Immigration Process

- Form I-20
- Visa Information
- Preparing to enter the United States
Paying your I-901 SEVIS fee

- Once you have received your I-20 or DS-2019, you will need to log on to fmjfee.com to pay the $200 (1,381 RMB) SEVIS fee before you apply for your U.S. visa.
- Fee is being increased from $200 to $350 (2,418 RMB) as of June 24.
- For more information on the SEVIS fee, please visit ice.gov/sevis/i901, and to pay, visit fmjfee.com.
U.S. Visa Appointment

- Once you have scheduled your U.S. visa appointment, you will need to bring the following documents:
  - DS-160 confirmation page
  - Valid passport
  - I-20/DS-2019
  - Financial documents
  - Evidence of English ability (example: TOEFL or IELTS score)
  - Evidence of intent to depart U.S. after program completion
  - SEVIS fee receipt
  - Photograph

- For a complete list, see [http://www.ustraveldocs.com/cn/cn-niv-typefandm.asp#ApplicationItems](http://www.ustraveldocs.com/cn/cn-niv-typefandm.asp#ApplicationItems)
When interviewing for your visa…

• Speak English
• Speak for yourself
• Be brief
• Know how your program fits into your long-term plans
• Speak of ties to home country

After your Visa has been issued

• Confirm your travel arrangements to John Glenn International Airport (CMH)

• Enter the U.S. no sooner than 30 days before the start date on your I-20 (no sooner than July 21, 2019)
Immigration restrictions and benefits
Essentials of F-1/J-1 status maintenance

1) Report your local Columbus address in Buckeyelink

2) Enroll in a full course of study during the academic year

3) Abide by employment restrictions
Essentials of F-1/J-1 status maintenance

1) Report your local Columbus address in Buckeyelink
   • upon arrival and within 10 days of any address change you must update your address in your student record
   • go to buckeyelink.osu.edu; click on "Personal Information," then:

   - Update Contact Information
   - Emergency Contacts
   - Student Information Release
Essentials of F-1/J-1 status maintenance

2) Enroll in a full course of study during the academic year
   • 12 credit hours each semester
   • At least 9 out of the 12 must be in-person credits (not "distance learning"/online)
   • Summer: a "vacation term" when enrollment is not required (some exceptions apply)
   • NEVER drop below full time enrollment without discussing first with OIA!
Essentials of F-1/J-1 status maintenance

3) Abide by employment restrictions

- you may work on campus up to 20 hours per week while classes are in session
- you may work more than 20 hours per week on campus during official breaks
- you may only work off campus if approved by OIA
- be careful with "volunteer" work that could be seen as unpaid employment
- even unpaid internships require prior approval by OIA
Frequently Asked Questions

• What do I have to do bring when I travel in and out of the U.S.?
• When would I have to get an updated I-20?
• Can I ever drop a class during the semester?
• What if there's an emergency at home and I have to withdraw temporarily—what will happen with my F-1 status?
• How soon after starting my program can I do a job or internship off campus?
• Are there restrictions on the type of off campus work I could do?
• Can I work in the U.S. after graduation?