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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> PASSPORT
(should be valid for at least six months beyond the Expiration date of the I-20, or the DS2019, or the H-1B approval notice) and any prior passport with U.S. visas<input type="checkbox"/> TWO RECENT PASSPORT SIZED PHOTOS<input type="checkbox"/> FORM I-20 for F-1 students<input type="checkbox"/> or FORM DS2019 for J-1 students or scholars<input type="checkbox"/> or ORIGINAL FORM I-797 and photocopies of the APPROVED LCA AND FORM I-129 for H-1B Temporary Worker<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENTAL LETTER OF EMPLOYMENT VERIFYING APPOINTMENT with a brief description of nature and activity of research being performed for J-1 scholars and H-1B temporary workers<input type="checkbox"/> CURRENT FINANCIAL VERIFICATION (not more than six months old). If receiving funding from the university you should get a letter from you department stating the amount of funding. (You may also want to bring a bank statement showing additional funds in your name). If receiving funding from a personal sponsor, Form I-134 (Affidavit of support) may also be helpful | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Any PREVIOUSLY ISSUED I-20S or DS2019s or H-1B APPROVALS<input type="checkbox"/> PROOF OF U.S. HEALTH INSURANCE<input type="checkbox"/> PROOF OF MAINTAINING CLOSE TIES TO YOUR HOME COUNTRY
For example: a statement explaining that your entire family resides there; You or they own a home or other property; you have a job waiting for you upon your return; and any documents such as home country tax returns, which may be helpful in demonstrating close ties and an intention to return to your home country.....<input type="checkbox"/> OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS showing full-time attendance at all schools which you have attended while in the U.S. (only applicable for F-1 students, J-1 students and anyone who was previously in the U.S. as a non-immigrant student)<input type="checkbox"/> FEES: *U.S. \$100 APPLICATION FEE (most U.S. Embassies/Consulates require that this be paid in U.S. Currency, in denominations of \$20 or less. *This fee is subject to change.). Also, depending upon your country of citizenship, you may be required to pay a fee for visa issuance, known as reciprocity |
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PLEASE NOTE: Under the new Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRAIRA) if your visa documents are not in order for re-entry to the United States, you run the risk of being denied entry without a deportation hearing, or you may even become inadmissible to the United States in any non-immigrant category for five years. This is a very serious and unforgiving legislation. Under the *Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)*, each student or scholar and their dependent must have a bar-coded SEVIS document.

Thus, now more than ever, it is of crucial importance that international students and scholars make every effort possible to maintain valid non-immigrant status while in the U.S. It is increasingly more difficult to obtain visas for study and/or employment in the United States, and the non-immigrant visa officers are more interested in assessing your previous history in the U.S. in order to determine your eligibility for a visa renewal. If you are unsure of the likelihood of obtaining a new visa, please set up an appointment to discuss this matter with the International Center prior to making your travel plans.

CAUTION! IF YOUR VISA IS DENIED OVERSEAS, THERE IS VERY LITTLE THAT CAN BE DONE TO ASSIST YOU IN THIS MATTER. PLEASE TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT WHEN PLANNING YOUR TRIP.