WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A DEPENDENT I-20?

A dependent I-20 allows the spouse and/or child/children of an F-1 student to apply for an F-2 visa. The F-2 visa and I-20 allow dependent(s) to travel to the U.S. and reside with the F-1 student while s/he is completing his or her studies, post-completion OPT, or OPT STEM extension.

HOW DOES A STUDENT APPLY FOR A DEPENDENT I-20?

1) COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FORM AND GATHER DOCUMENTATION:

✓ I-20 Application Form

✓ Proof of Financial Support

  ▪ Proof of funds cover one year of living expenses for each dependent. Please refer to the “Guidelines for Submitting Financial Documents” under “Rules and Responsibilities for Maintaining F-1 Status” here: http://www.stevens.edu/sit/isss/f1-students:

    • Graduate and Undergraduate Students $14,144 per dependent

  ▪ If your funding is from a sponsor/sponsors, each of your sponsors should fill out the Financial Information and Affidavit of Support form. If your dependent is supporting himself/herself, an affidavit is not needed.

✓ Copy of Marriage Certificate (for spouse)/Birth Certificate (for child) - If the marriage/birth certificate is not in English, you will need an English translation of the document, stamped or signed by the translator, which can be done in the U.S. or your home country.

✓ Copy of Each Dependent’s Passport ID Page

2) SUBMIT THE FORM AND DOCUMENTS IN #1 TO ISSS.

3) YOU WILL RECEIVE TWO NEW I-20S (THE DEPENDENT I-20 AND AN UPDATED I-20 FOR YOU) FROM ISSS IN APPROXIMATELY 4-5 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. If you do not pick up the I-20s yourself, please be aware that your dependent I-20(s) must be signed and dated on the first page by you, since you are the student.

4) YOUR DEPENDENT APPLIES FOR AN F-2 VISA OR CHANGE OF STATUS TO F-2 (IF ALREADY IN THE U.S.). Please keep in mind that in either case, your dependent only needs to use a copy of your SEVIS fee receipt and does not need to pay the SEVIS fee himself/herself. For more information about the SEVIS fee, visit this website: https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.jsp.