

International Student Guide

New Mexico State University



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS & COMPLIANCE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR SERVICES



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A WORD FROM THE IPC DIRECTOR

Est.
2025

ISSS is now part of the International Programs & Compliance unit that works in conjunction with the Education Abroad and Passport Acceptance office.



Dear international students,

On behalf of the Office of International Programs and Compliance, I am delighted to welcome you to New Mexico State University (NMSU)! We are excited that you have chosen to join us and bring your unique perspectives and experiences to our academic and cultural environment.

As an international student, you are an important part of our diverse community. Our team is here to support you as you transition to life at NMSU and in the United States. We encourage you to take advantage of the resources and opportunities available to you, including:

Orientation Programs: These sessions will help you learn about campus services, immigration regulations, and cultural adjustment.

International Student Services: Our advisors are available to assist with visa questions, academic concerns, personal support, and so forth.

Campus Activities: Join student organizations, cultural and social events, and workshops to make connections and enrich your experience.

Please feel free to reach out to us at ISSS@nmsu.edu or 575-646-2834 or visit our office at Educational Services Center if you have any questions or need assistance. We look forward to meeting you and helping you succeed during your time here.

Once again, welcome to New Mexico State University! We are thrilled to have you as part of our global community.

Warm regards,

Derek Yu

Director

Office of International Programs and Compliance

New Mexico State University

Educational Services Center

1780 E University Avenue

Las Cruces, NM 88003



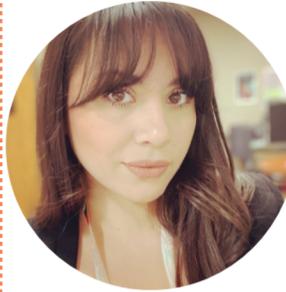
Meet the ISSS Team:



Padma Reddi,
Associate Director,
Global,
padmar@nmsu.edu



William "Bill" Cooke,
International Student
Advisor,
wcooke@nmsu.edu



M. Selene Castruita,
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Lowe Del Aviles-
Forsythe, International
Student Advisor, Sr.,
laviles@nmsu.edu

ISSS Operational Hours

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM U.S. Mountain Time (Except during lunch time 12pm-1pm and official U.S. observed holidays.)

Location:

Educational Services Building
1780 E University Ave, Suite 101
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Contact us

(575)-646-2834

iss@nmsu.edu

<https://iss.nmsu.edu/index.html>





1-20
steps

STEP 1: SEVIS & I-20

SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) is the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's web-based system used to issue immigration documents for new students and also to record the progress of continuing students.

A SEVIS generated I-20 will be produced for each new F-1 international student entering the United States or transferring from another institution to attend New Mexico State University.

Please read the information on your I-20 and let us know if you have any questions. Check the spelling of your name, date of birth, country of birth and citizenship, academic program, degree level, and financial information.

If there are discrepancies, contact our office immediately. Your immigration document must be accurate for both your visa appointment and for your inspection at the U.S port of entry (POE).

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-0038

SEVIS ID: N0004705512

SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME Doe Smith	GIVEN NAME John	CLASS F-1 ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE
PREFERRED NAME John Doe-Smith	PASSPORT NAME	
COUNTRY OF BIRTH UNITED KINGDOM	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP UNITED KINGDOM	
DATE OF BIRTH 01 JANUARY 1980	ADMISSION NUMBER	
FORM ISSUE REASON INITIAL ATTENDANCE	LEGACY NAME John Doe-Smith	

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL NAME SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies	SCHOOL ADDRESS 9002 Nancy Lane, Ft. Washington, MD 20744
SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL Helene Robertson PDSO	SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE EAL214F4444000 03 APRIL 2015

PROGRAM OF STUDY

EDUCATION LEVEL DOCTORATE	MAJOR 1 Economics, General 45.0601	MAJOR 2 None 00.0000
NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH 72 Months	PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY Required	ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES Student is proficient
PROGRAM START DATE 01 SEPTEMBER 2015	PROGRAM END DATE 31 MAY 2021	

FINANCIALS

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 MONTHS		STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR: 9 MONTHS	
Tuition and Fees	\$ 23,000	Personal Funds	\$ 3,000
Living Expenses	\$ 6,000	Scholarship and Teaching Assistantship	\$ 29,000
Expenses of Dependents (1)	\$ 3,000	Funds From Another Source	\$
Other	\$	On-Campus Employment	\$
TOTAL	\$ 32,000	TOTAL	\$ 32,000

STEP 2: Pay SEVIS Fee

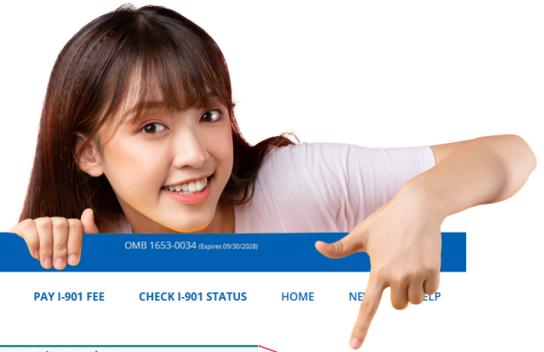
The SEVIS fee rule requires F-1 visa applicants to pay a one-time fee to supplement the administration and maintenance costs of the Student and Exchange Information System (SEVIS).

- To see payment instructions and pay the SEVIS fee, visit <https://www.fmjfee.com>.
- Complete the form online and supply the necessary credit or debit card information
- Make sure to provide your name exactly as it appears on your I-20 form.
- Print a copy of the I-901 fee receipt.

Make a copy of your receipt and keep it with your other important immigration documents for the visa interview.

Who pays the SEVIS fee?

- All new students with "initial attendance" I-20s who are applying for an F-1 visa from outside the U.S.
- Students who are applying for a Change of Status from another visa category to F-1 status.
- SEVIS fee is **not required for F-2 dependents**.



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

I-901 Fee

Payment Instructions

Before Proceeding:

You must have a complete and accurate Form I-20 or DS-2019 if you do not have an I-20 or DS-2019 or if the information on the form is incorrect, contact your school official or program sponsor.

Do not pay for a dependent child or spouse who is on an F-2, M-2, or J-2 visa. There is no I-901 SEVIS fee due for a dependent child or spouse for these visa types.

Do not pay again if you know that you have made a mistake after you submitted your information. Instead, send an email to fmjfee.sevis@ice.dhs.gov and explain what information may need to be changed.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement | Homeland Security



STEP 3: Completing the online visa application

Due to the high volume of visa applications, it is important that you make your visa appointment as early as possible.

- **Nonimmigrant Visa Application, Form DS-160** - Learn more about completing the DS-160 (also referred as Visa application fee) [here](#).
- Photo: You will upload your photo while completing the online Form DS-160. If the [photo upload fails](#), you must bring one printed photo in the format explained in the [Photograph Requirements](#)
 - You must: 1) complete the online visa application: [DS-160](#)
 - 2) print the application form confirmation page to bring to your interview.
 - Print and keep the DS-160 barcode page. (You will not need to print the full application.)



Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application (DS-160)

Apply For a Nonimmigrant Visa

FAQs

Tooltip Language: English [\[View Tool Tip Help\]](#)

Most of this application has been translated. To see the translation point your mouse over any sentence on the page.

Welcome!

The first step in applying for a U.S. nonimmigrant visa is to complete your application. It takes approximately 90 minutes to do this. After you submit your application, you can move on to the next steps such as scheduling your interview.

Important: Before You Start

1. Learn about [Types of Visas](#).
2. **This website is designed to be accessed using Chrome, Edge, or Firefox only.**
3. [Gather your documents](#).
4. Review the [instructions](#) and [FAQ](#).

Notes:

Other people can assist you with your visa application. Note that under U.S. law (22 C.F.R. 41.103) you must electronically sign and submit your own application unless you qualify for an exemption. Even if someone else helped you complete the application, you (the applicant) must click the "Sign Application" button, or your application may not be accepted.

Please be patient as you use this form. Download times may vary depending on your internet connection speed.

Get Started

Select a location where you will be applying for this visa

- SELECT ONE -

Enter the code as shown:



Select a location and make sure you have the documents and information you will need.

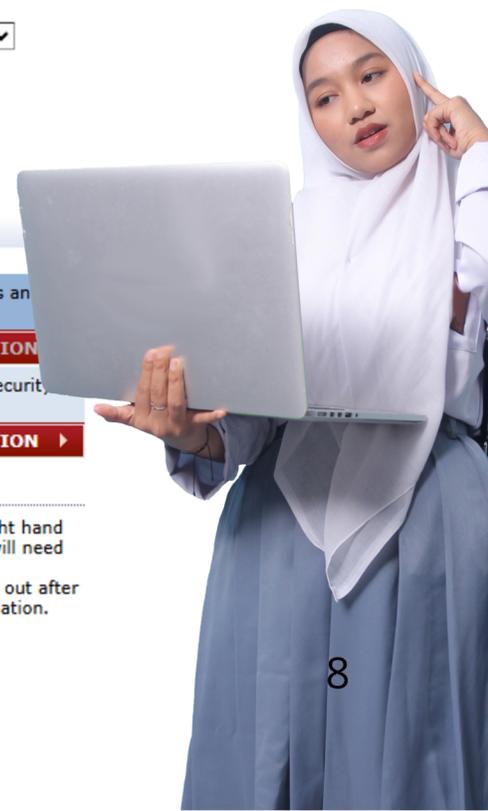
START AN APPLICATION

You will be asked for your application ID and answer a security question.

RETRIEVE AN APPLICATION

Additional Information

- » Write down the **Application ID** displayed on the top right hand corner of the page. If you close your browser window, you will need your ID to access your application again.
- » **Save your application frequently.** The system will time out after 20 minutes of inactivity, and you will lose all unsaved information.
- » Read more about U.S. visas at [travel.state.gov](#).
- » Visit the website of the [U.S. Embassy or Consulate](#).





STEP 4: Schedule a visa interview

You should schedule an appointment for your visa interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in the country where you live.

Applicants for U.S. nonimmigrant visas (NIV) should schedule their visa interview appointments at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in their country of nationality or residence.

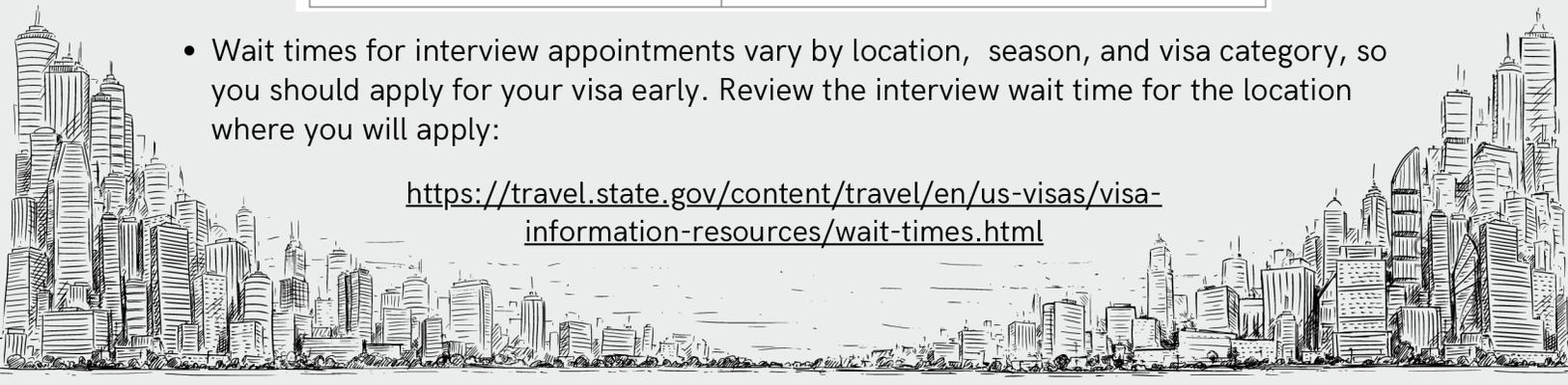
Nationals of countries where the U.S. government is not conducting routine nonimmigrant visa operations must apply at the designated embassy or consulate, unless their residence is elsewhere. See the list below to determine the designated location for NIV applications. For more information please visit: [NIV Processing](#).

Designated Locations for Nonimmigrant Visa Processing

NATIONAL OF	DESIGNATED LOCATION(S)
Afghanistan	Islamabad
Belarus	Vilnius, Warsaw
Burkina Faso	Lome
Chad	Yaoundé
Central African Republic	Yaoundé
Cuba	Georgetown
Haiti	Nassau
Iran	Dubai
Libya	Tunis
Niger	Lome
Russia	Astana, Warsaw
Somalia	Nairobi
South Sudan	Nairobi
Sudan	Cairo
Syria	Amman
Ukraine	Krakow, Warsaw
Venezuela	Bogota
Yemen	Riyadh
Zimbabwe	Johannesburg

- Wait times for interview appointments vary by location, season, and visa category, so you should apply for your visa early. Review the interview wait time for the location where you will apply:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/wait-times.html>



Step 4: CONTINUATION

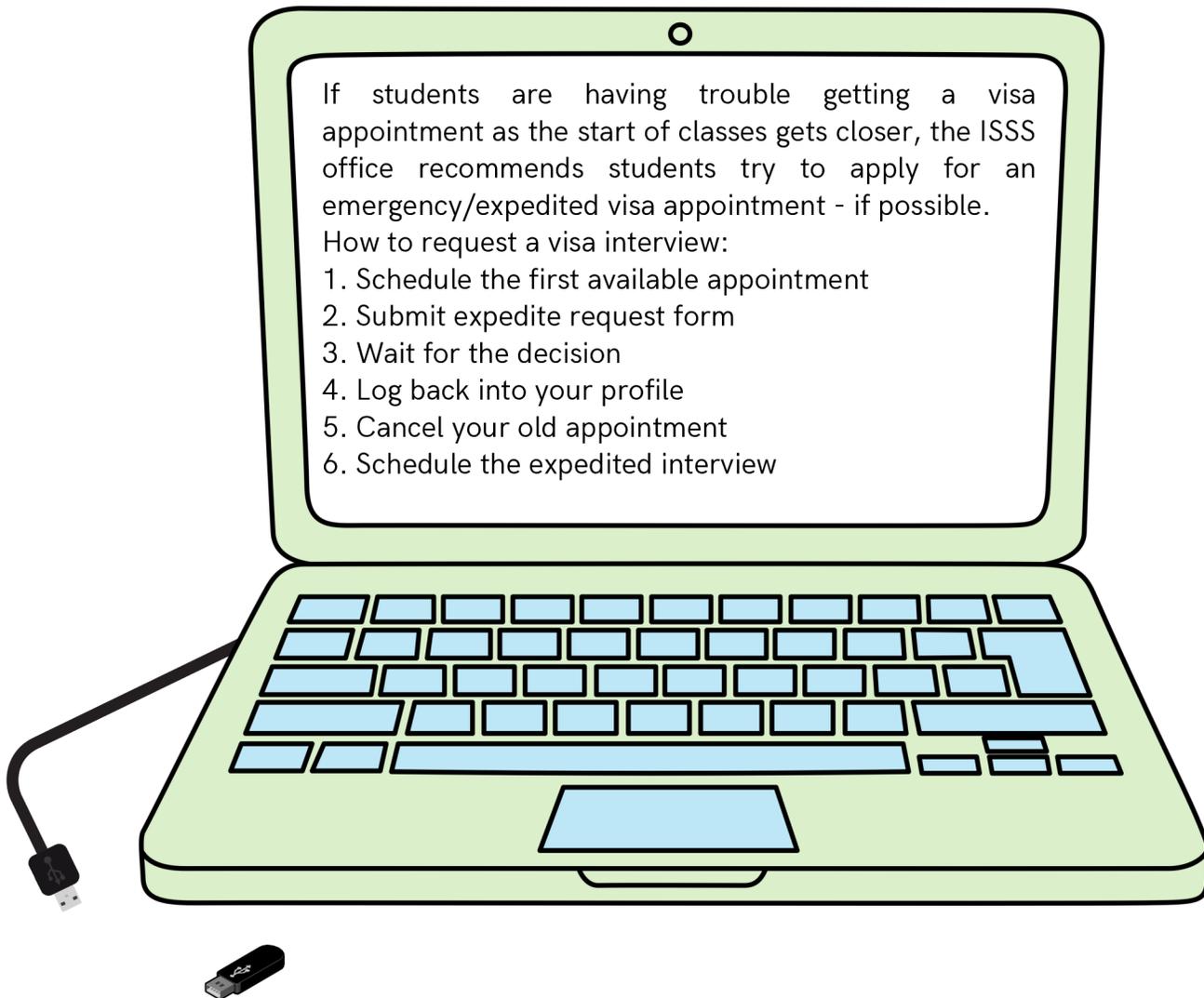


How to Apply for an Expedited Interview Appointment

Consular sections overseas may be able to expedite your interview date if there is an urgent, unforeseen situation such as a funeral, medical emergency, or school start date.

- The process to request an expedited nonimmigrant visa interview varies by location.
- You should refer to the instructions on the website of the embassy or consulate visa section where you will interview, or on their online appointment scheduling site. You will need to provide proof of the need for an earlier appointment.

In all cases: You must first submit the online visa application form (DS-160), pay the application fee, and schedule the first available interview appointment. Only at this point will a consular section consider your request for an expedited appointment. After the visa is approved, you may need to pay a visa issuance fee (if applicable to your nationality), and decide for the return of the passport and visa to you. Review the visa processing times to learn more.



STEP 5: Preparing for your interview

Gather and prepare the following required documents* before your visa interview:

- **Passport** valid for travel to the United States: Your passport must be valid for at least six months beyond your period of stay in the United States (unless exempt by country - specific agreements). Each individual who needs a visa must submit a separate application, including any family members listed in your passport.

- **SEVIS Fee receipt:** Print out your SEVIS Fee (Form I-901) receipt and take it along with the other documents mentioned below.

- **Nonimmigrant Visa Application:** Form DS-160 confirmation page.

Application fee payment receipt, if you are required to pay before your interview.

Photo - You will upload your photo while completing the online Form DS-160.

If the photo upload fails, you must bring one printed photo in the format explained in the Photograph Requirements to your visa interview.

Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (I-20) Student Status- Your school will send you a Form I-20 once they have entered your information in the SEVIS database.

You and your school official must sign the Form I-20.

All students must be registered in the Student and Exchange Visitor System (SEVIS). Your spouse and/or minor children, if they intend live in the United States with you, will each receive an individual Form I-20.



*Additional Documentation May Be Required

A consular officer will interview you to determine your qualifications for a student visa, and may request additional documents, such as evidence of your academic preparation:

- Transcripts, diplomas, degrees, or certificates from schools you attended; and
- Standardized test scores required by your U.S. school; our intent to depart the United States upon completion of the course of study; and
- How you will pay all educational, living and travel costs.

Review the instructions on how to apply for a visa on the website of the U.S. Embassy or Consulate where you will apply.

BREAKING NEWS

Social Media Vetting!

Under new U.S government guidance, a comprehensive and thorough vetting, including online presence, of all student and exchange visitor applicants in the F, M, and J nonimmigrant classifications will be conducted.

To facilitate this vetting, all F-1 visa applicants will be instructed to adjust the privacy settings on all of their social media profiles to "public."



Step 6: ATTEND YOUR VISA INTERVIEW



A consular officer will interview you to determine whether you are qualified to receive a student visa. You must establish that you meet the requirements under U.S. law to receive a visa.

- Take all the documents mentioned in Step 5 to your interview.
- English: Anticipate that the interview will be conducted in English and not in your native language.

Practice English conversation with a native speaker before the interview. Keep your answers to the officer's questions short and to the point. A negative impression is created if you are not prepared to speak on your own behalf.

- Be concise, brief and maintain positive attitude:

Keep in mind that all consular officers are under considerable time pressure to conduct a quick and efficient interview. They must make a decision, for the most part, on those impressions they form during the first minute or two of the interview. Consequently, what you say first and the initial impression you create are critical to your success. Maintain a positive attitude. So, do everything you can to make these precious minutes count. They will go a long way in determining whether you get your visa.

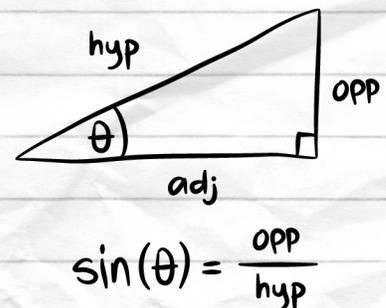
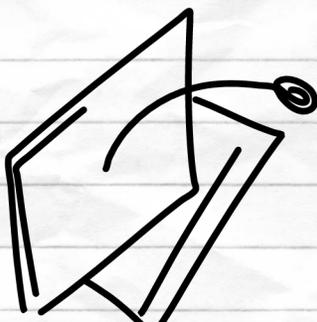
- Know the program and how it fits your career plans.

Be ready to explain:

1. Why you chose NMSU.
2. Why you want to study that specific program in NMSU.
3. How studying in the U.S. will relate to your future professional career goals when you return home.

- During the Interview show strong ties to your home country.

Since the F-1 visa is a non-immigrant visa, you will need to show strong ties to your home country that will ensure your return home after your education in the U.S. Under U.S. law, all applicants for nonimmigrant visas are viewed as intending immigrants until they can convince the consular officer that they are not. This is important, so be clear that you will return to your home country after graduation. You may illustrate few examples. You must be able to show that you have reasons for returning to your home country that are stronger than those for remaining in the United States. "ties" to your home country are the things that bind you to your homeland: job, family, financial prospects that you own or will inherit, investments, etc. Know the specific visa requirements for your particular country. For example, some countries may require a higher burden of proof regarding having solid ties to your home country than others. Please visit your embassy's website for more information about its list of visa requirements.



Step 6: CONTINUATION

- Be prepared to discuss your future plans.
- While you are being interviewed for an F-1 visa, your primary purpose is to study. It is not to get a full-time job and permanently move to the US. Therefore, you may be asked to prove how you will support yourself upon returning home, especially if you come from a country experiencing economic difficulties.
- Consider your dependents.

A dependent is defined as a spouse or an unmarried child under 21 years of age. If you have dependents who were issued an I-20, be prepared to answer how will you support them while studying at NMSU?

The consular officer will want to know this information. Therefore, if you have dependents, be sure to give some serious thought on to how you will support them while studying at NMSU.



Step 7: AFTER THE VISA INTERVIEW

After your visa interview, the consular officer may determine whether your visa is approved, denied or it might require administrative processing. The consular officer will inform you if this is required.

- ***What is Administrative Processing?***

Some refused visa applications may require further administrative processing. The consular officer will either issue or refuse the visa. If a visa applicant has not established that he or she is eligible for a visa, the consular officer must refuse that application. However, in accordance with Department procedures, a consular officer may determine that additional information from sources other than the applicant may help establish an applicant's eligibility for a visa. In such cases, refused visa applications warrant further administrative processing. Upon completion of the case-specific administrative processing, the consular officer might conclude that an applicant is now qualified for the visa for which he or she applied.

Alternatively, the officer may conclude that the applicant remains ineligible for a visa. When administrative processing is required, the consular officer will inform the applicant at the end of the interview.

The duration of the administrative processing will vary based on the individual circumstances of each case. Visa applicants are reminded to apply early for their visas, well in advance of the anticipated travel date.

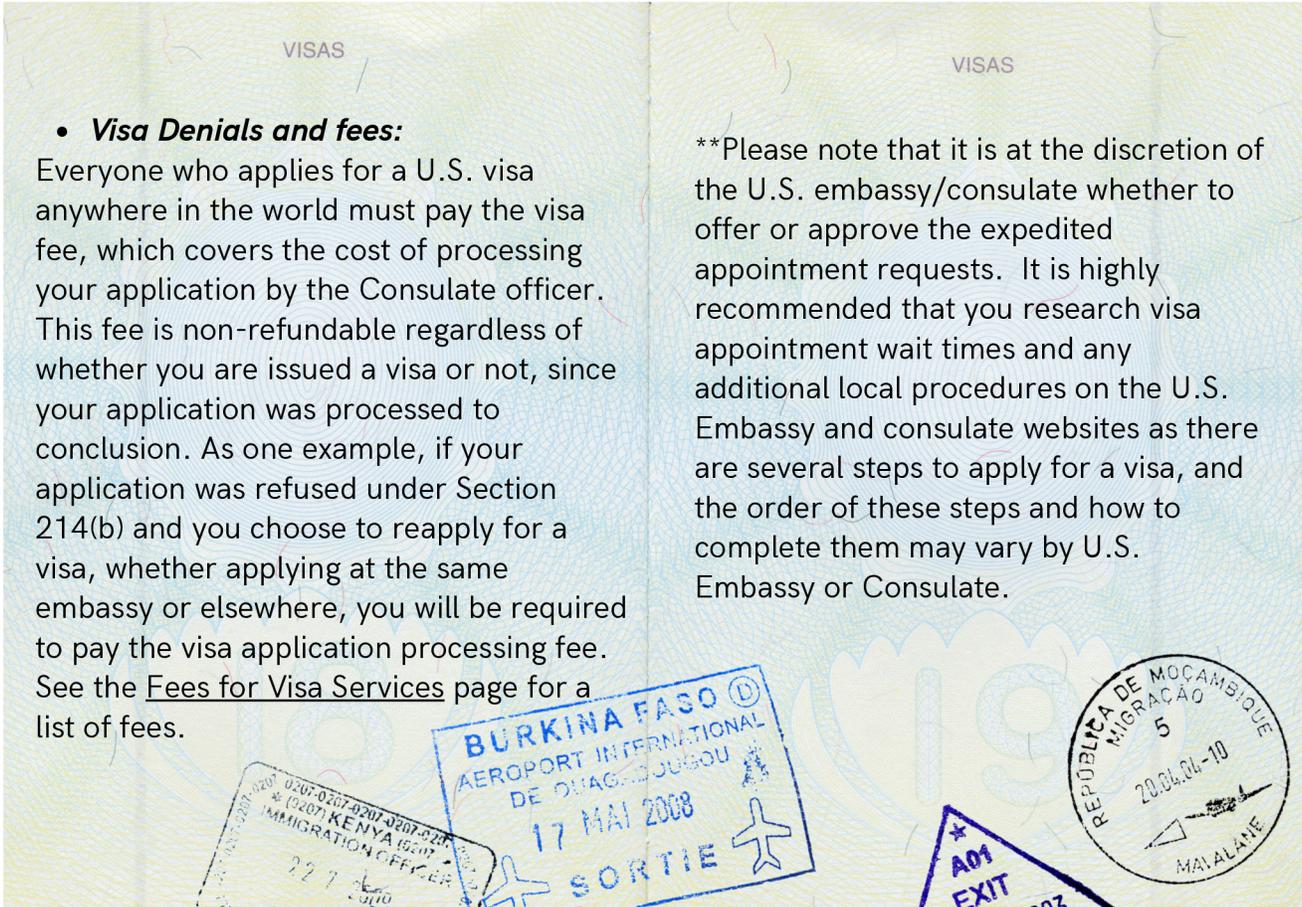


Step 7: CONTINUATION

- **Visa Denials and fees:**

Everyone who applies for a U.S. visa anywhere in the world must pay the visa fee, which covers the cost of processing your application by the Consulate officer. This fee is non-refundable regardless of whether you are issued a visa or not, since your application was processed to conclusion. As one example, if your application was refused under Section 214(b) and you choose to reapply for a visa, whether applying at the same embassy or elsewhere, you will be required to pay the visa application processing fee. See the [Fees for Visa Services](#) page for a list of fees.

**Please note that it is at the discretion of the U.S. embassy/consulate whether to offer or approve the expedited appointment requests. It is highly recommended that you research visa appointment wait times and any additional local procedures on the U.S. Embassy and consulate websites as there are several steps to apply for a visa, and the order of these steps and how to complete them may vary by U.S. Embassy or Consulate.



**I was approved
a visa.
What's next?**

Step 8: Preparing for travel

Congratulations on being approved for a visa! Now, there are a few things that you will need to work on to prepare for your arrival in the U.S. Having an F-1 visa means that you are a step closer to pursuing your education. However, responsibilities may arise as you need to comply with federal regulations to maintain your F-1 status.



YES!

3. Planning your arrival:

It is time to start booking your plane tickets! If you are traveling to the U.S and planning to visit a specific place, before you get to campus, you may do so. However, if you plan to land in El Paso, Texas, you should make sure to book your flight to land in Las Cruces, New Mexico.



Things to consider after your visa has been approved:

1. Class registration:

After receiving your visa please try to register for classes as these may fill out quickly. International students must enroll full-time to be able to apply for on-campus housing.

2. Housing arrangements:

Make sure to prepare for temporary housing if needed. You may have the option to live on-campus or off-campus depending on your budgets and needs.



WHAT?

4. What else should you to take?

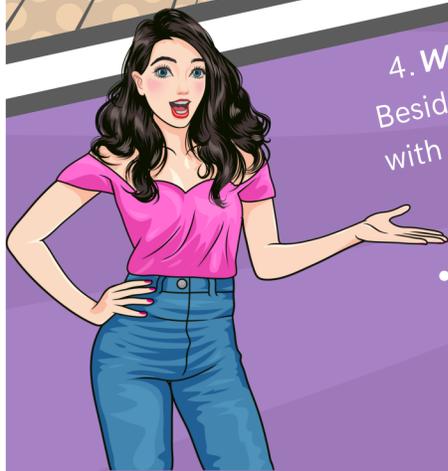
Besides needing your visa to travel you will need to take some other documents with you to ensure a smooth travel.

Make sure to take:

- Passport and F-1 visa
- Initial I-20 with your signature
- Copy of class schedule
- Vaccination records
- Some cash for emergencies
- If you have dependents: do not forget to take their visa(s), passport(s) and I-20(s.)



THANKS!



1. Class Registration

International students are required to enroll full-time for the first semester they are attending school. Please find the restrictions on the class type and minimum credit requirement here <https://iss.nmsu.edu/sevp-guidance/sevp-guidance.html>

After receiving your visa, please try to register for classes as soon as possible:

Undergraduate Students:

Prior to class registration, you have to complete the Aggie Welcome Orientation (AWO). Please check the following link for available dates <https://awo.nmsu.edu/>. New undergraduate students will be advised by the Center for Academic Advising and Student Support (CAAASS) after completing AWO.

Graduate Students:

Will be advised by their academic department. You are eligible to register for classes from mid-July for Fall semester and beginning of December for the Spring semester.

English Language Placement Test (ELPT):

Most international students will be required to take the ELPT. Please check your admission letter. If you are required to take the ELPT, it will be stated on your admission letter.

Please make sure to monitor your NMSU email for notifications regarding the ELPT test. For questions about the ELPT, please send an email to Tamara Anatska at anatska@nmsu.edu*

*Please note that most faculty work for 9 months and they may not respond during the summer break

2. Housing Arrangements



For On-Campus housing:

There are several options for on-campus housing. Usually first-year students have the option to live in campus dormitories. On the other hand, students with families also have the option to live in family housing.

To check out the housing options and rates please check:
<https://housing.nmsu.edu/housing-options/rates.html>

NMSU Housing applications and directions on how to apply for housing can be found on the [NMSU Housing and Residential Life](#) website.

**Please note:* First-year and first time students are required by NMSU policy to live on-campus for a full academic year (two semesters).



An exemption application to this policy can be found on the NMSU Housing website:

<https://housing.nmsu.edu/exemptions/>



For off-campus housing:

If you are looking for an apartment or house for rent at a walking distance or near from campus, you may find several different options that may fit in your budget.

Keep in mind that most (if not all) apartments are subject to an application fee and deposit fee that must be paid upfront along with the first month of rent. Prices may also vary depending on the number of rooms (floor plan), lease terms and amenities offered by the property.

We put together the following list with information about apartments near campus (less than 1 or 2 miles away.) Prices are always subject to change and it is always best to use certain tools for accurate prices.

You may also find apartments that are not listed here in any of the websites below:

- <https://rentleasnm.com/looking-to-rent/>
- <https://www.investlascruces.com/rent>
- <https://www.grecorentals.com/>
- <https://www.apartments.com/las-cruces-nm/>
- <https://pinnaclelascruces.com/unit-availability/>

If your plan is to rent an apartment or house in Las Cruces, we also recommend that you go through the Renter's Handbook that our Associated Students of NMSU put together to know more about tenant's possible obligations and responsibilities.

Apartment Name	Approximate cost per month (Keep in mind that prices might have changed)
<i>Pavilions at University</i> (575)-339-6778	\$1,275+
<i>OMNI-Centre Square</i> (575)-222-2931	\$825 - \$935+
<i>The Flats at Ridgeview</i> (575)-339-6739	\$1,290 - \$1,425+
<i>Casa Bandera</i> (575)-339-6785	\$1,200 - \$2,143+ Prices change depending on lease terms and floor plans
<i>Country Crest Apartment Homes</i> (575)-339-6738	\$975 - \$1,150+
<i>Mountain Springs Pointe</i> (575)-708-6315	\$750 - \$900+
<i>Garden Vista Apartments</i> (575)-522-5818	\$685+
<i>Aggie Oasis</i> (575)-521-7368	\$1,100+

For temporary housing:



If you have not arranged for your long-term housing before your arrival in Las Cruces the following options are available:

1. Sleep Inn
Location: 2121 S. Triviz Dr.
Tel. (575) 522-1700
2. Comfort Suites University
Location: 2101 S. Triviz Dr.
Tel. (575) 522-1300
3. Hilton Garden Inn
Location: 2550 S. Don Roser Dr.
Tel. (575) 522-0900
4. Econo Lodge
Location: 2585 S. Valley Dr.
Tel. (575) 527-2000
5. Ramada Hotel & Conference Center
Location: 201 E. University Ave.
Tel. (575) 526-4411
6. Courtyard by Marriott Las Cruces
Location: 456 E University Ave.
Tel. (575) 526-1722
7. Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Location: 2635 S. Valley Dr.
Tel. (575) 527-9947





3. Planning your arrival

When arranging your flight, your final destination should be the **El Paso, Texas airport**. Las Cruces is about 50 miles from the El Paso Airport. We strongly discourage flying into the Albuquerque airport, which is 4 hours away from Las Cruces.

Transportation options from El Paso, Texas to Las Cruces, New Mexico include:



1. Las Cruces Shuttle Company /ASNMSU Free Shuttle

The NMSU student government, the Associated Students of New Mexico State University, offers a free shuttle ride from the El Paso airport.

- New students coming from the El Paso International Airport for the first time without a valid NMSU ID can present a valid photo ID (in the form of a visa, passport, driver's license or other valid identification) along with their Aggie ID number at pick up.
- Students may have 2 checked-size bags and 1 carry-on item at no additional charge.*

*For any additional item it is a \$5 charge per item.

To make a reservation, call (575-525-1784) and see pick up times here <https://asnmsu.nmsu.edu/our-services/airport-shuttle.html>

2. Uber and Lyft

Uber and Lyft are two-ride share operators that pick up from the El Paso airport. Rides can be reserved through the Lyft and Uber apps. Estimated cost for an Uber/ Lyft ride from the airport to Las Cruces is \$70 or more. Other factors may affect the price such as specific destination, surge pricing, etc.

- Link for booking through Uber <https://www.uber.com/global/en/airports/elp/>
- Link for booking through Lyft <https://www.lyft.com/rider/airports/elp>





4. What else should you take?

A visa does not guarantee entry into the United States. A visa only allows a foreign citizen to travel to a U.S. port-of-entry (generally an airport) and request permission to enter the United States. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), specifically, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the port-of-entry, have the authority to permit or deny admission to the United States.

- The earliest an F-1 student can arrive in the U.S is 30 days before your program start date.
- After you present your passport, visa, and Form I-20 at the port-of-entry, a CBP official will make an admission decision.
- Once you are allowed to enter the United States, the CBP official *may* provide an admission Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record.

Hand carry (do not check with your baggage) the following documents:

1. Your passport
2. Your I-20 for the semester you are admitted to
3. Evidence of financial resources (assistantship, scholarship, financial guarantee, bank statement)
4. Admission letter for the semester you are admitted to
5. Paper receipt for the SEVIS I-901 fee
6. The name and contact information of your Designated School Official found on your I-20

*Citizens of Canada and Bermuda do not require visas to enter the United States as students, although they must present a valid Form I-20 at the time of admission. For more information see information for Citizens of Canada and Bermuda. Additional resources for Canadian visitors to the United States can be found on the U.S. Embassy and Consulate websites in Canada.

Learn about admissions and entry requirements, restrictions about bringing food, agricultural products, and other restricted/prohibited goods, and more by reviewing the CBP website.

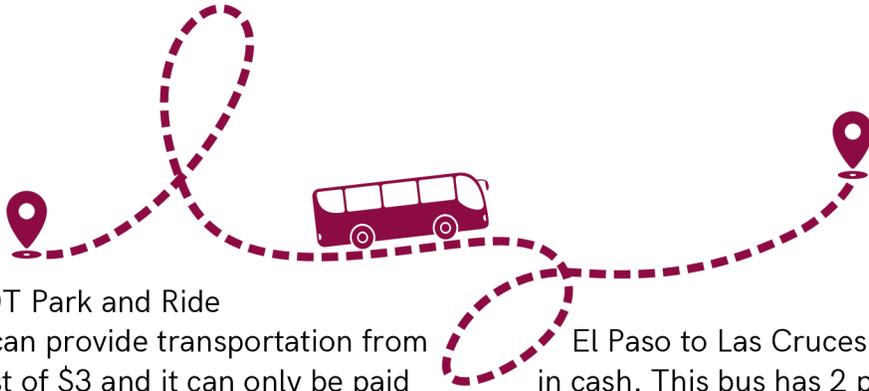


The background features abstract, organic shapes in maroon, orange, and black. The top half is primarily white with maroon and orange shapes. The bottom half is dominated by a large black shape, with orange and maroon shapes peeking through from the sides.

You have arrived!

Now...

Step 9: Getting to Las Cruces



3. NM NMDOT Park and Ride

Is a bus that can provide transportation from El Paso to Las Cruces. It has an estimated cost of \$3 and it can only be paid in cash. This bus has 2 pick up locations in El Paso that are provided below. Please make sure you visit their schedules if you pick this option as it will only pick-up people on certain times and weekdays. Also, this is not near to El Paso Airport, you will have to take an Uber/Lyft from the El Paso Airport to one of their pick-up locations.

Please access their schedule and more information on the link below. *Make sure you check the [Gold Route Westbound schedule](#).

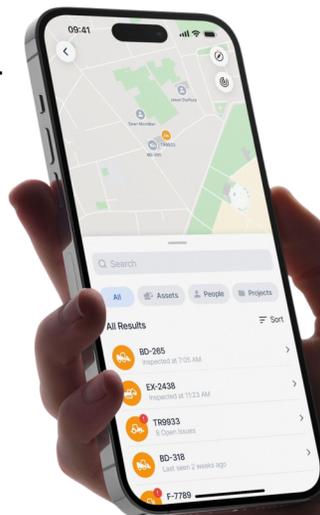
PICK-UP and DROP-OFF LOCATIONS:

1. EL Paso, TX:

- Downtown El Paso - This location is east of the Sun Metro Downtown Transit Center, across Santa Fe St 4th St. (south side) at the corner of El Paso St.
- West Side Transfer Center - 7535 Remcon Circle, El Paso, TX. South of the N. Mesa St. Wal-Mart. Board at Bay D.

2. Las Cruces, NM

- NMSU - The New Mexico State University lot is located on the Northeast corner of Arrowhead Dr. and Stewart St. The boarding area is on the corner. Free parking is available.
- Las Cruces Mesilla Valley Intermodal Transit Terminal 300 W. Lohman Ave. at S. Alameda Blvd., Las Cruces



CHECKLIST

Mandatory SEVIS Check-In

SEVIS Check-In will be comprised of an in-person session and an online Canvas* course.

*Students will need to activate their NMSU email in order to receive a course invitation. Go to the following page and follow the prompts to activate your NMSU email at <https://myaccount.nmsu.edu/activation>

The Canvas course will feature important information for students about: immigration status and compliance and, will guide students to upload documents. Students must complete a previous module to be able to continue with the following module.

You will sign up for one of the SEVIS Check-In sessions in the last module of the Canvas course. If you have questions about the Canvas course and how to upload documents, you can address that during SEVIS Check-In. You will have to submit your immigration documents, including: passport, visa, I-94, and I-901 SEVIS fee receipt.

Topics covered during SEVIS Check-In include maintaining your visa status, health care and medical insurance, class registration requirements, campus services and social activities. More information about SEVIS Check-In will be provided to students 3 to 2 weeks before the first day of classes for the semester. Please make sure to monitor your personal and NMSU email for notices about SEVIS Check-In. Questions regarding SEVIS Check-In can be sent to iss@nmsu.edu.



✓ **Get an Aggie ID**

An Aggie ID identifies you as a New Mexico State University student. The ID is helpful all over campus and in Las Cruces for different resources, possible discounts, etc. You can get your Aggie ID at the **NMSU Parking Office** on the second floor of the campus *Barnes & Noble* bookstore or go through the online submission process at:

<https://services.nmsu.edu/idcards/index.html>

Other services: You may find other services offered such as campus bookstore, parking and transportation and more on the NMSU Campus Services website:

<https://services.nmsu.edu/idcards/index.html>

ID CARD SERVICES

1400 E. University Ave, Room 203

P.O. Box 30001, MSC 3ID

Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

*Second floor of the NMSU Bookstore

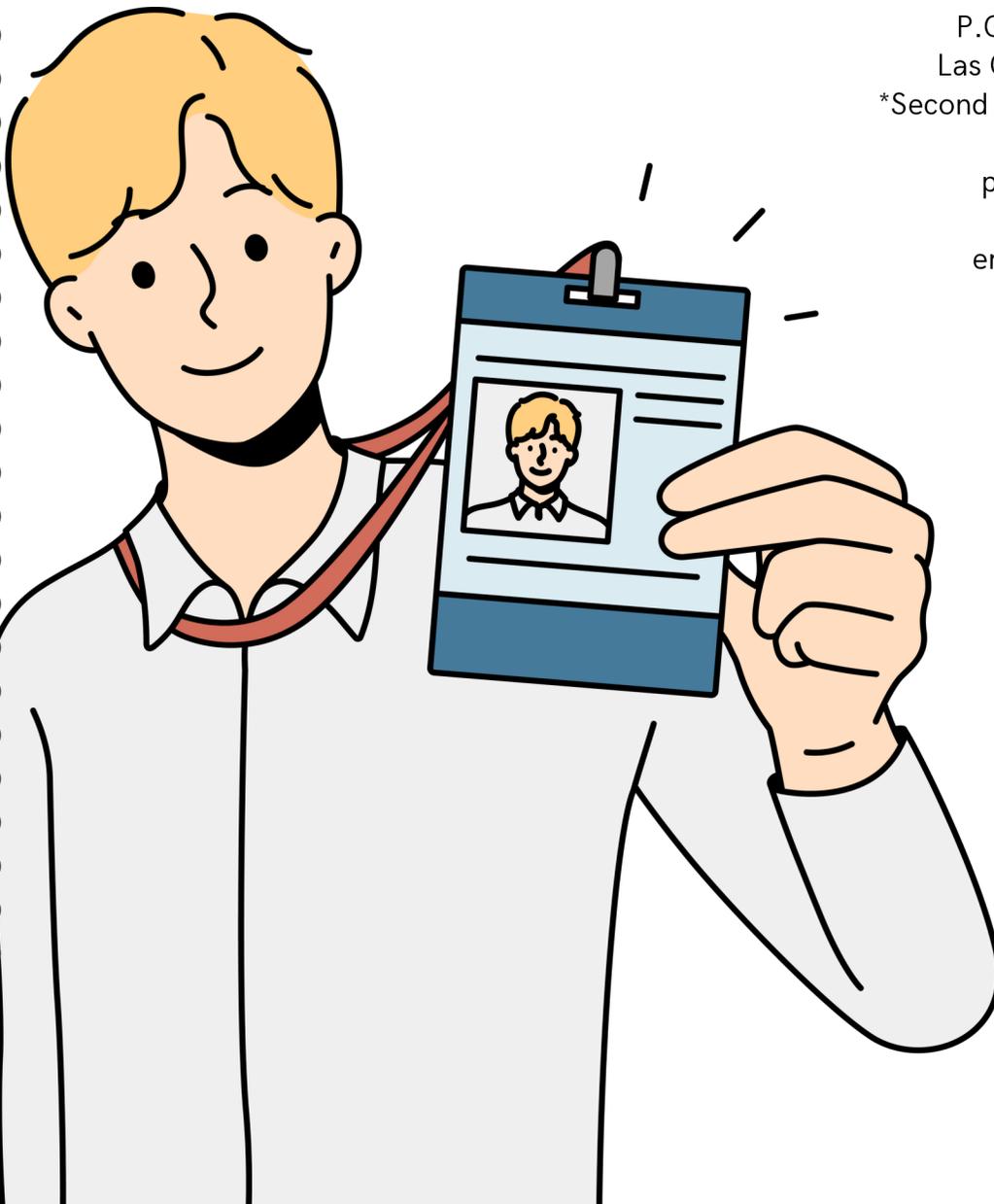
phone: 575-646-2306

fax: 575-646-7814

email: idsvs@nmsu.edu

Monday - Friday

8:00am - 4:30pm





✓ **Tuberculosis testing for international students**

All international students will be required to be tested for tuberculosis using Quantiferon TB Gold. If a student's test is positive:

- the nurse will complete the positive TB test template questions
- the nurse will order a chest x-ray under the Medical Director's name (discuss cost with patient.)
- the patient will be scheduled with a practitioner for chest x-ray results and further evaluation.
- Check with the Medical Director or designee if any other possible contraindications /concerns.

TB Test from outside the US:

TB results will not be accepted from outside the US unless proper documentation is provided:

- Test done within 6 months of arrival, name, date of birth, date of test / result, result documented in mm of induration.
- If the patient does have their original chest x-ray films, CXR results or Quantiferon results from outside the US, it will be reviewed by the Medical Director or designee for approval.**

**If you bring a tuberculosis test from a country other than the US, please be aware that Aggie Health and Wellness Center will need to evaluate the test and provide clearance. If they do not accept the test, it is convenient to schedule an appointment to get a tuberculosis test done by them (AHWC).

Call or email to schedule your tuberculosis test on campus:

Aggie Health and Wellness Center (AHWC)

<https://wellness.nmsu.edu/>

Monday- Friday

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Closed 11:30- 1:00 pm for lunch.

By appointment and urgent care walk-in.

575-646-1512

campus_health@nmsu.edu

On campus at 3080 Breland Dr, Las Cruces, NM 88003

Location:

The main entrance is located on the northeast corner of the building, at the corner of McFie and Breland Drive, across the street from Zuhl Library.

✓ **Health Insurance Requirement for F-1 students:**

NMSU requires all new (including transfers) and continuing international students to purchase and maintain the NMSU-approved health insurance.

Please be aware of the following points:

- Your student account will be billed each semester after you have registered for classes.
- Travel insurance purchased in your home country is not acceptable.
- For those of students bringing dependents, be prepared to make an additional and separate insurance payment for each dependent (see below.)

*Insurance charges may be subject to change in the future.

✓ **Health Insurance Requirement for F-2 dependents**

If you have dependents (spouse/children), you must purchase insurance for them for either one year or on a semester by semester basis.

As a student with a dependent 1-20, you will have a **"Dependent Insurance Hold."**

You will need to submit proof of insurance for each dependent for the hold to be removed.

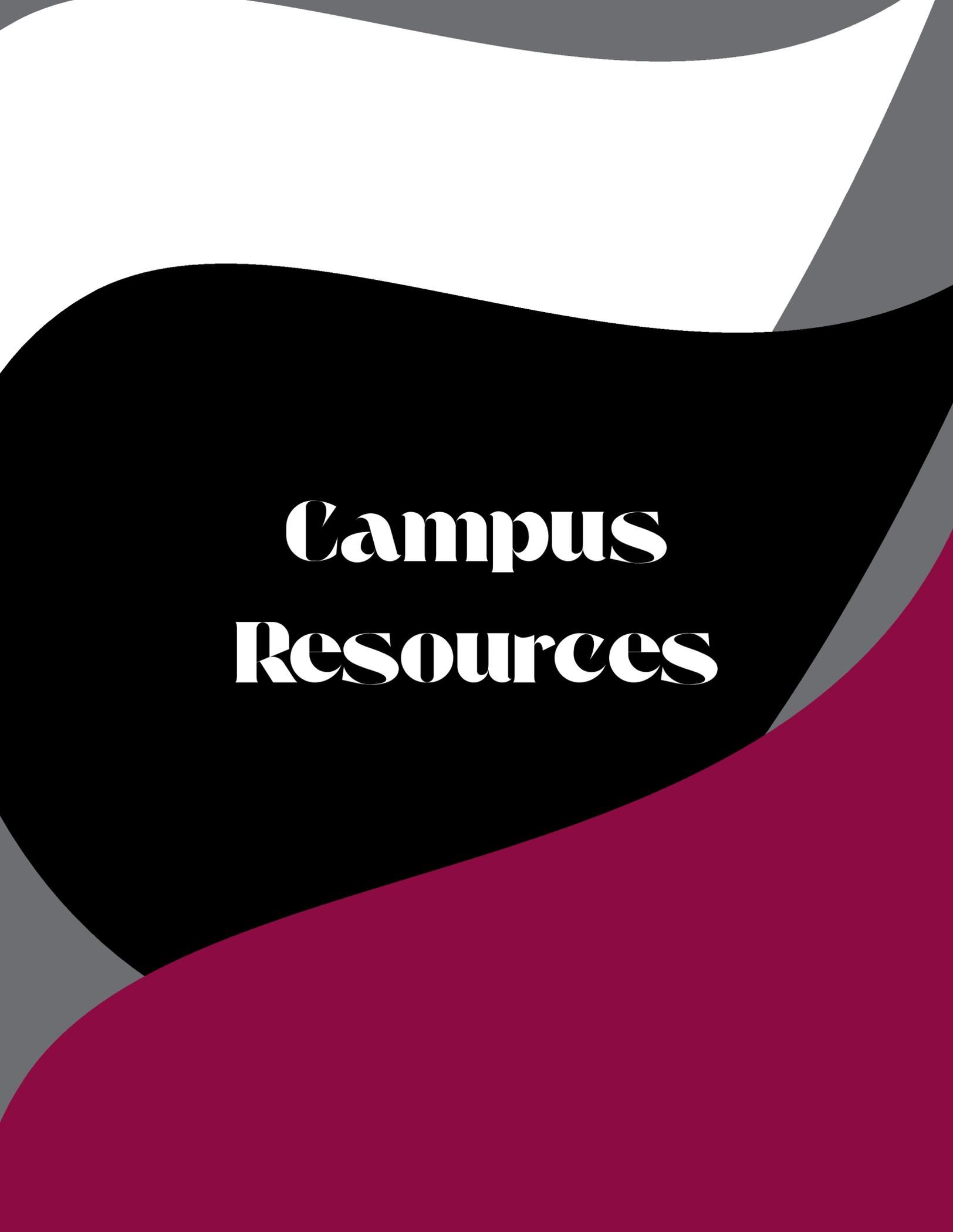
Failure to comply with this requirement may cause a delay in your class registration.

Please make sure your dependent is enrolled in **medical coverage that includes evacuation and repatriation of remains.**

For more information about dependent insurance please visit:

<https://iss.nmsu.edu/insurance/health-insurance.html>





Campus Resources

STUDENT RESOURCES

As an NMSU student there are several resources that you may have access to (and you don't even know it!)



Library Services:

NMSU library services host more than a million items and provides electronic access to journals and databases for academic and research purposes

<https://lib.nmsu.edu/>

NMSU bookstore: The bookstore offers physical or digital textbooks which can be rented or purchased. Physical textbooks can come in new or used conditions, depending on stock. To order for NMSU Las Cruces, Alamogordo, or Grants you will place your order here nmsustore.com or call 575-646-1839



IT Services: Offers various services to the NMSU community, including open-use computer labs, printing, equipment rentals, the IT Help Desk, and advertising with our digital signage screens across campus.

For more information or assistance with any email access issues, please visit <https://studenttech.nmsu.edu/>



Campus Tutoring services: Campus Tutoring Services offers NMSU undergraduate students free, accessible, and convenient options to supplement their academic experience for our most in-demand courses on campus. Campus Tutoring provides individual and small group tutoring online via NMSU Zoom and In-Person by appointment or walk-Ins. <https://campustutoring.nmsu.edu/>



Associated Students of NMSU:

As the elected government of the student body, ASNMSU advocates for and progresses the interests of students by offering events, student-centric services and programs for all students.

<https://asnmsu.nmsu.edu>

Airport Shuttles:

Students may be eligible for airport pick-up or drop-off. Please visit the following link for detailed information and schedules:

<https://asnmsu.nmsu.edu/our-services/airport-shuttle.html>



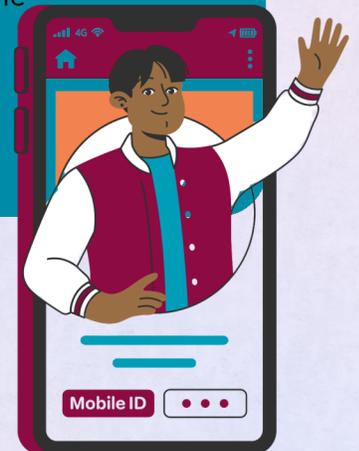
Pete's Pick-up: Need a Safe Ride to Your Car or Dorm? Whether you've been studying late at the library, had a late extracurricular meeting, or if you're out late on campus for any reason, you can always call Pete's Pick Up for a safe escort to your car or dorm. Just call 575-646-1111 and within minutes a driver* will be there to safely pick you up.

University Recreation: Offers a variety of recreation, fitness and sports opportunities, including aquatics, intramurals, group fitness, outdoor recreation, and personal fitness.
<https://recsports.nmsu.edu/>



Student Organizations and Clubs: Promotes involvement, interpersonal and leadership development, service learning and civic responsibility by providing more than 200 programs and activities.
<https://studentlife.nmsu.edu/silp/index.html>

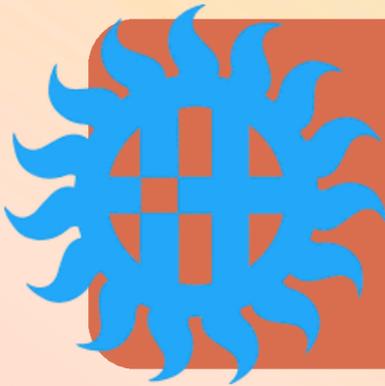
ID Card Services: The NMSU Aggie ID Card/Mobile ID is the official identification that provides access to services offered at NMSU. The Aggie ID Card/Mobile ID is utilized to access meals, Aggie Dining Dollars, Aggie Cash, Aggie Print, as a key to the residential halls, access to various buildings, proof of eligibility for access to athletic events and allows for other student services. This information is added to Aggie ID Card/Mobile ID after registration for classes. Please visit idcard.nmsu.edu for more information.



Aggie Health and Wellness Center: Provides integrated medical and psychological services for all NMSU students. In addition to our in-person services and pharmacy, students have access to free 24/7 virtual care services through TimelyCare.
<https://wellness.nmsu.edu/>



Emergency Information: For emergency Services such as NMSU Police, NMSU Fire Department, Medical Emergencies and Personal Injury, Personal Safety, Counseling Services and more, please visit the Emergency Information website: <https://www.nmsu.edu/emergencyinfo.html>



City of Las Cruces: The City of Las Cruces welcomes NMSU students!

To explore our city and find resources please visit: <https://lascruces.gov/resident/nmsu-student-resources/>