“I have been accepted to MiraCosta College! What’s next?”
Apply for an F-1 Visa from a U.S. Embassy or Consulate

- Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee online at fmjfee.com.
- Make a visa appointment with the local U.S. embassy or consulate.
- Prepare the Online Nonimmigrant Visa Electronic Application (DS-160).
- Collect all supporting documents for visa interview: SEVIS I-20 form, valid bank statement, proof of education, test scores and proof of permanent residence.

“...prepared all the documents for the visa appointment. The interview questions were easy because I prepared myself using the sample questions on the website. I got the visa successfully in a few days!”

—Bernardo from Spain

Transfer SEVIS I-20 from Another U.S. School

- Complete Transfer Information Form

F-1 Visa Application/SEVIS I-20 STEP 1
For first-time students, I think homestay is the best option. When I first landed at San Diego Airport, a staff from the homestay company was there to pick me up. A few months later, I moved to an apartment. The apartment was very close to the campus and it was convenient because I could walk to my classes.”

—Shun from Japan

Estimated Cost of Attendance
—first semester—
Students should arrive in the U.S. with the ability to pay for all first-semester expenses.

- $3,500  Tuition & Fees based on 12 units for fall 2015
- $750  Accident & Sickness health insurance based on 6 months; insurance is mandatory
- $5,450  Room & Board host family placement for 4 months + food ($350/month) and $650 (supplies)
- $200  Transportation monthly bus pass for four months
- $500  Textbooks
- $10,400  Estimated total cost

Complete Registration Forms
- Submit Intent to Enroll Form online. If you do not submit this form, your I-20 may be subject to cancellation. If you decide not to attend MiraCosta College, you must notify the MiraCosta International Office.
- Complete MiraCosta College’s online registration form to receive a student ID number and be ready for class registration. Online forms are available at miracosta.edu/iipnewstudent

Find Housing
Housing is the responsibility of students. MiraCosta College does not provide dormitories or college-approved housing for students.
- Apply for an American host family or temporary housing for your arrival. Online applications are available on the New Student Information web page miracosta.edu/iipnewstudent
  OR
- Arrange an apartment or housing with friends or family.

Travel to the United States
- Make a travel plan and reserve a flight. You can enter the United States up to 30 days prior to the report date printed on section 5 of your I-20.
- Show your passport, valid F-1 visa, SEVIS I-20 and I-901 SEVIS fee receipt when you enter the United States.

Pre-Departure Guide/Housing Information  STEP 2

Students enjoy living in MiraCosta College’s safe, suburban environment.
Report to the International Office at the Oceanside Campus, Building 3400 (see map on the back of this brochure), with your passport and I-20 as soon as you arrive in the United States. You must arrive by the report date listed on your SEVIS I-20, line 5.

Take an English and math placement test. Placement tests determine your first semester’s classes. To save time and money, practice sample placement test questions online to receive the best possible results: miracosta.edu/testing.

Make an appointment with an international student academic counselor to select classes for your first semester.

Register and pay for first semester classes.

Pay for mandatory health insurance. Details are available at miracosta.edu/iipnewstudent.

Attend mandatory orientation. Follow dates on the Intent to Enroll Form. Updates are available at miracosta.edu/iipnewstudent.

“I took placement tests, met with an academic counselor and registered for classes. I had to ask a lot of questions to learn how to use the online registration called SURF. Just ask the International Office staff, peer leaders and friends—they will help you!”

—Anny from China