

FAQ for VISA to India

1. How do I apply for a visa from the U.S. to India?

Find the nearest Indian Embassy or Consulate and apply for a visa. You will need the following documents:

Must apply online using the India

Consulate's outsourced site: <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com/>

*Documents include:

- (1) Online application: either mail it or bring it in-person to the consulate
- (2) Passport
- (3) Two passport photos
- (4) Proof of address (driver's license)
- (5) Admission letter from India Center which will be sent to you from Headquarters

2. What kind of visa should I apply for?

Students are requested to apply only for

- X: STUDENT VISA
- It will be the most appropriate if students apply for 'X' student visa **with multiple entry** for one year. Visa stamped as 'Study Abroad' will be rejected, so **make sure your visa is stamped as 'Study in India Center Global College'**.

Students have to register within 14 days of their arrival to India at the Police Commissioner's office in order to receive their 'Residential Permit'. Failing to do so, students will end up paying a penalty of \$30 on a per day basis.

3. What is the Residential Permit'?

The Residential Permit is an official and legal document which every student who comes into India on a Student Visa should get. It permits the student to stay in the country until the time mentioned in the visa (minimum for one year).

4. Once the student goes to the Police Commissioner, what are the steps involved in getting the Residential Permit?

Before the student applies for the Residential Permit (RP), he/she has to fill out two forms with details of their home address, date of birth, passport/visa information, port of embarkment, purpose of study in India, address of stay in India etc.

Along with the above mentioned document, the India Center has to provide bonafide letters stating that the student is enrolled at India Center for the period of one/two semesters and with the proof of address where the student will reside during her/his stay in India.

Copies of Passport/Visa and six sets of photographs have to be provided.

The student has to personally visit the Police Commissioner's (PC) office (8 to 10 Kms from the India Center) along with the above mentioned documents (one of the student services personnel accompanies student during the visit to PC's office) to apply for the Residential Permit which takes about three to four hours on the first day. Either the same day or the next business day, the student will be called to visit the PC's office to collect the Residential Permit.

Once the student receives the RP, the India Center makes a photocopy of it and stores it in the student's file for future reference and/or emergencies. The student has to carry a photocopy of the RP along with the photocopy of the passport/visa whenever they are travelling within or outside the city. When leaving the country (permanently) after a semester or two, student has to submit the original RP to the immigration office at the Bangalore Airport.

5. What does the Residential Permit look like?

The Residential Permit is a document (one sheet of paper) with the student's picture affixed on it with a seal of the Police Commissioner of Bangalore. This document furnishes details of duration of stay, specifically with the date/month/year along with the passport and visa number and very importantly the registration number which is provided by the Police Commissioner's office when the student registers. In the case of any student returning to India Center to study after a break of one year in between, the same registration number will entitle the Police Commissioner's office to issue him/her a second residential permit under the same number.

6. Is a medical check-up compulsory for the visa?

No! You do NOT have to worry about the medical check-up if you are coming to Bangalore, India. A medical check-up is waived for all irrespective of the duration of stay.

7. How long does it take to get a visa to India in the US?

In general, it takes 7-10 working days to get a visa to India. You can get your visa on the same day, if you go in person to the Consulate. Make sure you check the holiday list of the Consulate before you plan to go in person. Please keep in mind the time frame is not guaranteed and is subject to change.

8. Do I have to change my visa again in India?

No, you do not have to change your visa in India. But you are allowed to stay in India as long as your visa and residential permit legally allows your stay. Renewal of student visa is NOT POSSIBLE in India. Students have to go back to United States to get as new visa to enter into the country.

9. Can I get a student visa from a country outside of the US?

No. In order to secure a student visa, you must do it from the India Consulate/Embassy in the US.

10. If I am abroad and cannot obtain a student visa, what is the suggested visa to get?

Please contact Carlett Thomas at World Headquarters (WHQ) at carlett.thomas@liu.edu or 718.488.3409. You can also contact Sheela Thyagaraj at the India Center at sheela.thyagaraj@liu.edu or 011-91-80-222-81096.

11. Who should I list for reference name, address, and telephone number for the India visa?

S.V. Achuthan
Administrative Officer
India Center, Global College
Long Island University
7/1, Cunningham Road Cross
Bangalore- 560052
INDIA
Contact Number: 91-80-22281096

12. Who can I talk to if I have additional visa questions?

Students can talk or write to Ms. Sheela Thyagaraj, Associate Regional Manager of Admissions & Student Services, Global College, Bangalore (E-mail: sheela.thyagaraj@liu.edu); Phone: 011-91-80-222-81096.

Disclaimer: Global College students have used <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com/> in the past. Please note that the School is not affiliated in any way with <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com/>.