IMPORTANT NOTE: Due to the fluidity of government immigration policies, the Center for Global Education is unable to provide individual advising on visa requirements for individual countries. This guide is not a substitute for consulate requirements, so it is important that students refer to their host country’s consulate as the final authority on all visa matters. It is ultimately the responsibility of the student to obtain a visa prior to departure.

Revised February 2021
Section 1: General Visa Information

What is a student visa?
A student visa is a stamp or seal affixed to the inside of your passport that allows study in the issuing region for an established period of time.

Why do I need a visa?
Most students studying in their host country for more than 60 or 90 days are required to obtain a student visa. Find your host country’s visa contact information in Section 4 to determine if you need to obtain a visa for a semester, academic year, short-term Travel Course, or international internship.

Where do I apply for one?
You will apply through the consulate of your host country. A consulate is an official office of the host country’s government in the US. You can find your host country’s visa contact information in Section 4. Some consulates require an in-person appointment, while others accept applications by mail or online. Sometimes you can go to the consulate with jurisdiction over Orange County (usually based in Los Angeles) or sometimes you can go to a consulate with jurisdiction over your permanent address. If you must attend an in-person appointment, these appointments book out months in advance.

What application materials are needed?
The consulate webpage for your host country will have the most updated visa application requirements. You will need to have a valid passport, so make sure to obtain/renew one before you apply for a visa. Other application materials can range from photos, proof of funds to support you while abroad, proof of enrollment, proof of housing, fingerprints or other biometrics, a stamped return envelope, etc. Please note that consulates for the same country in different U.S. cities may have different requirements.

Tip: Triple-check your visa application before submitting because any errors may result in a delay.

When should I apply for a visa?
Visas can take a few days up to a few months to process. Carefully review the requirements and suggested timeframe of the consulate. The consulate may keep your passport during the processing time, so plan to be without it and not partake in international travel during that time. Visit the U.S. Department of State’s Students Abroad for information about your host country.

Tip: If your country requires an in-person appointment (Spain, Italy, Greece, etc.), Consulates can have limited time slots so it is recommended that you look now to book an appointment within the suggested time frame prior to in-country arrival (e.g. 45-90 days prior, etc.). If you don’t see available appointments in the time frame you need, check the appointment page daily to see if any appointments open up. Typically you do not need to submit documentation to book an appointment but will possibly need your passport to create an account.

Is there a cost for a student visa?
The cost of a student visa depends on the consulate and host country. Costs can range from $0-$500 and vary by which consulate you go to. A consulate in Los Angeles and New York for the same country might have different fees and requirements.
Section 2: Role of the Center for Global Education

The Center for Global Education WILL:
  • Help students begin the visa process by providing contact information for each consulate and this overview guide
  • Provide any home university documents required by the consulate
  • Connect students with their study abroad program’s visa specialist

The Center for Global Education CANNOT:
  • Provide advice regarding specific visa requirements for countries, as every country has different requirements which can change frequently
  • Intervene on behalf of students at the consulates, which belong to foreign governments.

Section 3: Visa FAQs

How do I know if I need a visa or not?
Most students studying in their host country for more than 60 or 90 days are required to apply for a student visa. Find your host country’s visa contact information in Section 4 to determine if you need to obtain a visa for a semester, academic year, or Travel Course, or international internship.

I need some of my documents notarized. What is that and where can I find a notary?
A notary public authenticates a document to ensure its validity. You may need a notary services for your student visa forms. Chapman’s Student Business Services offers free notary services for students. Contact 714-997-6529 for an appointment. Important: California Notaries are not permitted to certify a copy of a vital record, such as a birth certificate or passport.

There are no appointments available at my consulate before I am supposed to leave. What do I do?
Appointments at the consulate may be limited or filled when you view the scheduling calendar. If the first appointment seems too close to or after your intended departure date, keep checking the system daily because appointments may open up when other people cancel.

Who should I talk to if I have questions about my visa?
The consulate of your host country will have the most updated information about the process and materials necessary for your visa. Additionally, some study abroad programs may have visa specialists that can help answer questions. For example, students going on CEA programs can utilize the CEA Site Specialists trained in country-specific visa requirements.
My visa asks for proof of insurance. Is this something that is covered by Chapman’s ACE insurance?

ACE is a secondary travel and emergency medical insurance policy. Most countries require a specific amount of insurance coverage for medical expenses, hospitalizations, and repatriation for medical reasons. Students should check that their current plan has overseas coverage, or request the insurance information of their specific study abroad program/host university, which will function as their primary insurance while abroad.

Can Chapman provide me with proof of acceptance?

The Center for Global Education provides acceptance letters automatically for all students going to Italy and the UK who obtain visas at the consulates based in Los Angeles because those consulates require a letter from the home university. For all other countries that request proof of acceptance, students are given that letter directly from their program or host university. If a student is going to a consulate outside of Los Angeles and needs a letter from the home university, you can email globaled@chapman.edu with the request for proof of acceptance.

What happens if my visa does not arrive on time?

You must enter your host country with the appropriate documents to be a study abroad student. Talk to your program provider or host university to determine if there is a possibility for you to arrive after the required start date once you receive your documents. A delay in obtaining your visa may result in your withdrawal from the program and could incur penalty fees associated with withdrawing due to a visa delay.

I am an international student in the U.S. who is going to study abroad. Where do I get my visa?

This depends on both your country of citizenship and the country where you plan to study abroad. Please refer to the embassy or consulate webpage of the country in which you are planning to study in to determine where you can obtain your study abroad visa.
ARGENTINA
Consul General of Argentina
5055 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 210
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 954-0347 FAX (323) 934-9076
Monday – Friday 9AM – 1PM
e-mail: visas_clang@mrecic.gov.ar
Visa Info: clang.cancilleria.gov.ar/content/visas-general-guidelines-appointments-and-questions.

AUSTRALIA
Consul General of Australia
2029 Century Park East, 31st Floor, Ste. 3150
Los Angeles, California 90067-3121
(310) 229-2300 FAX (310) 229-2380
Monday – Friday 9AM – 5PM
e-mail: losangelesdfat@dfat.gov.au
web: www.losangeles consulate.gov.au

AUSTRIA (Career)
Consul General of Austria
11859 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 501
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 444-9310 FAX (310) 477-9897
Monday – Friday 10AM – 1PM
e-mail: los-angeles-gk@bmeia.gv.at
web: https://www bmeia.gv.at/en/embassy/los-angeles.html

BELGIUM (Career)
Consul General of Belgium
6100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1200
Los Angeles, California 90048
(323) 857-1244 FAX (323) 936-2564
Monday – Friday 9AM – 12:30PM 1:30– 4PM
e-mail: losangeles@diplobel.fed.be
Visa Info: diplomatie.belgium.be/en/services/travel_to_belgium/visa_for_belgium

BRAZIL (Career)
Consul General of Brazil
8484 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 300
Beverly Hills, California 90211
(323) 651-2664 X21 1 FAX (323) 651-1274
Monday - Friday 9AM – 1PM
e-mail: consul.losangeles@itamaraty.gov.br
web: losangeles.itamaraty.gov.br/en-us/Main.xml
Visa Info: losangeles.itamaraty.gov.br/en-us/other_types_of_visa.xml

BULGARIA (Career)
Consul General of Bulgaria
11766 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 440
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 478-6700 FAX (310) 478-6277
Monday – Friday 9:30AM – 1PM
e-mail: bglaconsul@roadrunner.com
web: www.mfa.bg/embassies/usagc2

CANADA
Consul General of Canada
CHILE (Career)
Consul General of Chile
6100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1240
Los Angeles, California 90048
(323) 933-3697 ext. 22 FAX (323) 933-3842
Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 1:30PM
e-mail: cgchilela@minrel.gov.cl
web: www.consuladochilelosangeles.org
Visa Info: http://herranz.servehttp.com/consci/la/eng/visas.htm

CHINA
Consul General of China
443 Shatto Place
Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 807-8088 FAX (213) 807-8091
Monday – Friday 9AM – 2PM
e-mail: laluiuiian@gmail.com
web: losangeles.china-consulate.org
Visa Info: losangeles.china-consulate.org/eng/visa/chinavisa/t907679.htm

COSTA RICA
Consul General of Costa Rica
1605 Olympic Boulevard, Suite 400
Los Angeles, California 90015
(213) 380-7915 FAX (213) 380-5639
Monday – Friday 8:30AM -1:30PM
e-mail: costaricaconsulatela@hotmail.com
web: http://www.costarica-embassy.org/?q=node/21
Visa Info: www.costarica-embassy.org/?q=node/72

CZECH REPUBLIC
Consul General of the Czech Republic

10990 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1100
Los Angeles, California 90024
(310) 473-0889 ext. 6 FAX (310) 473-9813
Monday – Friday 9AM – 12PM
e-mail: losangeles@embassy.mzv.cz
web: www.mzv.cz/losangeles
CEA will mail the following documents to students translated into Czech for their visa:
- Proof of Enrollment (Acceptance) Letter
- Proof of Medical Insurance Letter
- Proof of Accommodation Letter

DENMARK (Honorary)
Honorary Consul of Denmark
5849 Uplander Way
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 645-0540 FAX (310) 645-0560
Monday – Friday 10AM -4PM
e-mail: info@danishconsulate.org
web: www.danishconsulate.org
Visa Info: studyindenmark.dk/live-in-denmark/permits-visas-red-tape

ESTONIA (Honorary)
Honorary Consul of Estonia
5273 Tendilla Avenue
Woodland Hills, California 91364
(818) 340-5766
e-mail: jaaktreiman@gmail.com
Web: www.estemb.org/honorary_consuls
Visa Info: www.studyinestonia.ee/visa-and-residence-permit

FINLAND
Consul General of Finland
11900 West Olympic Boulevard, Suite 580
Los Angeles, California 90064
(310) 203-9903 FAX (310) 203-9186
Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:00PM
e-mail: sanomat.los@formin.fi
web: www.finland.org

FRANCE
Consul General of France
Visa Info:

- Campus France Visa Guide Nov. 2019
- https://france-visas.gouv.fr/
- 1-minute Campus France explanation video https://youtu.be/lgiyMcm-bpU

GERMANY
Consul General of Germany
6222 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 500
Los Angeles, California 90048-4985
(323) 930-2703 FAX (323) 930-2805
Monday – Friday 8AM – 11AM
e-mail: info@los-angeles.diplo.de
web: www.germany.info/losangeles
Visa Info:
www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/05_Legal/02_Directory_Services/01_Visa/Study_Visa.html

GHANA
No Office in Los Angeles
Phone (202) 6864520 to 4526
e-mail: edu@ghanaembassy.org; visa@ghanaembassy.org
web: www.ghanaembassy.org/
Visa Info:
www.ghanaembassy.org/index.php?page=visas

GREECE
Greek Consulate General
12424 Wilshire Blv. Suite 1170
Los Angeles, CA 90025
310-826-555, FAX 310-826-6032
Monday – Friday 9AM – 2PM
Email: grgencon.la@mfa.gr

Visa Info:

IRELAND (Honorary)
Honorary Consul General of Ireland
e-mail: irishconsulatela@gmail.com
Web: https://www.dfa.ie/irish-consulate/sanfrancisco/

ITALY (Career)
Consul General of Italy
1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1250
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 979-5281 FAX (310) 432-5512
Thursday, Saturday, Sunday – CLOSED
Monday, Tuesday, Friday – 9AM 12:30PM
Wednesday – 9AM – 12:30PM, 2PM – 3:30PM
e-mail: scg.la@esteri.it
web:
http://www.conslosangeles.esteri.it/consolato_losangeles/en/
Visa Info:
www.conslosangeles.esteri.it/consolato_losanges/it/i_servizi/per_ch_i_si_reca_in_italia/italian-national-visa-for-study.html

- Chapman University will provide a letter of acceptance based on the Los Angeles Consulate requirements that the student should bring to their Italy visa appointment. If you are going to obtain your visa from a different Consulate, find the information needed for the Chapman letter and email
globaled@chapman.edu with a list of the requirements and a link to the website.

JAPAN (Career)
Consul General of Japan
350 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90071
(213) 617-6700 FAX (213) 617-6727
Monday – Friday 9:30AM – 12:00PM, 1PM – 4:30PM
web: www.la.us.emb-japan.go.jp/

JORDAN
Honorary Consul
972 Mission Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, California 94103
415-546-1155 FAX 415-546-4041
Monday – Friday 12:30PM – 3PM
e-mail: jordan@jordanembassy.org.au
web: www.jordanembassyus.org/page/honorary-consuls
Visa Info:
http://www.jordanembassyus.org/page/consulate-forms# (scroll down to Visas section)

KOREA (Career)
Consul General of Republic of Korea
3243 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90010
(213) 385-9300 FAX (213) 385-1849
Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM
e-mail: consul-la@mofa.qo.kr
web: usa-losangeles.mofa.go.kr/english/am/usa-losangeles/main/index.jsp
Visa Info: usa-losangeles.mofa.go.kr/english/am/usa-losangeles/visa/issuance/index.jsp

LATVIA (Honorary)
Honorary Consul of Latvia
4501 Birch Street
Newport Beach, California 92660
(949) 888-9700 FAX (949) 888-9724
Monday – Friday 9AM – 5PM
e-mail: bunkis@ocps.com
web: www.mfa.gov.lv/en/usa
Visa Info: www.mfa.gov.lv/en/usa/consular-information/visa-requirements-for-latvia-entry-into-schengen-zone

LITHUANIA (Career)
Consul General of Lithuania
11766 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 560, Landmark II
Los Angeles, CA 90025
Monday – Friday 9AM -5PM
e-mail: cons.losangeles@mfa.lt
Web: la.mfa.lt/losandzelas/en/
Visa Info: keliauk.urm.lt/en/entry-to-lithuania/visas

MALAYSIA (Career)
Consul General of Malaysia
777 South Figueroa Street, Floor 6
Los Angeles, California 90017
(213) 892-1238 FAX (213) 892-9031
Monday – Friday 9:30AM – 12:30PM, 1:30PM-5PM
e-mail: lax.info@kln.gov.my
web: www.kln.gov.my/web/usa_losangeles/home
Visa Info: www.kln.gov.my/web/usa_losangeles/other_information

MOROCCO (Honorary)
Honorary Consul of Morocco
P.O. Box 80652
San Marino, California 91118
(626) 570-0318 FAX (626) 308-9061
e-mail: asaoud@aol.com
Web: http://www.moroccanconsulate.com/
Visa Info: 
http://www.moroccanconsulate.com/guide/visa/1363

NETHERLANDS (Honorary)
Honorary Consul of the Netherlands
11766 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1150
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 394-0273 FAX (310) 394-2424
e-mail: jvt@vtbs.com / losangeles@nlconsulate.com
web: www.ncla.org

NEW ZEALAND
Consul General of New Zealand
2425 Olympic Boulevard, Suite 600E
Santa Monica, California 90404
(310) 566-6555 FAX (310) 566-6556
Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:30PM
e-mail: nzcg.la@mfat.net
Web Info: https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas

NORWAY (Honorary)
Honorary Consul of Norway
11766 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 270
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 444-7750 FAX (310) 312-1034
e-mail: office@soroylaw.com
web: www.norway.org/
Visa Info:
- www.norway.org/studywork/visaandresidence/
- http://www.norway.org/Embassy/sanfrancisco/Consulate_General_in_San_Francisco/#.V8h-FVsrldU

SEMESTER AT SEA
Semester at Sea will provide information in your student portal regarding a visa service you can pay to use in order to acquire the necessary visas ahead of time.

SOUTH AFRICA (Career)
Consul General of South Africa
6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 600
Los Angeles, California 90048
(323) 651-0902 FAX (323) 651-5969
Monday – Friday 9AM – 4:30PM
e-mail: info.losangeles@dirco.gov.za;
kaym@dirco.gov.za
web: www.dirco.gov.za/losangeles/
Visa Info: http://www.southafrica-newyork.net/homeaffairs/visitorsvisa.htm
Study Permit Info: www.southafrica-newyork.net/homeaffairs/permit_study.htm

SPAIN (Career)
Consul General of Spain
5055 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 860
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 938-0158 ext. 12 FAX (323) 938-2502
Monday – Friday 9AM – 1PM
e-mail: cog.losangeles@maec.es

SWEDEN
10940 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90024
Phone (310) 445-4008 FAX: 415 788-0141
Email: generalkonsul.losangeles@foreign.ministry.se
Web: www.swedenabroad.com/en-GB/Embassies/San-Francisco/
Student Residence Permits and Visas Info: https://studyinsweden.se/how-to-apply/residence-permits-and-visas/?nabe=6477447614169088:0

SWITZERLAND (Career)
Consul General of Switzerland
11859 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 501
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 575-1145 X206 FAX (310) 575-1982
e-mail: los.vertretung@eda.admin.ch
web: www.eda.admin.ch/la
Visa Info:

TAIWAN
Taipei Economic and Cultural Office
3731 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 700
Los Angeles, California 90010
(213) 389-1215
Monday – Friday 9AM – 4:30PM
Email: info@tecola.org
Web:
Visa Info:
www.taiwanembassy.org/uslax_en/post/2955.html

THAILAND (Career)
Royal Thai Consulate General
611 North Larchmont Boulevard, 2d Floor
Los Angeles, California 90004
(323) 962-9574 FAX (323) 962-2128
Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM
e-mail: info@thaiconsulatela.org
web: www.thaiconsulatela.org
Visa Info:
www.thaiconsulatela.org/service_visa.aspx

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (Career)
Consul General of the United Arab Emirates
1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1250
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 551-6534 FAX (310) 551-7892
Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM
e-mail: protocol.la@mofa.gov.ae
Web: losangeles.uae-embassy.org/
Visa Info: http://losangeles.uae-embassy.org/services-resources/visas-passports/us-citizens

UNITED KINGDOM (Career)
Consul General of United Kingdom
2029 Century Park East, Suite 1350
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 201-3034 FAX (310) 203-9539
Monday – Friday 9AM – 4PM
e-mail: Darvl.Cameron@fco.gov.uk
web: https://www.gov.uk/government/world/organisations/british-consulate-general-los-angeles
Visa Info: https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

UNITED STATES
Passport Info (for US Citizens):
https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports.html
Visa Info (for non-US citizens who want to study in the US):
https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/study-exchange/student.html

VIETNAM (Career)
Consul General of Vietnam
1700 California Street, Suite 430
San Francisco, California 94109
(415) 922-1707 FAX: (415) 922-1848
Monday – Friday 8:30– 12:00PM, 2:30– 4:30PM
Email: info@vietnamconsulate-sf.org
Web: www.vietnamconsulate-sf.org/en/
Visa Info: www.vietnamconsulate-sf.org/en/consular-services/visas/