



US STUDENT VISA GUIDE FOR PAKISTANI STUDENTS

Hey there!

So excited you decided to download this guide!

We are Moizza and Rija, best friends and scholarship winners in the USA!

We help students just like you get into their dream universities abroad.

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US Student Visa

There are 3 types of student visas offered by the US. F1, J1, and M1.

You cannot pick and choose which one you want. It is according to the immigration rules.

J1 is for exchange visitors – those going on US government-funded scholarships (like the Fulbright and UGrad Exchange Program).

M1 is for vocational studies. For example, suppose you are going for cooking classes or mechanical courses. In that case, you will need an M1 visa.

F1 is the one most relevant to us – the full-time student visa. When you get an offer letter from the university, you can apply for your visa. Although there are still steps down the process. So don't rush and follow along below to avoid rejection.

STEPS TO THE US STUDENT VISA

The steps below are for the F1 student visa.

Step 1. Apply to a SEVP university

In the US, only authorized universities are allowed to host international students. Therefore, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) is the body you need to double-check to make sure that you apply to the right university.

Don't worry, I can sort this out for you. Fill out the form on the GoGetters' website studyabroadgogetters.com and we'll match you up with the updated SEVP universities.

Step 2: Get the I-20

Alright, so you have gotten admitted! Congratulations! The university will now ask you to send your financial documents to see if you can afford to come to the US.

Send them your bank statement showing a one-year tuition fee and living expenses. When satisfied, they will send you a form by courier, which you can apply for the visa. That form is called the I-20.

Covid-19 Update!

I-20 courier policy has been relaxed by the US government. Your university will now send a scanned copy via email, which you can simply download and print. Take that to the visa interview.

Step 3: Pay SEVIS fee

The I-20 you received has a 'SEVIS ID' on it. You can use that ID number to pay your SEVIS fee online.

Step 4: Fill Out DS-160

The DS-160 is the online visa form that you can now fill out. This form will go to your interviewing officer, who will decide your case based on the information you provide in DS-160. First, print out the confirmation page. Then, pay the visa fee at the authorized bank.

Step 5: Biometric and Interview Appointment

At the consulate or embassy, your fingerprints will be scanned at the biometric appointment. They will also take your photo. After that, you have to wait in queue for the visa interview.

The interviewer may ask you questions about finances, the university you are going to, why you chose a specific university, and your plans after completing the program. The visa office wants to make sure of three things:

1. Prove that you are a genuine student.

How?

A. Arrange your original mark sheets. If you still haven't graduated, show your provisional certificate.

B. Show GRE/TOEFL scores

1. Prove that you can pay for your studies.

How?

Arrange a 3-months bank statement

2. Prove that you will come back to Pakistan after your studies.

How?

Show 'strong ties' in Pakistan. Any assets like property papers and proof that you have family here will count. You can also show your banks accounts in Pakistan or a business you will come back to.

Documents required at the F1 Visa Interview

1. A valid passport
2. Your DS-160
3. SEVIS Fee Receipt
4. Interview appointment letter (both original and copy)
5. Form I-20 from your university.
6. Visa fee payment receipt.
7. IELTS/ TOEFL/ GRE Exam Result

