Welcome and congratulations on your admission to UCLA! Please follow 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.FMjfee.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 receipt: www.FMjfee.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 the 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.

**iSTART@UCLA**

All newly admitted UCLA F-1 students must complete iSTART@UCLA. iSTART is an orientation program designed to assist international students with their visa reporting requirements and transition to life at UCLA. iSTART includes: online learning, on-site engagement and visa check-in, and off-site excursions and exchange. There is a $59 fee for iSTART@UCLA. For more information about iSTART@UCLA, please see the back side of this page or visit the DCISS website: www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu

**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 iSTART Visa Check-In Sessions:

- **September 14, 2018** | 12PM – 4PM PST
- **September 21, 2018** | 12PM – 4PM PST
- **September 26, 2018** | 12PM – 4PM PST

*All sessions above are drop-in and are first-come, first-served. It is highly recommended that you attend the earliest available session.*

**Location:** Bradley International Hall Courtyard

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:

- UCLA I-20 (Page 1)
- I-94 Admission Record*
- F-1 Visa
- Most Recent U.S. Entry Stamp Inside Passport
- 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 become effective 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