Welcome and congratulations on your admission to UCLA! Please follow the steps below for information on how to renew your F-1 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).

**MANDATORY F-1 VISA WORKSHOP**

All newly admitted UCLA F-1 transfer 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

**I-901 SEVIS FEE PAYMENT RECEIPT**

U.S. Embassies and Consulates require proof of payment of the I-901 SEVIS Fee to issue an F-1 visa. As this is a one-time payment, you are not required to pay the SEVIS fee again since you are a SEVIS Transfer student. You can access your SEVIS fee payment receipt at [www.FM1fee.com](http://www.FM1fee.com). Print a copy of your payment receipt and carry it with you when re-entering the U.S.

**F-1 VISA RENEWAL (if applicable)**

If you are outside the U.S. and do not have a valid F-1 Visa, please follow the steps below to apply for an F-1 Visa:

1. Print I-901 SEVIS Fee payment receipt at [www.FM1fee.com](http://www.FM1fee.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](http://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](http://usvisas.state.gov)

**TRAVEL AND RE-ENTRY TO THE U.S.**

Since you are a SEVIS transfer student, you may remain in the U.S. until the start of your UCLA degree program. If you will be traveling abroad or are currently overseas, you can re-enter the U.S. at any time using your UCLA I-20 and a valid F-1 visa (even if the visa was issued for your previous school).

**Mandatory Visa Check-In @ DCISS**

Before your start your degree program at UCLA, you must check-in with DCISS to validate your F-1 status. The mandatory visa check-in requirement can only be completed in person during **ONE** of the iSTART Visa Check-In Sessions:

- **August 03, 2018** | 10AM – 2PM PST
- **August 24, 2018** | 12PM – 4PM PST
- **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 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](https://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](http://www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu)

**iSTART@UCLA**

All newly admitted UCLA F-1 transfer 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](http://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](http://www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu)