STUDY IN USA STEP BY STEP PROCESS



Key Points

> USA Process Flow

- Steps for Students Visa Process for US
- Financial Structuring for VISA Process
- > Documents to be carried for Visa Purpose
- > Questions for Visa Mock Preparation with sample answers
- Visa Mock session
- Question and Answers session



USA Process Flow



Steps for Student Visa Process

- 1) Apply and get acceptance/I-20 from the US University/College.
- 2) Complete the nonimmigrant online visa application form DS-160 available on the CEAC (Consular

Electronic Application Center) (Link - <u>www.ceac.state.gov</u>)

(After submitting DS160 a unique 10-digit code starting from AA------ is generated)

3) Pay visa application processing fee of \$160 and Schedule an interview (Link - <u>www.ustraveldocs.com</u>) Students scheduling Interview for US visa are required to schedule for two dates-

- Offsite Facilitation Center (OFC) for Biometric and Digital Photograph
- **US Embassy (New Delhi) or Consulate (Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata or Hyderabad) for personal Interview**

4) Pay SEVIS I-901 fee of \$350 (Link - www.fmjfee.com)



Acceptance Letter/I-20

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status

Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

SEVIS ID: N0031507559 SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME GIVEN NAME Class of Admission Chand Shreya Bohara PASSPORT NAME PREFERRED NAME Shreya Bohara Chand COUNTRY OF BIRTH COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP NEPAL NEPAL CITY OF BIRTH DATE OF BIRTH 11 JUNE 2000 Gulmi ACADEMIC AND FORM ISSUE REASON ADMISSION NUMBER LANGUAGE INITIAL ATTENDANCE SCHOOL INFORMATION SCHOOL NAME SCHOOL ADDRESS University at Albany, State University of NY 1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12222 University at Albany, State Univ. of NY SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE Jane Benson-Rivera BUF214F10162000 Assistant Director, International Admissions and 3G JANUARY 2003 Recruitment PROGRAM OF STUDY MAJOR 2 EDUCATION LEVEL MAJOR 1 BACHELOR'S Public Health, General 51.2201 None 00.0000 PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES EARLIEST ADMISSION DATE 15 DECEMBER 2020 Regulred Student is proficient START OF CLASSES PROGRAM START/END DATE 20 JANUARY 2021 14 JANUARY 2021 - 31 MAY 2024

OMB NO. 1653-0038

FINANCIALS.

FINANCIALS					
ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 MONTHS			STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR: 9 MONTHS		
Tuition and Fees		29,489	Personal Funds		0
Living Expenses	-5	14,240	academic scholarship	\$	9.000
Expenses of Dependents (D)	\$		family funds	\$	38,000
Books, clothing, personal, recreation,	5	2,500	On-Campus Employment	\$	
TOTAL	ş	46,229	TOTAL	\$	47,000
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REMARKS

Student will begin program in Fall 2020 fully online from outside the U.S. and intends to enter the U.S. for study in Spring 2021. See https://www.albany.edu/isss/new_students.php for more information. -Fees are subject to change.

SCHOOL ATTESTATION

I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I executed this form in the United States after review and evaluation in the United States by me or other officials of the school of the student's application, transcripts, or other records of courses taken and proof of financial responsibility, which were received at the school prior to the execution of this form. The school has determined that the above named student's qualifications meet all standards for admission to the school and the student will be required to pursue a full program of study as defined by 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6). I am a designated school official of the above named school and am authorized to issue this form x Jane Benson-Rivera DATE ISSUED PLACE ISSUED SIGNATURE OF: Jane Benson-Rivera, Assistant Director, 31 August 2020 Albany, NY

International Admissions and Recruitment

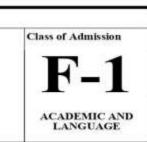
STUDENT ATTESTATION

I have read and agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay. I certify that all information provided on this form refers specifically to me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I seek to enter or remain in the United States temporarily, and solely for the purpose of pursuing a full program of study at the school named above. I also authorize the named school to release any information from my records needed by DHS pursuant to 8 CFR 214.3(g) to determine my nonimmigrant status. Parent or guardian, and student, must sign if student is under 18.

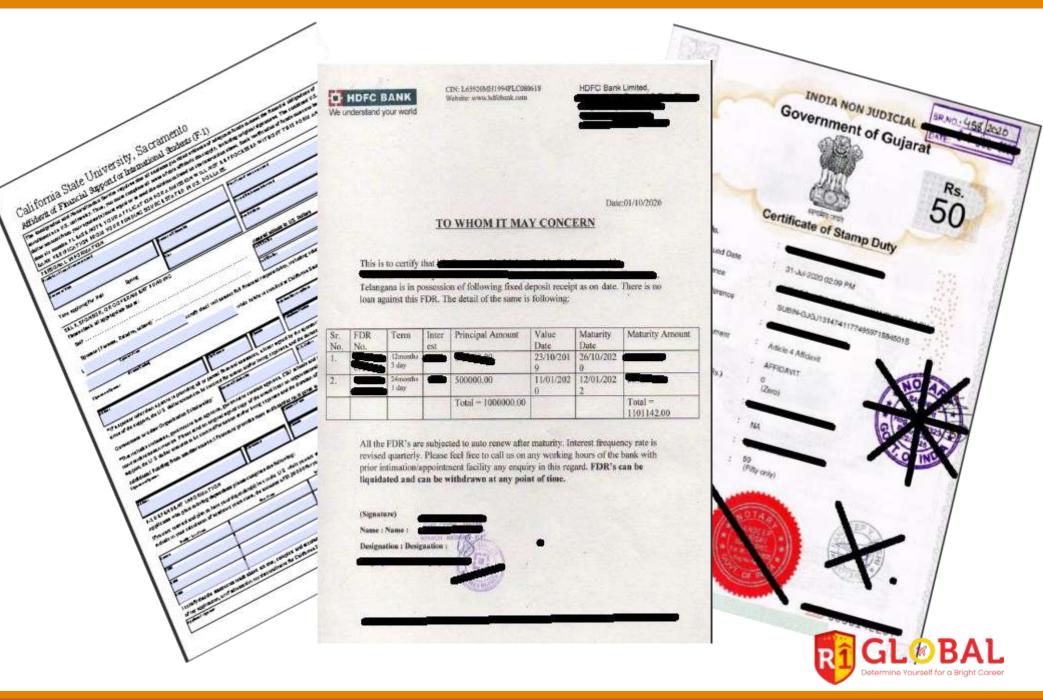
SIGNATURE OF: Shreya Bohara Chand		DATE	
	x		
NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS (city/state or province/country)	DATE

You will receive an I-20 along with an acceptance letter from US Institute congratulating you for being admitted.





Financial Documents to be sent to obtain the I20



DS 160 Confirmation Page

Complete the online nonimmigrant visa application form (DS-160) available on the link provided below: <u>https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/default.aspx</u>

Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application (DS-160)

Application Information

Privacy Act

AUTHORITIES: The information sought is pursuant to 8 U.S.C. §§ 1201-1202.

PURPOSE: The information solicited on this form will be used by consular officers to determine an applicant's eligibility for a visa.

ROUTINE USES: The information on this form may be shared with federal, state, and local government agencies, members of Congress, and officials of foreign governments in accordance with certain approved routine uses. More information on the Routine Uses for the system can be found in the System of Records Notice State-39, Visa Records.

DISCLOSURE: Although providing this information is voluntary, failure to provide the information requested on this form may result in the applicant's inability to receive an immigrant or nonimmigrant visa.

I have read the terms of the Privacy Act Notice

Please record your Application ID in a safe and secure place.

If there are technical issues with the system, or you want to complete your application some other time, you can save your work and later, start where you left off. In order to access your application later, however, you will need: (1) your Application ID, and (2) the answer to the security question that you will choose on this page.

To choose a security question, pick the one you like the best from the dropdown list, type your answer to that question in the box below,



and click "Continue." Remember: In order to access your application later, you will need to know the answer exactly as you wrote it on this page.



Visa Fees Payment

Payment of \$160 to be made on <u>www.ustraveldocs.com</u>

STANLEY

A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF DGI REDERAL

CASH PAYMENT OF US VISA FEES

CGIREFERENCE NUMBER :

VISATIER (1-4):

\$160

1

730174252200

US DOLLAR AMOUNT:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

- This advice slip must be used to make your Visa Fee payment at Citibank/ Axis Bank branches.
- The Visa Fee amount shall be paid in Indian Rupees (INR). The correct exchange rate can be obtained from the teller at the bank branch where the deposit is being made.
- Each applicant must make only one visa fee payment per advice slip. Print one copy of this advice slip and submit it at Citibank/ Axis Bank branch to complete payment.
- The Visa Fee is dependent on the type of visa for which you are applying. Verify the "Visa Tier" contains the correct USD equivalent amount (payment is in INR).
- Once the payment has been made, you may return to http://portal.ustraveldocs.com/ and enter the bank reference number provided in your bank receipt (not the advice slip).
- For any issues, please visit http://www.ustraveldocs.com/in/index.html and click CONTACT US to submit an inquiry.
- 7. Visa fee payments are non-refundable and must be paid in INR.
- 8. Visa fee receipt is non-transferable and cannot be used for other person.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BANK TELLERS

- Please verify the CGI Reference number and dollar amount and collect the correct INR amount corresponding to the CGI reference number.
- 2. Please RETAIN this advice slip and issue the applicant a payment acknowledgment.
- 3. The payment acknowledgement must contain a bank reference number.



Schedule Visa Interview

You can schedule your visa interview with the US embassy or consulate on **www.ustraveldocs.com**





SEVIS FEE Payment Receipt

07/08/2019

Department of Homeland Security Form 1-901 Application Confirmation

Student and Exchange Visitor Program: SEVIS I-901 Payment Confirmation

Please print the Payment Confirmation for your records. Reference the confirmation number CCC1928195734 on all inquiries related to your I-901 status. You may be required to produce your payment confirmation for your visa issuance, admission to any United States port of entry, for any change of non-immigrant status, or other United States immigration benefits.

When you go to the Consulate for your visa, you should bring your payment confirmation to prove you have paid the SEVIS fee. If you paid by credit card, this transaction will appear on your credit card bill as US STUDENT & EV 1901 FEE 800-375-5283 VT

Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Notice of Action

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA				
CONFIRMATION NUMBER: CCC1928195734	CASE TYPE: I-901 Fee Remittance Form for F-1, F-3, M-1, M-3 and J-1 Non- Immigrants.			
PAYMENT DATE: Jul 8, 2019	APPLICANT: SWATHI GANESH KUMAR YELLATI			
NAME AND ADDRESS: SWATHIGANESH KUMAR YELLATI	NOTICE TYPE: Receipt Notice			
D.NO. 11-60/1, SHIVAJINAGAR,KOTHAVALASA, VIZIANAGARAM	EMAIL ADD RESS: ysgkrcb@gmail.com			
INDIA 535183				

SWATHIGANESH KUMAR YELLATI

Your Form I-901 Application and Fee have been received. Please notify us immediately if any of the above information is incorrect.

This fee payment is valid only for your particular course of study or program. If you fall out of status, apply for a new F-1, F-3, M-1, M-3 or J-1 Non-immigrant visa, or if you want to change your Non-immigrant category to an F-1, F-3, M-1, M-3 or J-1, you may be required to pay another fee.

APPLICANT STATUS: F-1, F-3, M-1, or M-3

DATE OF BIRTH: Jul 9, 1992

SCHOOL CODE: BOS214F00408.000

AMOUNT RECEIVED: \$350.00

SEVIS IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: N0030865397

THIS ELECTRONIC RECEIPT SHALL BE USED AS EVIDENCE OF PAYMENT

I-901 Student/Exchange Visitor Processing Fee P.O. Box 970020 St. Louis, MO 63197-0020 Customer Service Telephone 703-603-3400 Pay your SEVIS fee online. Access the website by following the link below: https://www.fmjfee.com/



Financial Structuring

The Financial Structuring is to be done at the time of Visa for which the following points should be considered -

- Family sponsorship can include Parents, Grandparents or self.
- Proper justification of the sponsors' Job/Business is to be given to the visa officer.
- Financial documents can include proof of Savings Balance, sanctioned education Loan letter,
 Provident Fund, Income Tax Returns of last three years of sponsors.
- ▶ It is advised to show the sufficient amount covering the tuition and living expenses.
- ➢ Funds can be different for Admission and Visa purpose.



Sponsors and Acceptable Funds

Self Funded - Parents

- Balance in saving account in Scheduled Public/Private/MNC Banks.
- Balance in saving account/monthly income scheme/recurring deposit in Post Office.
- Fixed Deposits (FDR) with banks.
- Withdrawable balance in PPF, GPF, EPF or CMPF.
 - Loans from nationalized banks or private sector banks. A guarantor may be required.
 - •Interest rates are low, and repayment begins 12 months after graduation.





How much funds are good to be shown for visa interview??

EDUCATION LEVEL MASTER'S	Secur	ter and Info	ormation Systems g/Information 3	MAJOR 2 None 00.0000		
PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY Required	ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES Student is proficient			EARLIEST ADMISSION DATE 07 DECEMBER 2020		
START OF CLASSES 11 JANUARY 2021	PROGRAM START/END DATE 06 JANUARY 2021 - 14 DECEMBER 2022					
FINANCIALS						
ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 M	STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR: 9 MONTHS					
Tuition and Fees	\$	16,462	Personal Funds	\$	0	
Living Expenses	\$	10,567	UF scholarship	\$	1,000	
Expenses of Dependents (0)	\$	0	Family	\$	29,308	
Other	\$	0	On-Campus Empl	oyment \$	0	
TOTAL	\$	27,029	TOTAL	\$	30,308	

The amount mentioned in the I20 is for 9 months (2 semesters) and therefore ideally the amount of funds that the student is showing should be sufficient to support his/her full program cost.



What documents are to be carried at OFC and Consulate?

At Offsite Facilitation Center (OFC):

- A valid passport
- DS-160 confirmation page.
- Appointment confirmation page.

At Consulate:

- Passport
- Bank receipt of visa fee payment
- Federal SEVIS Fee payment receipt
- US non-immigrant visa application form confirmation (DS -160)
- Institutional admission letter
- Institution-issued SEVIS I-20
- Test scores (GRE/GMAT/ SAT/ TOEFL/ IELTS/ PTE) and academic records
- Financial documents
- Additional supporting documents (If Any)



Important Questions that are usually asked at the time of Visa-

> What is your purpose of visit? OR Why are you here for?

Sample Answer - I am here for my F1 student visa i.e., for pursuing my Masters of Science in Industrial Engineer from New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark.

Why you want to pursue your course from USA?

Sample Answer - US provides a balance between theoretical and practical studies. The United States of America (USA) hosts the largest number of international students in the world. Quality education, unique curriculum, multicultural environment, and abundant research opportunities are some of the reasons that makes US the first choice for International Students. Hence, I have chosen US as my first preferred country to study abroad.

Why have you selected this university?

Sample Answer - Why Arizona State University - Arizona State University is ranked 14th in the US for the course of Masters in Environmental and Resource Management Engineering as per U.S. News Ranking. Moreover, the courses like Soils and Groundwater Contamination, Environmental Health, Toxicology and Sustainability are the research trending topic at the university and are also are my area of interest. I have also done my projects in the field of Toxicology and Sustainability in my Bachelors. Also, I am in touch with Mr. Albert Brown who is a Director at Arizona State University and he himself is the leading researcher in the field of Toxicology, I am following his work since my Bachelors and studying under his guidance will be of great fortune. Further I want to make my career in Environmental Engineer/ Quality Analyst and hence I thought having a degree from a reputed university in US will help in boosting my career. Also, I have got a scholarship of USD 6000. Henceforth I have chosen ASU.



How are you going to manage your studies?

Sample Answer - So my father have a liquid balance of USD 35000. Apart from this I have a sanctioned education loan from State Bank of India, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad Branch of USD 45000. Moreover, based on my academics the university has granted me a scholarship of USD 2500 per semester which is granted to me based on my overall profile. This will be used for my study abroad.

What does your sponsor do?

Sample Answer - My father owns a company by the name of "Five Star Real Estate". His company is into construction of Residential Apartment, and he is successfully running this business since past 20 years and almost 15 members works under him. His annual income is 12lakhs per annum.

> Why you want to do your Masters after 6 years??

Sample Answer - Currently I am currently working as a Senior Developer at Abacus, Hyderabad since past 2 years. While I was in my new project and working for an App Development, I have realized that I have a hands-on experience on dot net and java, but I was lagging in advance Software Technology like script building and architecture framing. I have researched and came to know if I do a Masters in Computer Science it will help me having a command over all the aspects of Software development and hence, I thought of having a Masters Degree.

Why have you not taken GRE?

Sample Answer – I have communicated with the university prior to applying and had explained my profile in the chat sections of the respective universities and based on my overall profile and the projects I did the university department concerns have asked me that I have a better chance of getting the admit and insisted me to apply. And hence I have not given GRE OR the university I have opted have waived the GRE requirement due to pandemic and hence I have not written GRE.



> Why your IELTS score is less?

Sample Answer - Sir I have worked hard for the exam but however I feel that it was just a bad day, and I fumbled a lot in the reading section. However, I was about to reapply but in the meanwhile the universities I applied to started giving me offer based on my holistic profile. And since George Mason was my first choice and got an offer from the same, I dropped the plan to reapply.

Why was your previous visa rejected?

Sample Answer - Sir I do not know the exact reason maybe I was a bit nervous but this time I am much more confident.

> As you have completed Masters already? Why double Masters?

Sample Answer - My previous Masters was in Information and Communication Technology with a major in Networking and while I was doing my Masters, I did three major projects which interested me in the field of Data architecture, Distributed systems engineer, Algorithm development and Machine learning engineering. These all modules comes under Data Analytics Degree. While doing my Masters Degree in Networking I was able to efficiently work on chip modification but was lagging the knowledge of Data Analytics. I researched also took the suggestion from my professors and seniors and then decided to build my future career in this field. This is the reason why I am doing my second masters.

> Why this course ?

Sample Answers - I have done my two major projects which are the combination of Simulation Process and Real Time Simulator, since then I have got immense inclination towards these courses and hence I certainly though that i should learn more about them. Gannon University provides me the best curriculum with a practical oriented approach with hands on experiences in the labs and hence I though of doing Electrical Engineering and have chosen to do it from Gannon.



> If the sponsor is from agricultural sector?

Sample Answer – My father is into Agriculture Business. He has 20 people working under him and he is successfully running this business since past 25 years. The annual income of my father is 8 lakhs per annum.

> Students wants to go for a program which is different from his pursued last degree?

Sample Answer – While doing my Bachelors I did the two major projects "Mechanism of Robo Arm" and "Color sensing Robot" which were related to Robotics. I researched a lot about this program and studied many topics like wheeled robot, legged robot, robot motion planning and basic of AI integration in Robo. From there I developed immense interest for the program and decided to further make my career in Robotics.

> Pathway Cases ?

Sample Answer – I have been given pathway course by the university because in my Bachelors course the 3 courses, data structuring, statistics and enhanced data framing were not the part of my curriculum and at the university these are the mandatory requirements for starting the Masters. As I was meeting the other criteria of the university the university has given me the pathway and as soon as I complete my prerequisite courses, I shall be enrolled to my main degree course.

Already have a rejection on F1 Visa?

Sample Answer - I don't know the exact reason for rejection but I guess I was nervous and could not answer the questions properly, but this time i am much more confident and prepared with my content.

> Do you know about the quarantine policy of your university?

Sample University - Sir my university has requested all the international student to stay quarantine in the university hostel for 14 days. Apart from this I shall be going through necessary COVID test before heading for my orientation.



RONE GLOBAL helps the students with Mock Interviews

All the students who have booked the visa dates, our team will be happy to conduct Visa Mock sessions.

Documents Required -

- 1) I-20 for the Spring 2021 Intake
- 2) Visa Slot Confirmation Page
- 3) Passport
- 4) Resume
- 5) Financials

Details Required-

- 1) Students Phone Number and Email ID
- 2) Date and Time schedule for Visa mock



