

PRIVATE AND INDEPENDENT SINCE 1923.

SEVIS INFORMATION

In order to be issued a Certificate of Eligibility (I-20), please submit the following documents to the Office of the Registrar:

- Immigration Questionnaire
- Proof of Financial Resources
- Transfer-In Form (If you are currently attending another U.S. University)

South Texas College of Law Houston will only issue an I-20 once your Immigration Questionnaire is complete and financial resources are considered complete.

If you do not need an I-20 from South Texas College of Law Houston, please complete the Immigration Questionnaire and submit legible photocopies of both sides of any U.S. immigration documents you have indicating your current status. For example, these might include a U.S. "Resident Alien" card, Department of Homeland Security or State Department notations or stamps on your passport, your I-94, I-20, DS-2019, or Department of Homeland Security letters. Please do not send original documents; send only photocopies.

Proof of Financial Resources

Students are required to show proof of one full year of funding while applying for an I-20.

The estimated budget for the 2017-2018 academic year for a full time student is \$53,400.00. Tuition & Fees: \$31,500.00 Living Expenses: \$21,900.00

Deadlines to submit financial documents are as follows: Fall 2017: July 21, 2017 Spring 2018: December 18, 2017

The deadlines listed above are to allow the Office of the Registrar time to review and verify your financial documents in order to process your I-20. If we are unable to process verifiable financial documents within one week before classes start, the student must defer their admission to a later term.

Required Documents for Various Sources of Funding

Your funding can come from a variety of sources, such as private funds, university funds, sponsoring company/agency/government funds.

Private Funds

Private funds can be provided by individuals such as the student, friends or family members. Financial support can come from inside or outside the United States.

If you will be supported by private funds, please provide the following:

- Bank Statement(s):
 - *Should be current.* The bank statement should include three most recent months' worth of transactions.
 - *Should be official.* The bank statement should clearly identify document source (monthly mailed statement, online statement, statement by request, etc.) and include the account holder's name, type of account, bank name and branch
 - *Should be legible.* Originals may be requested at South Texas College of Law Houston University's discretion
 - Should contain the specific amount of money available. The bank statement must show liquid assets such as cash deposits, certificates of deposit, saving accounts, etc. Statements regarding property, jewelry, cars, and other non-liquid assets are NOT acceptable. Statements regarding investments such as stocks and bonds are also not acceptable
 - *Should contain the specific denomination and currency of the funds.* It is acceptable that the funds are in currencies other than U.S. dollars.

• Personal Support Letter:

- Please have the individual who is supporting you complete the **Declaration of Support** form (attached to this email) and submit with your financial documents
- If your funding comes from multiple sponsors, each sponsor needs to provide this form, along with the bank statement.

• I-134 Affidavit of Support:

(in case funding is from an individual currently residing in the U.S.)

In addition to the bank statement and the personal support letter, if the individual who is supporting you is inside the United States they should also submit the I-134, Affidavit of Support and supporting documents. The original must be submitted. Please read the directions of the I-134 to learn what supporting documents are required.
Please note that South Texas College of Law Houston will not accept Chartered Accountant statements.

Important Notice concerning personal security

For your personal security, please be sure to avoid sending complete bank account numbers. However, financial documentation should display enough information so our staff can tell the difference between multiple accounts. For example, if you have multiple accounts with the same bank, and, if the accounts do not have different names listed on the bank documentation (e.g. checking account, savings account, etc.), you should mark out all but the last 4 numbers of the account to show the difference in the account numbers. Once a new student, who is located outside the United States, has the I-20, he/she can apply for a student visa at the nearest U.S. Consulate or Embassy. For more information concerning the visa application process, please refer to the following pages:

• Student Visas U.S. Department of State

All student applicants must have a SEVIS generated I-20 issued by an educational institution approved by DHS, which they submit when they are applying for their student visa. The consular officer will need to verify your I-20 record electronically through the SEVIS system in order to process your student visa application. Unless otherwise exempt, participants whose SEVIS I-20 was issued on or after September 1, 2004 must pay a SEVIS I-901 Fee to the Department of Homeland Security for each individual program.

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Be sure to pay the Sevis fee at least 3 days prior to the visa appointment at the U.S. embassy or consulate, because the visa application requires proof of the payment, the SEVIS identification number to which the fee was paid.

Information on SEVIS I-901 Fee requirements for F-1 and J-1 students:

- SEVIS I-901 Fee Tutorial (DHS)
- SEVIS I-901 Fee FAQ (DHS)
- SEVIS I-901 Fee FAQ: Who pays -or does not pay- the SEVIS I-901 fee

Paying the SEVIS Fee on-line is recommended because it is faster, data transfer is more accurate, and payments are more secure.

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Below is a video by the U.S. Embassy in London about the visa interview:

• Attending a Non-Immigrant Visa Interview