PRE-ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS AND F-1 VISA PROCEDURES FOR UCLA ARCHITECTURE M.ARCH.II STUDENTS

Welcome to UCLA! Please refer to the steps below for information on how to apply for your F-1 Student Visa and requirements you must complete upon arrival to UCLA.

REVIEW YOUR UCLA I-20
The first section of your UCLA I-20 contains your SEVIS ID number and your biographical information. Look at the Program of Study section to see your degree program and start date. Majors that appear on an I-20 are selected from the national Classification of Instructional Programs list. As a result, the major on your I-20 may be worded differently than your actual UCLA major. Please contact the Dashew Center for International Students and Scholars (DCISS) immediately if there are any errors on your UCLA I-20 (e.g. biographical, program of study, or financial information).

PAY THE I-901 SEVIS FEE
The U.S. Department of Homeland Security requires all prospective F-1 students to pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee before a U.S. Embassy or Consulate can issue you a visa. The SEVIS fee can be paid online at www.FMIfee.com. Print a copy of your payment receipt and have it with you when applying for your F-1 Visa at a U.S. Embassy/Consulate and when entering the U.S.

APPLY FOR AN F-1 VISA
Please follow the steps below to apply for your F-1 Visa:

1. Pay I-901 SEVIS fee and print fee receipt: www.FMIfee.com
2. Pay the DS-160 / MRV (visa application) fee and schedule your visa appointment with a U.S. Embassy/Consulate online ceac.state.gov/genniv
3. Take your UCLA I-20, letter of admission, valid passport, I-901 SEVIS fee receipt, MRV/DS-160 (visa application) fee receipt, passport style photos, and financial documents to your visa interview appointment.
4. Wait for the issuance of your F-1 Visa from U.S. Embassy/Consulate.

For more information about the visa application process or to check the current visa wait time, please visit usvisas.state.gov

ENTRY TO THE U.S.: 30-DAY RESTRICTION
You must enter the U.S. no later than the start date indicated on your UCLA I-20. The date in the Earliest Admission Date (30 days prior to your start date) in the Program of Study section on your I-20 is the earliest date you may enter the U.S. in F-1 status. Keep this in mind when planning your travel and housing arrangements.

MANDATORY F-1 VISA WORKSHOP
All newly admitted UCLA F-1 students are required to complete the mandatory F-1 Visa Workshop. This workshop will cover important information on how to maintain your F-1 status at UCLA, apply for F-1 benefits, and request for services provided at DCISS. This workshop is only offered online through the iSTART Pre-Arrival Orientation. The iSTART Pre-Arrival Orientation will be available beginning July 2, 2018. It is recommended that you complete the F-1 Visa Workshop prior to the start of classes. Access iSTART here: www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu

MANDATORY VISA CHECK-IN @ DCISS
Upon arrival to UCLA, all newly admitted F-1 students must check-in with DCISS to validate their F-1 status. The mandatory visa check-in requirement can only be completed in person during ONE of the following iSTART Visa Check-In Sessions:

- **August 03, 2018 | 10AM – 2PM PST**
- **August 24, 2018 | 12PM – 4PM PST**

**Location:** Bradley International Hall Courtyard

*Check-In sessions above are drop-in and are first-come, first-served.*

**Please Note:** Since your I-20 start date is in August 2018, you must complete the visa check-in at a designated session indicated above only.

Please make copies of the following documents AFTER your arrival to the U.S. and bring the copies along with a completed F-1 Check-In Form to ONE of the above Visa Check-In Sessions:

- Copy of Page 1 of UCLA I-20
- I-94 Admission Record*
- Copy of F-1 Visa
- Copy of most recent U.S. entry stamp inside passport
- Copy of Passport Photo Page

*To access and print your I-94, please go to i94.cbp.dhs.gov/. This website is only accessible after your arrival to the U.S. If you have been given a paper I-94 Card instead of an electronic I-94, please make a copy of both the front and back sides of the card. The I-94 Card is given to travelers who enter the U.S. by land or sea only.

For more information, please see the Check-In Instructions Form (included) or visit the DCISS website: www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu

**Please Note:** Failure to check-in with DCISS will violate your F-1 status and will affect your legal immigration status in the U.S. DCISS will make efforts to contact you during this period, but it is your responsibility to complete all mandatory components of iSTART@UCLA. If you fail to complete your check-in requirements, a HOLD will be placed on your UCLA student record which will affect your ability to enroll in classes and restrict your access to University student services.

For more information, please visit the DCISS website: www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu

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