

This information is for Bryant University International Students only.

## ENTERING THE UNITED STATES

If you are entering the U. S. on I-20 with “initial attendance” on line 3, you cannot be admitted to U.S. sooner than 30 days before the program start date.

When you arrive in the U.S., you will be required to present the following documents to a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) Officer at the port of entry. Since you must show your documents before you are allowed to claim your bags, do not pack these documents in suitcases that are checked in.

1. Passport with valid F-1 visa  
\*Citizens of Canada and Bermuda are exempt from F-1 visa when entering the U.S. from within the Western Hemisphere. Exemptions are subject to change, please contact the U.S. Consulate or embassy in your country for the most current information.
2. Financial documents
3. SEVIS fee payment receipt
4. SEVIS Form I-20

## I-94 Arrival/Departure Record

Upon arrival, you will be enrolled in the US-VISIT entry-exit program. Once USCBP officer examines your documents and allows you to enter the U.S., the CBP official will determine the length of your visit on the electronic Arrival-Departure Record (Form I-94). Since Form I-94 documents your visa status and authorized period of stay in the U.S., you must access your I-94 at [www.cbp.gov/I94](http://www.cbp.gov/I94), print and keep it in your passport once you arrive at Bryant. For more information on arrival procedure, visit <http://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/study-exchange/exchange-arrivals>

Once you are permitted to enter the U.S. and granted F-1 visa STATUS, it's imperative that you understand your legal responsibilities as an F-1 student to maintain your F1 status while in the U.S.

## Important Information for Students from Canada and Bermuda - Obligation to Comply with Immigration Regulations

In terms of immigration regulations, the only difference between Canadians and Bermudians and other international students coming to the United States is that citizens of Canada and Bermuda are not required to apply for an F-1 entry visa at a U.S. consulate.

Some Canadians and Bermudians have mistakenly assumed that other regulations that apply to international students do not apply to them. Citizens of Canada and Bermuda are subject to the same regulations regarding employment in the United States, requirement for full-time study and all other provisions for maintaining status. Other than applying for a visa, it is important that you read about and abide by all other provisions relating to F-1 status described in page 2 of SEVIS I-20. It is especially important for Canadian and Bermudian students to be vigilant about entering the United States in proper student status, as immigration inspectors are accustomed to admitting Canadian and Bermudian citizens as visitors.

## Students Transferring to Bryant University

If you plan to leave the U.S. prior to enrolling at Bryant University, you MUST use Bryant University SEVIS Form I-20 to enter the U.S. If you already have a valid F-1 visa, you do not have to obtain a new one, even though visa annotation on your F-1 visa stamp in your passport may indicate the name of a different educational institution. Follow the directions below – Arrival at Bryant University.

## Arrival at Bryant University

You are legally REQUIRED to register your immigration documents with Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) upon arrival at Bryant University. You MUST bring your passport, SEVIS Form I-20, Form I-94 and all previously issued Forms I-20 (if any) to OISS. The registration process is completed at the time of check in for all new Undergraduate Students including transfer international students during the program called 4MILE@BRYANT. For Graduate Students, this MUST be done within the first two weeks of classes. OISS will help you with all immigration-related matters during your studies at Bryant University, however, it is YOUR responsibility to maintain your status.

Please feel free to contact OISS with any questions. We look forward to meeting you soon and hope that your time at Bryant University will be academically and personally rewarding.