

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR VISA

Revised 10/25/2018

Step 1 The U.S. government requires a special SEVIS fee of \$180 (for J visas) to \$200 (for F visas). This fee must be paid online at www.FMJfee.com at least three days before you go to the Embassy or Consulate. (See the form "How to Pay Your SEVIS Fee" for more details.)

Step 2 After you have paid your SEVIS fee and downloaded the receipt, you can make an appointment for a visa interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate. The cost for the visa interview can be found on website: <http://www.ustraveldocs.com/ph/ph-niv-visafeeinfo.asp>. You may be asked to show a bank statement, so be sure to prepare that before your interview.

If you are a returning student, you will also need to show the visa officer an official copy of your BYUH transcripts. To get an official transcript, please go to <http://www.getmytranscript.org> and click on BYU-Hawaii on the drop down box.

If you are denied a visa, you can reapply for a second appointment, but you will be required to pay another interview fee. (You do not need to pay the SEVIS fee again.)

Step 3 When you receive your student visa, make your plane reservation to fly to Hawaii. Please contact North Shore Express to make a reservation for the airport shuttle. Visit this website for detailed information <https://northshoreexpress.net>.

NOTE: You are NOT permitted to come to the United States more than 30 days before the start of school. If you are on the IWORK program, you are also NOT permitted to travel to the mainland US before school begins! If you do this, your IWORK will be cancelled.

If you arrive before the first day of Orientation, you will need to make arrangements with the Housing Office (housing@byuh.edu) to make sure there is a room for you. The daily charge will be \$15, not counting meals.

Step 4 **DO NOT pack your DS-2019 or I-20 in your suitcase, CARRY IT WITH YOU ON THE PLANE.** THE U.S. IMMIGRATION WILL NOT LET YOU INTO THE COUNTRY WITHOUT THAT DOCUMENT. Put this form together with your PASSPORT/VISA. Within 48 hours after arriving on campus, be sure to take your DS-2019 (or I-20) and your passport to the International Student Office to complete your visa processing. If you do not do this, your visa will not be recognized and you will be required to return to your home country.

Step 5 After arriving on campus **ALL** international students **MUST ATTEND** the International Student Services **IMMIGRATION VERIFICATION MEETING** held at the beginning of each semester. Bring your passport, visa and DS-2019 or I-20. The actual date and time for this meeting will vary from semester to semester so contact the International Student Service office via email: internationalstudents@byuh.edu or call 808-675-3516 or via website: <http://iss.byuh.edu> or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ISS.BYUH>.

If you have any questions about your visa, please contact the International Student Services Office by phone (808-675-3516) or email at internationalstudents@byuh.edu.