

F-1/J-1 VISA RENEWAL PROCESS

only in U.S. The public information on visa renewal is available at [FBI/IS. State Department services section](#)

When to renew your F-1/J-1 visa?

Your F1/J-1 visa needs to be valid for entry to the U.S. but can expire during your enrollment at UL Lafayette if you stay in the U.S. If you are studying fulltime at UL Lafayette with valid F1/J-1 status, you do NOT need to renew your F1/J-1 visa while you are in the U.S. You only need to renew your F-1/J-1 visa if you plan to travel outside of the U.S. and return to the U.S. to study. If your F1/J-1 visa expires before you travel outside of the U.S., you will need to apply for a new visa to

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If all of the information listed on your I-20 or DS2019 (including major and funding) is accurate, you will not need to be issued a updated I-20/DS-2019. Once we receive your Student Update Form, the letter will be generated in 2-3 business days. We can email it to you or you may pick it up at the front desk. When you submit the form to gia@louisiana.edu, please let us know how you would like to receive your letter (email or pickup).

STEP 2: Complete the online visa application (FORM DS-160) and upload a photo that meets the requirements.

STEP 3: Schedule an interview with the U.S. embassy in your home country if you are considering applying for a visa in a third country, please review the information [here](#). Make sure to allow enough time to apply for visa. We recommend applying while you are still in the U.S. and ensuring that you have enough time to obtain your visa to return before the start of the next academic semester. You can search for visa wait times at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/student-visa.html>.

STEP 4: Pay the non-refundable visa application and issuance fee.

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