalese student's intention is not to study but to work there in USA, why is US embassy issuing a student in this high rate?

Consular officers are required by law to adjudicate all student visa applications on their own individual merits and issue visas to those students who qualify. Consular officers must also take into account indications that the applicant might intend to use his/her student visa for anything other than the stated purpose of the visa (such as unauthorized work). There is no quota or limit for issuing student visas, we look at them on a case by case basis. The U.S. Embassy issues student visas to qualified individual students.

124. Rajesh Basnet: On the date of the interview, is our look considered for getting a student visa?

No. Consular officers are required by law to evaluate three things while conducting student visa interviews: 1) The intent of the applicant to study in the US; 2) If the applicant has credible sources of income to cover the entire length of study in the US; and 3) The applicant's intent to depart the US upon completion of his/her studies. Consular officers do not evaluate any other aspects of the applicant.

125. saroj: I already have a Masters degree from Nepal and as I have only a 3 years bachelor, hence, my application to a PhD degree was not accepted. Still, I want to do a MS in US before applying for a PhD degree because I feel it would be better for me. So, I wanted to know if it will bring any problem if I were to apply for a visa.

At your visa interview, please be prepared to explain your reason for choosing your specific program of study, your university, your plan for any further studies, and how this course fits into the larger picture of your life plans. We have seen Nepali applicants find a few different solutions to their "3-year bachelors" problem in applying to U.S. universities, without having to repeat an entire bachelor's course. If your solution makes sense for your situation, then it might make sense for us, too.

127. Sumiran Pradhan: Sir, do I need an official letter from the university during the VISA interview? Would an I-20 not suffice?

The only required documents for a student visa interview are the I-20 and your academic transcripts.

128. Pankaj: i'm currently in OPT here in US. After my OPT expires, if i join college for MBA and want to renew the visa, is it possible to renew the F1 visa again. Our International students advisors in University do NOT recommend renewing visas in Canada/Mexico. So many students here fear of rejection if they go back home in Nepal. Any response from the consular section will be highly appreciated. Thank you

Consular officers throughout the world are required by law to evaluate the same things while conducting student visa interviews: 1) the intent of the applicant to study in the U.S., 2) if the application has credible sources of income to cover the entire length of study in the US; and 3) the applicant's intent to depart the U.S. upon completion of his/her studies. This is true regardless of where the student visa interview is taking place in Nepal, Canada,

Mexico, or elsewhere. At any student visa interview, the applicant should be prepared to demonstrate that he/she qualifies for a student visa based on these three requirements.

131. raghu: I am an Indian citizen and applying for F1 visa, due to heavy visa applicants willing to travel to US in this season, only a few visa dates or none are available in this month. I am unable to book a interview date for visa in any of the US consular regions in India. As i am a Indian citizen ,have unlimited access to travel in Nepal, as i have to travel soon - can i apply for visa interview date in US embassy located in Kathmandu and attend the interview for the visa in Kathmandu. Please let me know so that i can apply as soon as possible.

No. You must apply for a student visa in the consular district of your residency. As you do not live in Nepal, your application would not be accepted by the U.S. Embassy in Kathmandu. We would advise you to apply at your appropriate consular district in India.

132. Saksham Ghimire: I am a Student with visa valid through 2008-2012. I lost my Passport in Texas, USA. I got a new passport from the Embassy of Nepal at Washington, D.C. What should I do next to re-stamp the existing visa in my new passport? What are the chances?

Although you have lost your visa, as long as you maintain valid student visa status during your time in the U.S., you are still lawfully present in the United States. If you depart the country, you will need to apply for a new student visa to again enter the United States. You will not be allowed into the United States without a valid U.S. visa.

133. Bijaya Prasad Upadhyaya: My brother has almost completed his master's degree from US. Now, he has a graduate assistantship to support himself. So, can I show the same income sources for my master's degree in US? Besides, I have been granted a research assistantship for second and third semesters, but not for the first semester. Hence, I have to pay myself \$12,000, although the university has provided \$9,000. My parents' genuine income sources are almost of same categories those were shown by my brother 2 years ago. Does this case diminish the chances of getting my visa?

You must be prepared to discuss how you will pay for your studies at your interview, including being able to discuss if/how your parents are financially supporting any siblings and what type of financial assistance you expect to receive from the university. If your brother is paying for his own studies and living expenses with his graduate assistantship, there may not be enough money left from that to support you in your own application. If there is, you need to be prepared to explain this.

134. ABHAYA: Where can we find the info on the changes on the student visa from may end/

The best place to stay up-to-date on all visa changes is on our website:

<http://nepal.usembassy.gov/visas/visa-to-the-united-states.html>. Beginning Monday, May 31, we will require all non-immigrant visa applicants (including student visas) to apply using the new electronic application, the DS-160. Information on this new application can be found at <http://nepal.usembassy.gov/visas/non-immigrant-visas/applying-for-an-niv-in-nepal.html>. Also, please note that, beginning Friday, June 4, application fees for non-petition based visas, such as students visas, will be going up \$9 around the world, based on a recent State Department evaluation of the actual cost of applying for a visa and conducting the interview. Again, please watch our website for details.

135. Bijaya: What are the necessary supporting document to show the partner ship business?

Only a valid I-20 and academic transcripts are required at your visa interview. You are welcome to bring whatever documents you feel give a good picture of your or your family's economic situation. You should at least be able to explain the partnership business, though, even without documents.

136. Bijaya: My father has partnership business. Would it be right document to show my income source?

We encourage student visa applicants to fully explain to the interviewing officer any and all real sources of income that can be used to help pay for a student's studies. This will be discussed at the interview. You may bring with you to the interview any documents you feel support your claim that this is a credible source of income that can help pay for your studies.

137. Niranjana: What documents do I need to take with me to an interview?

The only required documents for any student visa interview are the valid I-20 and academic transcripts. All other documents are considered supporting documents and are not required. You are welcome to bring any documents that you feel would help explain your case.

138. Shrawan: I want to apply for the student visa for this August intake. Actually our family is a joint Family. All the income which comes in our family are shared with my father and my

uncle (father's brother). My father and uncle is doing a same family business. The business is about the handicraft goods. Actually the business is register in my uncles name. Therefore how can I prove that we are staying in a joint family and sharing the income. Thank you!

You may choose to include any documents to demonstrate that you have the financial resources coming from the business. These might include: PAN documents, company profile, financial statements, tax clearances, contract agreements, or transaction details to prove this. But none of these are actually required. At the least, you should be able to explain in your visa interview where the money is coming from.

139. Guest: Why U.S embassy never give visa to the Parents of F-1 Student for their Associate Degree Graduation?

That is not true. We do not discriminate on one's purpose of travel or against any particular kind of school. All applicants for visitor visas must show that they qualify under provisions of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). According to this law, in the case of a tourist visa, every visa applicant must convince the Consular Officer at the time of the interview that they are not an intending immigrant. Applicants for most non-immigrant visas must demonstrate strong economic, family, and social ties outside the U.S. and a clear plan for their travel. If their explanation of their ties is not strong enough, or if there is a question of what they will do in the U.S., they will not qualify for the visa.

143. ram: Many universities which have higher tuition fees offer only a certain range of scholarship. They also assure us we may get more scholarship or even full tuition if we performed well in the first semester. So, can we apply to these universitites? What is chance of visa rejection in such cases?

You are welcome to apply for any university you choose. In order to qualify for a student visa, however, you need to show that you have intent to study, including an ability to study in the U.S., a sufficient source of funds to pay for your entire education in the U.S., and intent to leave the U.S. after completing your degree. Having a scholarship definitely helps you to prove the funding source, but we may not consider hypothetical future scholarships. Either you have the scholarship or you do not. We cannot predict what will happen in the future.

144. ram: I have applied for a Tier 3 university. This university does not require SAT for admission. Some says that applying for lower ranked universities reduces the chance of getting visa. Is it true?

This is not true. The type or ranking of school you choose has no bearing on your qualifications for a student visa. The law does NOT distinguish among schools that issue I-20s. Which school you choose is not nearly as important as why you chose it. You should be able to explain in your visa interview the reasons – your own reasons – for why you chose your university.

145. Biraj Bhandari: I am a student applying for the third time this August. Due to inadequate knowledge on showing the income I was rejected. I had just showed income that is just equal to the University fee for one year. Now I am also going to show my father's business firm. How will the Consular Officer view my case?

One of the major factors you need to show for a student visa is source of funds to cover the expense of your complete course of study. You can bring any documents you wish to show that you have sufficient funds. The Consular Officer will view your case in its totality at the time of your interview. If the funds are really there, the Consular Officer will recognize that and you should be able to explain it.

146. Suraj Karmacharya: Namaste Sir/Madame, I attended Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH) School in Massachusetts for my junior year during 2008-2009. I returned to Lincoln School for my senior year, and now I'm planning to go to Bates College in Maine. I got a 5-year student visa for NMH. Do I have to apply for a new visa for Bates College?

You can use the 5 year student visa only if you have maintained your F1 student status in the US. If you have been out of a U.S. school for more than 150 days, you are out of student status in the U.S. This means you need to apply for a new visa and pay a new SEVIS fee.

149. suresh thapa: do i need to submit bank balance, income source, property valuation for applying J1 visa?n beside that what r other documents doi have to submit?

The only required documents for a J1 training/internship is a DS-2019 and a DS-7002 form (see our website for details: <http://nepal.usembassy.gov/visas/non-immigrant-visas/j1-visa.html>).

All other documents are considered supporting documents and are not required. However, the Consular officer may choose to request documents from the applicant, and the applicant should be prepared to speak about their financial resources.

150. MAX: ARE PROPERTY VALUATION, CA AUDIT REPORT AND ALL THOSE STUFF

MANDATORY TO BRING IN INTERVIEW AND WHAT YOU ALL NEED AS A FORM OF FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS IN THE INTERVIEW? COULD YOU PLEASE GIVE US SOME HINTS?

You may choose to include any documents to demonstrate that you have the financial resources to support your education. Since every situation is different, we do not tell you what documents you need to bring. If you are going to use property as a source of income, including genuine, original Nepali documentation to show that you or your family truly owns that property and how it generates incomes may be useful.

The most important thing to remember is that you should only present real documents for real sources of funding. You should NOT create sources of funding that do not already exist, nor should you bring in any fake documents. That's the fastest way to end an interview and get denied for a visa.

In addition, financial documentation is not a "required" document. They are considered "supporting documents" that can help you strengthen your case. Some applicants may choose to not bring financial documents because they have an assistantship that covers all of their expenses listed on their I-20 for every year of their education. We get many questions about documents, but ultimately, the interview is the most important part and you need to be able to explain your sources of funds.

151. worried: When you say "do proper research on your University" what exactly does that mean? What information are you wanting us to relay to you during the interview?

The Consular Officer needs to be convinced that you are real intending student. One way to show this is to be able to explain why YOU chose this school and that you have your own reasons for going there. This helps convince us that you will actually be a student in the United States, and are not going there to do something else, like authorized work. Without proper research of the school in the U.S., it would be hard for you to show your intent to study. We need to understand why you have selected this university out of thousands of others.

152. Gyanendra Aryal: Dear Sir/Madam, I have completed my 3 year bachelor from India taking Political Science as Majors, and now I wish to do ESL course in the US, but have heard that the chances of getting visa is very low if I apply only for ESL course. Is it true? Can a deserving student get visa if s/he applied only to study ESL Course? Please help to clarify my doubts.

Yes, a deserving student qualifies for a visa, irrespective of what course s/he is applying for. However, you need to convince the Consular Officer of your intent to study, ability, and financial resources, as well as convince the officer that you are not an intending immigrant, nor trying to illegally work.

153. shankar: Namaste Sir/Madam.i am shankar giri.i have applied student visa in february and got rejected. this time i am applying again in end of may. Is it necessary to update the date of my documents???

It is your decision whether or not to update your documents. If there has been a real and significant change in your source of funding, then maybe you would like to update your documents. None of these are required, though. You should be able to explain in the interview what is different from your last interview.

154. Saroj Gopali: Does A level forecasted grades work to apply in this August session? Do i required A Level result and what should be the credit to apply?

You need to bring all your original academic documents to the interview to prove that you have the required qualifications to study in the U.S. If you were accepted into a U.S. university with your forecasted A-level results, and that is all you have to apply for the student visa, then bring them, and they will be appropriately considered.

155. Cena: How does the embassy verifies if the (Local & Foreign) academic certificated are genuine? 2. What if the college does not exist anymore (Closed down)

Embassy has the resources, expertise, partnerships, and experience to verify any documents, whether from Nepal or from abroad. We also know whether the school is in existence or not. Bringing fake documents is the fastest way to end your visa interview, every future interviewing Consular Officer will know that you submitted fake documents, and we have excellent relationships with the Nepali police. If you bring in fake documents and we find out and you do not admit to it, the Consular Officer has the authority to ban a visa applicant for life for any kind of visa to the United States.

156. Bishal Pahadi: Sir, somebody told me that U.S. Department of STATE is simplifying the student visa procedure for nepalese students this june intake session, is that true ?

We are not aware of any such changes. There is a new, online, non-immigrant visa application process (the DS-160) that is already available for use, and will be required of all

non-immigrant visa (including student) visa applicants beginning Monday, May 31. This is a worldwide change. For more information, check our website:

<http://nepal.usembassy.gov/visas/non-immigrant-visas/applying-for-an-niv-in-nepal.html>.

157. shankar: NAMASTE SIR/MADAM I am Shankar Giri and i have applied a student visas in february and got rejected.this time i have been applying in new universities.Does that affect this time when i apply visa beacuse i have changed college.also everybody says that student visa on second attempt will be rejected because already there will be informations about me in embassy computer.

Every application is reviewed individually. Prior visa refusals do not mean that you will be refused again. However, it is very important to address the underlying reasons for your previous refusal. If you were refused because your family could not afford the school you chose, and you come back for your second interview with a different school that costs the same, you have not addressed the underlying reason for your prior refusal. Or if you were refused because the Consular Officer was not convinced that you were an intending student, you should be prepared to show that you are a serious student.

158. Sudeep: I am 28 years old. I completed my 4 year Bachelors degree in 2007 from US University and I am currently in Nepal. I was in US from 2003 to 2007. I would like to go to US again for my second major in same level. Is age a barrier for US visa?

There are no age barriers for student visa applicants. All student visa applicants must simply demonstrate three things: 1) That they are intending students; 2) That they can afford the school they've chosen; and 3) they intend to depart the United States after the completion of their studies.

159. rajesh maharjan: i am 25years old and had completed my +2level securing good marks but however could not complete my bachelor due to certain circumstances now i want to complete my bachelor degree in US despite having gap of years.and i want to know that what are my chances of getting the visa?

A gap does not disqualify you for a visa. Sometimes, there are very good reasons for the gap that actually help you develop as a person, in your career, and better prepare you for future studies. In order to qualify for a student visa you must demonstrate three things: 1) That you are an intending student; 2) That you can afford the school you've chosen; and 3) that you intend to depart the United States after the completion of your studies. In your case, you will need explain what happened, and what steps you've taken to pursue your education.

You must demonstrate that you are an intending student, not just someone interested in going to America.

160. Abinash Tamang: I have cleared by high school as a private student from Tribhuwan University and Currently studying Bachelor in Business Administration in Sikkim Manipal University as distance education. Am I eligible to apply for student visa to US?

Only those who have been accepted to U.S. Colleges and/or Universities that are accredited to issue I-20s can apply for a student visa. Once you receive an I-20 from an accredited U.S. university, you may apply for a student visa.

161. Prasanna Deep Adhikari: Does a gap between my +2 and Bachelors affect the visa?

It may depend on the reason for your gap and your explanation of what you were doing. If you have a 15 year gap, in which you were doing nothing related to your intended field of study, it will be hard, but not impossible, to convince the Consular Officer that you are really an intending student. But, if your gap and the causes have a reasonable explanation, it will not necessarily have a negative impact on your application.

162. Prasanna Deep Adhikari: What kind of banking or financial institutions are acceptable to show our bank or financial statement ?

Only real banking and financial documents are acceptable. And no financial documents are actually required. We do not have preferences about banks and/or financial institutions. As long as your documents are REAL and not fake, they are acceptable.

163. Anurup Upadhyay: I have been accepted by a college in the US and also have been awarded with a good scholarship for my undergraduate studies starting this fall, from September. My grade 12 examinations will end on May 23rd this year but the results may or may not be published by the Higher Secondary Education Board by the time when I will be applying for a student visa. Hence, my question is, if I have all the other materials for the visa interview but may/may not have the grade 12 results; will I be able to apply for the student visa for starting my education this fall?

You must be accepted at an accredited U.S. school that has issued you an I-20 form, and you must have present you academic qualifications when applying for a visa. Original academic qualifications are required for your visa interview and it is up to you to decide what will be the most persuasive to the Consular Officer.

164. Sushil Paudyal: I am a graduate student here in US, currently in the third year of my Ph D prgram. My daughter was granted a dependent visa (F2) in February 2008 and stayed with me in US from May 2008 to September 2009. Now she is in Nepal and I plan to get her here again in October 2010. She was granted a 5 year multiple entry visa. The international students office in my university mentioned that she may be required to furnish some documents while entering the US again. I am worried as they could not specifically say what was required. They wanted me to check with the embassy. So I would like to sincerely request you to advise me on what documents need to be obtained or if she needs to do bring along any other document than her visa and the I 20 when she enters the US.

A valid F2 visa and the original I-20 is all that is required for her to apply for entry into the United States at the port of entry (airport). It is not required to travel with additional financial or other documentation to prove you can support your daughter in the United States, but it may be helpful if she is asked about her financial resources when she enters the United States.

166. Chhitiz Shrestha 2: I applied for an F-1 visa a week ago, but i was rejected the visa. The reason that the consular officer gave me was that the college that i applied for was too expensive for me, and hence i could not afford my studies. To be exact my tuition fees was 27398 USD, but by familys annula income was above 80000 USD, so is this explanation valid?

Every consular officer reviews the financial evidence presented very carefully. We also spend a lot of time fact-checking how much people earn in different jobs in Nepal, how much land and agriculture is worth, and other information we hear about every day. Whatever we don't know, we can make calls and investigate. Simply bringing to your interview a Chartered Account's Report that shows your family makes 80,000 USD per year may not be enough to convince the Consular Officer that it is accurate. You must be prepared to discuss what your family does to make this money, which is quite a lot of money here in Nepal.

171. guest 3 2: Wow... it's amazing how the French, Italians, Swedes, Danish can expedite visas for adopting parents during the demonstrations and the UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN NEPAL can't do that!!! Isn't the US suppose to be the strongest nation in the world??? And you can't continue to help AMERICANS during a crisis in Nepal!! What are we paying our taxes for anyway?????????

The U.S. Embassy in Nepal takes inter-country adoptions extremely seriously. There are many problems with the intercountry adoption process here in Nepal, and the U.S.

Government takes extra steps to ensure adopted Nepali babies have not been stolen or bought. Some embassies may not have the resources or the requirement to fully investigate adoption cases in this way. The U.S. is required to do so, and although investigations are often been inconclusive, we follow as many leads as possible to ensure that the children U.S. citizens are adopting are not victims of trafficking, or that their birth parents aren't looking for them. Some countries' embassies have completely stopped processing adoptions from Nepal, altogether. The United States is still processing intercountry adoptions from Nepal, but it does so as responsibly as possible. This process takes time, especially when the entire country shuts down during a bandh and investigations are not possible, but we will continue to take the extra time that it takes to carry out our obligations under the law. Please see our Adoption Alert for Nepal posted at <http://adoption.state.gov/news/nepal.html>.

177. Kumar Ghimire: how can i know that i am ineligible for re apply

At the end of every unsuccessful visa interview, the Consular Officer explains to the applicant why he/she did not qualify for the visa. Please listen carefully to this explanation. Unless you are specific told that you are not eligible to apply again, you can apply again. However, if you chose to do so, think about what is now different in your application that would convince the Consular Officer that the original reason you were refused is no longer a problem. We only recommend that you reapply if something significant has changed in your application.

179. lina: I have been hearing rumors that many students who went to Nepal for holiday wasn't able to return back to the US even though they were still students in US and had valid I20. Is that true?

It is not true. Generally speaking, U.S. immigration law makes it very difficult for a Consular Officer to deny a visa to a continuing student unless there is clear evidence that the student has not been using the visa appropriately or his/her economic situation has dramatically changed, and they can no longer afford to study in the United States. Students who follow the rules should always feel comfortable traveling back to Nepal to visit friends and family, knowing that they'll be allowed back into the United States to complete their studies.

183. el 2: hi, i am a f1 visa holder in us. my visa expires in 1 yr or so. how do i renew my visa?

For instructions on how to apply for your new visa when you return to Nepal, please check out the U.S. Embassy's website: <http://nepal.usembassy.gov/visas/non-immigrant-visas/applying-for-an-niv-in-nepal.html>.

194. sadiksh: may parents are applying for tourist visa as my brother studying there is graduating in May, what documents shall we need and i am 26 yrs old, can i sponsor their visit

All applicants for visitor visas must show that they qualify under provisions of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). According to this law, in the case of a tourist visa, every visa applicant must overcome the presumption that they are an intending immigrant. The burden of proof rests on the applicant. Applicants for most non-immigrant visas must demonstrate strong economic, family, and social ties outside the U.S. and a clear plan for their travel. If their explanation of their ties is not strong enough, or if there is a question of what they will do in the U.S., they will not qualify for the visa.

Also, please understand that no person or organization can “sponsor” any foreign national for a tourist visa. Although documents of support are taken into full consideration during the interview, each applicant must overcome the presumption of immigrant intent based upon his or her own merit, no matter how compelling the situation in the United States.

195. romika: what are the criteria to get the f2 visa?

You need to have a real marriage with someone on an F1 visa who is in status, and you need to demonstrate that you and your spouse can afford the total cost of your spouse’s tuition and both of your living expenses.

201. prem: additionally, can i invite them to attend graduation convocation if im asylee

All applicants for visitor visas must show that they qualify under provisions of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). As long as you are in legal status in the U.S., it should not make a difference, however relationships with friends or relatives in the U.S. may be considered in assessing an applicant qualifications. According to this law, in the case of a tourist visa, every visa applicant must overcome the presumption that they are an intending immigrant. The burden of proof rests on the applicant. Applicants for most non-immigrant visas must demonstrate strong economic, family, and social ties outside the U.S. and a clear plan for their travel. If their explanation of their ties is not strong enough, or if there is a question of what they will do in the U.S., they will not qualify for the visa.

Also, please understand that no person or organization can “sponsor” any foreign national for a tourist visa. Although documents of offered support are taken into full consideration

during the interview, each applicant must overcome the presumption of immigrant intent based upon his or her own merit, no matter how compelling the situation in the United States.

203. Guest 2: hi what are the document embassy required, if student is going to Graduate. and want to invite parent s from the Home Country

If your parents want to travel to the United States for your graduation, they will need tourist visas. There are no specific documents needed for a tourist visa. They should bring whatever documents they feel supports their case. The interviewing Consular Officer will be looking for their strong social, family, and economic ties which would make them return to Nepal after a short visit.

204. amit: right now im in australia with student visa since 15 months..... can i try for student visa from australia to us what are the condition required for doing so?

It does not matter where you apply from. If you are a Nepali citizen applying for a student visa, the requirements for qualifying for a visa are the same: you will be asked about your intent to be a student, and you will need to explain how you have a reliable source of income for the entire period of study. Please visit the U.S. Embassy in Canberra's website (<http://canberra.usembassy.gov>) for more information about how to apply from Australia.

212. Suresh 2: I have one small question. When I filed I-130 and K3 visa for my wife, I wrote her name Puja Shreshtha in all forms, but in her citizenship and passport her name is Puja k.c ( Shrestha). Before Marriage her last name is K.C and after marriage her last name changed to K.C (Shrestha). So I am worry if it will create problem later in her interview. If it will be problem later, what should I do to correct this problem?

In every kind of visa interview, we at the Embassy will confirm the personal details of every visa applicant. It is easier for us if all documentation has the same name, date of birth, etc. But please at least make sure all the information in one's passport is correct before coming in for a visa interview. The visa information must match the passport information.

221. pratik: I heard that the US visas are not given to those students who choose the very tough subject like Aerospace engineering. Is this true?

It is not true that Consular Officers deny student visas because a subject may be difficult. You can study any subject at any accredited school. We just need to hear your reason for

choosing that subject and that school in order to demonstrate to us that you will actually be a student while living in the United States.

236. Subhone: I came to US on F1 visa and after finishing my masters I started working in OPT. My employer filed my H1B and I am currently working on H1b Visa. I am not sure if the PIMS database was updated with my info when they applied for H1B. I believe updating PIMS before I come to Nepal for visa stamping would expediate the process. Please let me know about the process of updating PIMS from US before coming to Nepal. Thank you

The PIMS database for H1B employment is automatically updated, once the Department of Homeland Security completes its processing of the petition. If the PIMS report has not yet come through, your case will be put on hold until it does. Usually, this does not take too long, just a matter of days.

237. rajendra: what is the tentative interview wait time after application

Because more and more students are applying for their visas for the fall semester, we are entering our busiest period of the year. The current wait time for a visa interview after submitting your application and paying your application fee at Nabil Bank is about one week.

248. abcd: will you consider the scholarship that I may get in 2nd semester, if the university has said that they will give if I maintain certain GPA?

We may not consider potential sources of income, since no one (not even you) knows how your GPA will be after one or more semesters in a new country and a new school system. We may only consider actual sources of income. We look at your I-20 for evidence of scholarships, tuition waivers, and assistantships. If you have proof of a scholarship that does not, for some reason, appear on your I-20, you should bring that proof with you to your visa interview.

249. student1: nabin kifle:if i get full scholarship including lodging and fooding from u.s college? and should i submit my bank documents and property evaluation?

If you get a full scholarship, Congratulations! It's up to you if you want to show additional sources of income if you already have your university completely paid for. But they are probably not necessary (and they are would not be required).

253. abcd: I will have to submit my documents half an hour before. Who looks my

documents before I enter the interview?

The Embassy has systems in place to review every application before it you have your interview. Among other things, we are very good at finding fake documents. The last stage of the process is when the interviewing officer opens your case, reviews your documents, and conducts the interview.

256. student1: can i get visa surely after getting full scholarship including lodging and food from american universities?

Having enough money to pay for your university in the United States is an important and challenging part to getting a visa, but it is not the only thing you have to show in a visa interview. You will also need to convince the interviewing Consular Officer that you will actually be a student in the United States, and not go there for some other purpose.

257. gaurav: what are cons or pros of owning property as student when renewing visa?

I can't think of any pros or cons to a student owning property, unless you are using your property as a means to pay for your education. You must a viable source of income to pay for your education, as property cannot be used to pay for your expenses unless it is sold, it is not usually helpful to show that you can pay for your education.

258. gaurav: what if you have been denied visa on continuing study? what are your options?

Generally speaking, a Consular Officer will not deny a visa to a continuing student unless there is clear evidence that the student has not been using the visa appropriately, like not being a student, or his/her economic situation has changed, and they can no longer afford to study in the United States. Students who follow the rules should always feel comfortable traveling back to Nepal to visit friends and family, knowing that they'll be allowed back into the United States to complete their studies.