

F-1 Visa Application Process

Preparation and Interview Tips for International Students

Be Informed. Prepare and Schedule an Interview:

- Visit the local embassy website and obtain a complete set of instructions and all documents needed in the visa application process
- Follow **local embassy** instructions carefully and complete all questions thoroughly

The Consular Interview:

- Schedule an interview as instructed by embassy guidelines.
- Parents should go to the interview with the student.
- Students should be neatly groomed and pleasantly dressed.
- Be very familiar with Chaminade.

Be prepared to answer questions such as:

- Why do you wish to study at this school?
- Who is the Principal? Who is the Admission Director?
- How large is the school?
- Where is it located, and how will you travel there?
- Is it a boys, girls, or coed school?
- In what country will you go to college or university?
- In what country will you work when you are finished with your education?

Counselors will want to know about the family's financial circumstances to ensure resources are available to pay for private education. Be ready to provide bank account statements. If parents have a business and the student is planning to return to their home country to work for that business, it is good to know what the student's role in the business will be.

What to Bring to the Interview (All documents must be originals – no photocopies):

- Completed Non-immigrant Visa Application, Form DS-160
- Properly completed SEVIS I-20 form, signed by a parent
- SEVIS I-901 Fee Receipt
- Acceptance letter from Chaminade College Preparatory School
- Passport, valid for at least 6 months
- One 2 inch x 2 inch photograph – photos used on various forms must match
- Transcripts from the past school year
- A bank account statement indicating that your family has the funds to cover the cost of at least one year's tuition, room and board, books, and other related expenses
- Proof of business ownership, or ownership of property in your home country (not required in all countries)

Things **NOT** to do when applying for the visa:

- **DO NOT** claim that you want to live and work in the United States. (F-1 students may **not** immigrate to the United States, and **are** expected to return to their home country.)
- **DO NOT** go to the interview with incomplete information.