

COLLIN COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICE (ISO)



PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST CREDIT-SPRING 2023

PAYING THE I-901 FEE

- Review *I-901* Handout included in this I-20 Packet and the following: <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901>
- Link to Pay Fee: <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.html>

SCHEDULE THE VISA INTERVIEW

- Review the *U.S. Visas* handout, *10 Points to Remember when Applying for a Nonimmigrant Visa* handout, and <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/students>
- Identify the U.S. Embassy or Consulate that is most convenient for you: <https://www.usembassy.gov/>
- Visit the website of the embassy or consulate you will visit, and follow the instructions on the site to:
 - Pay your visa fee
 - Obtain acceptable photographs
 - Complete your online DS-160 application
 - Get list of all required documents you must bring
 - Schedule your visa interview appointment
- If you are not granted the F-1 Visa, please contact ISO at iso@collin.edu about your deferment options.

PREPARE FOR & TAKE TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) OR PREPARE TSI EXEMPTION

- You are required to take the Texas Success Initiative (TSI), provide TSI scores from a previous school, OR request an exemption with qualifying documentation with Academic Advising (academicadvising@collin.edu) before registering for classes.
- Passing the reading and writing portion is required to maintain F-1 status at Collin College and avoid a Change of Level to Collin's ESL program or transferring to another institution.
- Review TSI testing procedures, locations, study materials, and exemptions below.
- It is recommended that you take the TSI before your arrival. See here for more information: <https://www.collin.edu/studentresources/testing/availabletesting/tsi.html>

PREPARE FOR ARRIVAL

- Recommended Arrival date: **01/10/23**. Allowed to arrive in U.S. up to 30 days before start of I-20. The earliest you can enter the U.S. is **12/11/22**.
- Review the [International Student Handbook](https://sway.office.com/ZfB8c6KNVDOAxafA?ref=Link) for information about Texas and your arrival to Collin College: <https://sway.office.com/ZfB8c6KNVDOAxafA?ref=Link>
- Review *Port of Entry* handout and Study in the States (<https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/getting-to-the-united-states>) for information about entering into the U.S.