

Points to Remember When Applying for an F-1 Visa

1. Be prepared:

- Be ready to describe why, where, and what you plan to study in the U.S.
- Know your academic program, and how it fits your career plans.
- Don't just memorize your answers.
- Keep your answers short and to the point.



2. Speak for yourself:

- Do not bring parents or family members into the interview.
- The consular officer wants to interview you, not your family.
- The interview will be conducted in English, so practice and be prepared.**
- If you will take Intensive English first, and this is stated on your I-20, you can request that your interview be in your first language.

3. Show ties to your home country. This is very important! You must prove to the visa officer that you intend to return home after your studies. For example, you may bring proof of:

- permanent address
- a job/future job
- family
- property (owning a house)
- dependents (children or spouse) remaining at home
- future university study in your home country



4. Dependents remaining at home:

- If your spouse or children remain at home, be prepared to tell how they will support themselves in your absence.
- This is especially important if you are the primary source of income for your family.

5. Additional documentation:

- Make sure to contact the embassy or consulate **BEFORE** your interview. Ask them what documents you will need for your interview.

6. Maintain a positive attitude:

- You may be nervous, but the consular officer wants to see how excited you are to study in the U.S. **So show your enthusiasm!**
- Do not argue with the consular officer.
- If you are denied a student visa, ask the officer for a list of documents he/she would suggest you bring in order to overcome the refusal.
- If you are denied, the consular office must give you the reason you were denied in writing.



7. You can get additional information from Education USA:

<http://www.educationusa.info/centers.php#.UAdN5qBQo4k>

Commonly Asked Interview Questions

1. **Why do you want to study at Bellevue College (BC) in the United States?**
 - a. You must be able to explain your reasons for choosing BC.
 - b. Examples of reasons for choosing BC are the English language program, availability of your major program of study, location of BC, strong International Education Program and/or referral by family, friend, Agent or government.

2. **Do you have any family members or relatives in the United States?**

3. **If you have family members or relatives in the United States:**
 - a. Who are they?
 - b. How are they related to you?
 - c. Where do they live?

4. **What ties do you have in your home country that will prove you will return home?**
 - a. You must establish a strong personal motive to return to your country after you complete your course of study.
 - b. Examples of ties to your home country are permanent address, family members including dependents, future employment, house, property or future university study in your home country.

5. **Who is funding your educational expenses?**
 - a. You must show documents proving there is a valid source of funds, and explain clearly how they were obtained and/or will be obtained in the future.
 - b. Examples of valid sources of funding are bank statements, financial guarantee letters from your home country government or sponsor, or financial documents from a U.S. sponsor.