Welcome and congratulations on your admission to UCLA! Please refer to 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

Look at your Major and Start Date (item 5) on your UCLA I-20. You have been accepted to UCLA in the field of study stated in your admission letter. 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, academic, or financial information).

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. You can access your SEVIS fee payment receipt at www.FMJfee.com. Print a copy of your payment receipt and carry it with you when re-entering the U.S.

F-1 VISA RENEWAL

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

1. Print I-901 SEVIS Fee payment receipt at www.FMJfee.com
2. Schedule an appointment with a U.S. Embassy/Consulate www.usembassy.gov
3. Take your UCLA I-20, letter of admission, valid passport, SEVIS fee receipt, MRV (visa application) fee receipt, passport style photos (if applicable), and financial documents to your visa interview appointment.

For more information about the visa application process, please visit www.travel.state.gov

Please Note: Canadian citizens are exempt from the visa application requirement, but must present their SEVIS fee payment receipt at the port of entry and will still hold F-1 status in the U.S. during their degree program at UCLA.

TRAVEL AND RE-ENTRY

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 only re-enter the U.S. with your UCLA I-20 and a valid F-1 visa (even if the visa was issued for your previous school).

iSTART@UCLA

All newly admitted UCLA F-1 students must complete iSTART@UCLA. iSTART was designed to assist international students with their visa reporting requirements and transition to life at UCLA. iSTART is an orientation program that consist of the following: online learning, on-site engagement and visa check-in, and off-site excursions and exchange. 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 is only offered online through iSTART@UCLA. 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. For complete details, please visit the DCISS website: www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu

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 8
- August 21
- September 5
- September 11
- September 19
- September 24
- October 1

All sessions are drop-in from 10AM to 2PM PST at Bradley International Hall Courtyard.

Please make copies of the following documents AFTER your most recent entry 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 (Pages 1 & 3)
- I-94 Admission Record
- F-1 Visa (Canadian citizens exempt)
- Most recent U.S. entry stamp inside passport
- Passport Photo Page

(To access and print your I-94, please go to www.cbp.gov/i94. 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 you at the port of entry upon arrival to the U.S.)

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.

Visa Related Questions? E-Mail: DCISSF1Unit@saonet.ucla.edu | Website: www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu

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