



Office of International Student Services | La Sierra University | 4500 Riverwalk Pkwy, Riverside, CA 92515
951.785.2237 | 951.785.2919 fax | oiiss@lasierra.edu | www.lasierra.edu/international

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Careful planning and preparation by students can ensure that the delay based established procedure is minimal. As an F-1 student here are some things you should do when traveling.

BEFORE LEAVING:

- ✓ Confirm that your passport and nonimmigrant visa are still valid for entry into the United States. The passport should be valid for at least six months beyond the date of your expected stay
- ✓ Check to see that you visa accurately reflects your correct F-1 visa classification
- ✓ If the visa states the name of the institution you will attend or identifies the exchange program in which you are participating, verify that this information is accurate as well
- ✓ Students entering the United States for the first time under F-1 visa classification may only be admitted up to 30-days prior to the program start date
- ✓ When you receive your F-1 visa at the Embassy in your country, the consular officer will seal your immigration documents in an envelope and attach it to your passport. You should NOT open this envelope! The Customs and Borders Protection Officer at the US port-of-entry will open the envelope
- ✓ When you travel, you should carry some specific documents. Do not check them in your baggage. If your baggage is lost or delayed, you will not be able to show the documents to the Customs and Border Protection Officer and, as a result, may not be able to enter the United States

DOCUMENTS YOU CARRY WITH YOU:

- ✓ Passport (including attached envelope of immigration documents) with nonimmigrant visa;
- ✓ SEVIS Form I-20
- ✓ Visa exempt nationals presenting a SEVIS Form I-20 (Canada & Bermuda) issued on or after September 1, 2004, who are entering the United States for the first time should have a Form I-797, Receipt Notice or Internet Receipt verifying SEVIS Fee payment. For additional SEVP/SEVIS Program Information, refer to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement website. (www.ice.gov/sevis/)
- ✓ Evidence of financial resources, in addition, it is recommended that you also carry the following documents:
 - ❖ Evidence of Student status (recent tuition receipts, transcripts);
 - ❖ Name and contact information for Designated School Official (DSO) or at your intended school or program
 - Heidi Weiss-Krumm | 951-785-2920 | 951-785-2237
 - Security (after hours) | 951-785-2222
- ✓ Writing instrument (pen)



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WHEN FLYING:

- ✓ The flight attendants on board will distribute CF-6059 Customs Declaration Forms and Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record for immigration, before you land at your initial point-of-entry in the U.S. Complete these forms while you are on the aircraft and submit them to the appropriate Customs and Border Protection Officer upon your arrival. If you do not understand a form, ask the flight attendant for assistance

PRIMARY INSPECTION:

- ✓ At the port-of- entry, proceed to the terminal area for arriving passengers for inspection. Ensure that you have: passport, SEVIS Form I-20; completed Form I-94 Arrival-Departure Record; and, CF-6059 Customs Declaration Form available for presentation to the CBP Officer. The Form I-94 should reflect the address where you will reside (not the address of the school or program sponsor)
- ✓ You will be asked to state the reason you wish to enter the United States. You will also be asked to provide information about your final destination. It is important that you tell the CBP Officer that you will be a student. Be prepared to include the name and address of the school where you will enroll
 - ❖ La Sierra University | 4500 Riverwalk Pkwy, Riverside, CA 92515
- ✓ Note: As of August 10, 2012, CBP will no longer stamp your SEVIS Form

SECONDARY INSPECTION:

- ✓ If the inspector cannot automatically verify your information or you do not have all of the required documentation, you may be escorted to an interview area known as “secondary inspection.” Secondary inspection allows inspectors to conduct additional research in order to verify information. Verifications are done apart from the primary inspection lines so that an individual case will not cause delays for other arriving passengers
- ✓ It is recommended that you have readily available the name and phone number of the foreign student advisor at your school in case your admission/participation needs to be verified. In the event you arrive during non-business hours (evenings, weekends, holidays), you should have a phone number where this individual can be reached during non-business hours
 - ❖ Heidi Weiss Krumm | 951-785-2920 | 951-785-2237
 - ❖ Security (after hours) | 951-785-2222
- ✓ Failure to provide proper documentation and to comply with entry/exit procedures is cause to refuse the student admission into the U.S. In limited circumstances, if a student is mostly, but not fully in compliance, he/she may be issued a Form I-515A, Notice to Student or Exchange Visitor. This form authorizes temporary admission for 30 days into the United States and requires the student to take immediate action to submit proper documentation. Noncompliance with the directions contained on these forms can result in future adverse action