

# **Immigration Information**

Congratulations on your admission to Saint Michael's College! Please read this important immigrationrelated information carefully as it will help you prepare for your arrival in the United States.

## How to Apply for an F-I or J-I Visa to Study in the US

\* Be sure to check with the US Embassy or Consulate where you will apply for your visa for any variations to these instructions. <u>usembassy.gov</u>

Country-specific information about applying for a visa can be found at ustraveldocs.com.

Step 1: Pay the SEVIS fee online at fmifee.com. You will need:

- Your passport
- The enclosed Immigration Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20 or DS-2019) issued by Saint Michael's College
- A credit or debit card

Once you have paid the fee, print a copy of the receipt. You will need this when you make and attend your visa interview appointment.

*NOTE*: You also may pay the fee with a check or money order, or through Western Union. For more information on these options please visit the <u>Department of Homeland Security</u> website.

<u>Step 2: Complete Form DS-160, Nonimmigrant Visa Application online</u> and upload your photograph. After completing the form, print the confirmation page. You will need this during the visa application process.

<u>Step 3: Schedule your visa interview</u>. Current wait times for an interview appointment are available <u>online</u>.

<u>Step 4: Pay your visa application fee</u>. Contact the <u>US Consulate or Embassy</u> where you will attend your visa interview for payment instructions.

<u>Step 5: Attend your interview</u>. Bring the following documents to the nearest <u>US Consulate or Embassy</u> for your visa interview:

- The enclosed Form I-20 or DS-2019
- Your passport
- A photo (2 inches x 2 inches)
- Supporting financial documentation
- The receipt from your <u>SEVIS fee payment</u>
- The receipt from your visa application fee payment
- The Form DS-160 confirmation

More information about applying for a student visa is available on the <u>US Department of State</u> website.

#### **Canadian Citizens**

If you are a Canadian citizen, you do not have to apply for a student visa. <u>You will present your</u> <u>Canadian passport, the Form I-20 or DS-2019, the receipt from your SEVIS fee payment, and other</u> <u>supporting financial documents to the immigration officer at the US port of entry.</u> You will receive a student permit (Form I-94).

#### Visa Waiver Program

There are several countries from which visitors come to the United States on a WT Visa (Visa Waiver Program). This travel visa does not permit you to study in the United States. If you enter the US on this visa (WT), you will not be permitted to study at Saint Michael's College.

## **Tips for Entering the US**

Be sure you have the following documents on your person:

- Passport with nonimmigrant visa
- Form I-20 or DS-2019
- A copy of the financial certification (i.e., bank statement and/or letter of support) you submitted with your application to Saint Michael's College
- Evidence of student status (i.e., your acceptance letter)
- Name and contact information for Designated School Official (DSO) or Alternate Responsible Officer (ARO) at Saint Michael's College

Additional information about preparing for your entry into the US, as well as what to expect at a port of entry is available on the <u>US Customs and Border Protection</u> website.

Thank you for reviewing this information.

## **Questions?**

If you have questions, please contact:

## **Rosemary Yargici**

Director, PDSO/RO

(Principal Designated School Official, F-I Visas)

(Responsible Officer, J-I Visas)

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