



Minneapolis Public Schools I-20 / F-1 Visa Application information

For foreign students enrolling in Minneapolis Public Schools on an F-1 Visa

Who can apply for an F-1 Visa:

- Foreign students entering in grades 9-12
- Students entering grades 9-12 between the ages of 15 to 21 at the time of enrollment

Who cannot apply:

- Students entering in grades Pre-K-8
- Students who already have a diploma in the country of origin
- U.S. citizens or legal residents
- Immigrants or refugees residing in the U.S.

Duration of an F-1 Visa

- Maximum stay – One academic year (two semesters)
- Minimum stay – One semester

Tuition Payment: See companion document; Minneapolis Public Schools Tuition Information

Steps to enrolling an international student obtaining an F-1 Visa:

1. The student/family's representative meets with the PDSO (Primary Designated School Official) or DSO to:
 - a. Complete/return I-20 information form
 - b. Submit tuition payment (see Minneapolis Public Schools Tuition Information sheet). Payment is due prior to creation of I-20 form.
 - c. Receive original, signed I-20 from district (from PDSO or DSO)
2. Host parent mails the original I-20 form to the student in her/his home country
3. The I-20 is taken to the U.S. embassy or consulate to apply for the F-1 Visa
4. Payment of the I-901 fee is required to SEVIS (FMJFee.com) when applying in the home country
5. Once the host parent knows the student's arrival date, they can make an appointment; **once the student arrives in Minneapolis, the student must come to the PDSO within two days with their passport & visa to register thru SEVIS**
6. Student takes an English language proficiency assessment (WIDA Screener, which takes about one hour) to determine eligibility for ESL services. Steps 5 and 6 can be combined at the same appointment.
7. Students who meet credit requirements for graduation are allowed to receive a Diploma.
8. If students will travel out of the country during their stay in the U.S., the PDSO or DSO must sign travel section of the I-20 to approve reentry to the United States.
9. **F-1 students and their families are responsible for maintaining the student's legal status** – see Study in the States for more information: <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/maintaining-your-status>

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS CONTACTS:

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For more information please visit <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/>