

# Graduate Certificate of Eligibility for SEVIS I-20

*Updated July 3, 2019, Effective Fall 2019*

## Graduate Certificate of Eligibility

Please follow the steps below:

**Step 1:** Confirm Acceptance to the College and pay your commitment deposit on the Hunter College Mychoice page. Submit an attachment of your Hunter College acceptance letter to the International Students Office (ISO) at: intlss@hunter.cuny.edu .

**Step 2: Read and complete the application for Certificate of Eligibility (SEVIS I-20). [Page 3]**

**Step 3: Complete the Affidavit of Support**

You must ask your sponsor to complete the Affidavit of Support included in this package. If there is more than one sponsor, each must provide a separate affidavit of support in order to receive the SEVIS I-20. If you plan to go for a visa, your sponsor signature must be notarized on the completed affidavit of support form.

**Step 4: Secure Sponsor(s) and Provide Evidence of Support (Sponsor Information)**

You must provide evidence that you have the funds available to cover all expenses associated with your first year of college, as well as show projected support for future years. A sponsor is someone who can provide evidence that he/she is willing and able to demonstrate that they can assist if necessary to defray the cost of your educational and living expenses, either in part or in whole. The "Total First Year Expenses" on page 7 of this information packet lists is considered as **guaranteed support** and can be shown in the form of bank statement/letter. **Projected support** can be shown through an employment letter, verifying the sponsor's salary in U.S. dollars. If your sponsor(s) is/are self-employed, you must submit a copy of his/her most recent business tax form. However, if your sponsor(s) is not required by the government to file taxes, he/she must submit a notarized statement indicating the nature of his/her business and its profit.

**Step 4A: Secure Financial Documents (Sponsors)**

- **Bank Letter:** You need an **original** letter from your bank or sponsor's bank stating the account balance. In the case of foreign bank letters, the total amount must be converted into U.S. currency. The following sites provide information on current exchange rates: <http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>, [www.oanda.com](http://www.oanda.com). Daily rates of exchange are not accepted.
- **Bank Statements:** You or your sponsor must provide current bank statements (savings and/or checking accounts) for the past three months. As a reminder, the available funds must cover at least the first academic year. If the funds available in your account(s) are not sufficient to cover the total estimated cost of your education beyond the first year, you must provide projected support for the remaining years.
- **Original Documents:** You must attach original documents for each source of financial support you indicate. Be sure to request and retain a second set of original documents for your appointment at the U.S. Embassy.

**Step 5: Provide Financial Information for Dependents, if applicable**

Students who plan to be accompanied by dependents [child, children and/or spouse] must provide additional financial information. Proof of an additional \$8,000 for a spouse and \$5,000 for each child per year of study is required.

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### Step 6: Provide Supporting Statement for Government Awards or Loans, if applicable

Students sponsored by or receiving loans from their government must submit an official statement with their name and the award, which includes the full dollar amount (in U.S. equivalents), for tuition and living expenses.

### Step 7: Include Copies of Passport Pages & Visa pages (if applicable)

Scan or mail a copy of your passport page containing your biographical information and expiration date and also a copy of your F-1 visa if applicable.

### Step 8: Submit Application and All Supporting Documentation

Complete the enclosed Application for the Certificate of Eligibility and return it with all supporting documents to:

Hunter College  
International Students Office  
The Division of Student Affairs  
695 Park Avenue, 1109/1133 East  
New York, NY 10065  
Attention: International Student Office

### Step 9: Contact the International Students Office Staff, If You Need More Information

If you have questions about I-20 application or process, contact us via e-mail: [intlss@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:intlss@hunter.cuny.edu) or via Skype: [intlsshunter@outlook.com](mailto:intlsshunter@outlook.com).

The International Students Office fax # (212) 650-3147 (**highly preferred**)

Student Services Fax# (212) 650-3266 (to be used in the event that the International Students Office fax is not functioning).

### Step 10: Once in the U.S., Report to the Hunter College International Office

You must report to the International Student Office within two weeks of classes. Bring the following copies of your original documents.

- F-1 visa or F-1 status approval form.
- I-94 card (you can retrieve your electronic I-94 card at the following website [www.cbp.gov/i94](http://www.cbp.gov/i94) and make a copy for the International Students Office). For Students who have been on an F-1 visa before April 30th 2013 and have not traveled abroad give us a copy of the front and the back (white card stapled inside your passport).
- All previous SEVIS I-20s and non-SEVIS I-20s from other academic institutions/colleges, if applicable.
- In case of an emergency and you are unable to visit the office, please complete the J-1/F-1 Check-in form: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/student-services/is/online-forms/j-1-exchange-visitor-check-in-form>

○ To expedite the mailing of your SEVIS I-20, we strongly recommend that you open an account with **eshipglobal**: <https://study.eshipglobal.com/slogin.asp> FedEx: <http://www.fedex.com/> or DHL: <http://www.dhl.com/splash.html> or another courier. Once you have the account number, contact us with the information so that we can arrange the delivery of your documents. Our e-mail address is [intlss@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:intlss@hunter.cuny.edu)

## Application for the Certificate of Eligibility (SEVIS I-20) for Graduate students

International students who are admitted into a graduate degree program at the City University of New York (CUNY) will need to obtain a Certificate of Eligibility (SEVIS I-20), in order to enter and/or remain in the U.S. in F-1 student status. **You must send us a copy of your acceptance letter to Hunter College, International Student Office, before your request for the SEVIS I-20 can be processed.** The following students ARE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A SEVIS I-20: new students, students who are transferring from another U.S. university or school; transferring from one degree level to another and transferring between the CUNY colleges. Students on Optional Practical Training \*(OPT) must inform their International Student Advisor on the details of their Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ | Gender:  Female  Male Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Family name, first name, middle name as it written in your passport) (Month/Day/Year)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ | Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ | Country of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month/Day/Year)

Present Mailing Address (for mailing I-20): \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street Name City, State Postal Code Country

Permanent Overseas address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required by U.S. Government Regulations) Number and Street Name City, State Postal Code Country

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ | Hunter E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ | E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address in U.S.A (if known): \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street Name City State Zip Code

Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Semester of Enrollment: Fall 20\_\_\_\_ Spring 20\_\_\_\_ Summer 20\_\_\_\_ Winter 20\_\_\_\_

Are you currently studying in a U.S. institution or College?  Yes  No Do you currently have an F-1 visa/status?  Yes  No

### PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Country issued: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ City or country issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number in red in your visa page)

I-94 #: (if available) \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  F-1  B1/B2  Other \_\_\_\_\_ (please specify)  
(Month/Day/Year)

### TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANTS ALREADY IN THE U.S.

**REMINDER:** Please attach a copy of the passport page(s) containing your biographical information, passport number, the expiration date of passport and the F-1 visa stamp or F-1 status 8 1/2 x 11 sheet. Also, include copies of both sides of your form I-94 and accompanying family members and all previously issued SEVIS I-20s, as explained on page 2 of the information packet.

F-1 student status/visa  Yes  No I-94 Admission # \_\_\_\_\_ (attach copies of all previously issued SEVIS I-20)

U.S. school that issued the most recent SEVIS I-20: \_\_\_\_\_ SEVIS # N \_\_\_\_\_

Name of current U.S. school: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of current U.S. school: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street Name City State Zip Code

#### \*OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING

Are you currently on Optional Practical Training?  Yes  No

If yes, please state the following for your Employment Authorization Card based on OPT: Card valid from: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ and expires: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

Division of Student Affairs  
International Students Office • 212.772.4864

### Application for the Certificate of Eligibility – Affidavit of Support

This form is for individuals using their own income and/or savings to support a student. It must be completed by the person who will provide the student with full or partial financial support and/or room and board during the student's course of study at The City University of New York. **Sponsors providing financial support must complete items 1-6; sponsors providing room and/or board must complete Items 1 and 7. Should you have multiple sponsors, please make additional copies of this page. Note: Each sponsor MUST fill out an Affidavit of Support.**

**SPONSOR INFORMATION**

1) I, \_\_\_\_\_ citizen of \_\_\_\_\_ and  
(Name of sponsor) (Country)

residing at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street Name) (City/State) (Country) (Postal code) (Telephone)

certify the following:

2) I am employed with \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of employer)

Located at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street Name) (City/State) (Country) (Postal code) (Telephone)

I receive an annual income of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (U.S. currency) from my employer and I am attaching a current salary confirmation statement written by my employer (either in English or with a certified translation), or verification of my annual income for self-employed or retired individuals.

3) I have \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (in U.S. currency) on deposit with

Name of Bank: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attach bank officer's statement of account history.**

4a) I currently support \_\_\_\_\_ persons (including myself). Our total annual income is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (U.S. currency).

Our total family expenses per month are \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (in U.S. currency).

4b) I sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ individuals for immigration in addition to the student in this affidavit.

**STUDENT SUPPORT INFORMATION**

5) This affidavit is executed on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ who was born on \_\_\_\_\_. He/she is my \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Name of Student) (Month/ Day/ Year) (Relationship to Sponsor)

6) I hereby certify that I am willing and able to provide \_\_\_\_\_ with the annual amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (U.S. currency) for his/her educational and/or living expenses each year during the entire program of study at The City University of New York, Hunter College until \_\_\_\_\_ (give a year).

**Hunter College can not issue a SEVIS I-20 until the student meets all requirements for financial documentation.**

By signing my name to this form, I certify that the information above is a correct statement of my arrangements for financing the student's studies at a four year college of The City University of New York.

**SIGNATURE & NOTARIZATION** This Affidavit must be signed and notarized (only for students that are going to apply for an F-1 Visa).

Signature of sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ Print name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month/ Day/ Year)

## Application for the Certificate of Eligibility – AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT Room and Board

### ONLY FOR STUDENTS CURRENTLY LIVING IN THE US

The Room and Board option is only for students who are already in a SEVIS approved school in the U.S. and are transferring to Hunter College. However, if the student is going to apply for an F-1 visa, F-1 student status (change of status) or reinstatement, he/she need to show the full amount of funds for the first year of study in addition to projected support (page 4), as consular officers or immigration officials may deny the request due to lack of funds. Attach a copy of lease or the title deed.

7. By signing my name to this affidavit below, I hereby certify that I will provide \_\_\_\_\_  
with: (check one below) (Name of Student)

### ROOM AND BOARD SUPPORT INFORMATION-FOR 12 MONTHS (To be completed if student will live in the sponsor's home in the U.S. for free).

Room only in my home at the address indicated below (valued at **\$ 16,164**) during each year that he/she follows a program of study at Hunter College. **[\$ 42,815.90 - \$ 16,164 = \$26,651.90]**

or:

Full room and board in my home as indicated below (valued at **\$ 20,770**) during each year that he/she follows a program of study at Hunter College. **\$ 42,815.90 - \$ 20,770 = \$22,045.90]**

Note that this value cannot be included in any amount of support being provided in # 6 on page 5 above. **Attach a copy of your lease or deed or copy of a statement from your landlord.**

Sponsor's address in the United States:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Name and Number) (City/State) (Postal Code) (Telephone)

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's name \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Financial Documentation Guidelines

A student must show sufficient funds to cover his/her educational and living expenses. The student's financial documentation should include proof of (A) guaranteed support and/or (B) projected support (see required documentation listed below).

Failure to provide evidence of sufficient funds may result in the denial of the SEVIS I-20 application and visa request. It is recommended that all supporting financial documents should be notarized.

### Estimate of One Year Expenses for International Students Attending the City University of New York, Hunter College

**Tuition (\$15,390) and Fees (\$181.90) per Academic Year (12 months) is \$15,571.90\***

#### Student Living Expenses

Books and Supplies	\$ 1,819.00
Transportation	\$ 1,472.00
Personal Expenses	\$ 3,183.00
Housing	\$16,164.00
Meals (at home)	\$ 2,963.00
Lunch	\$ 1,643.00
<b>Total Student Living Expenses</b>	<b>\$27,244.00</b>

**Total First Year Expenses** **\$42,815.90**

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\* Tuition expenses stated are based on students taking at least 9 credits per semester at the rate of \$855.00 per credit. If you take more than 9 credits, you will be charged an additional \$830.00 per credit.

Please Note: If you have been admitted to the Masters in Social Work, or to a Doctoral Program, you will be charged a slightly increased tuition rate per credit. Please see the tuition and fees table if this situation applies to you at <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/onestop/repository/files/finances/fall-2019-tuition-table-w-fees.pdf> 9 credits is the minimum required to maintain lawful immigration status.

#### A. Guaranteed Support

Written statement from a bank or financial institution that details the following information about the saving and/or checking account(s):

1. Bank letter/Bank statement:
  - a. Total amount deposited for the past 3 months
  - b. current balance

#### B. Projected Support

If the amount of your guaranteed support does not cover your educational and living expenses beyond the first year of graduate studies, then you must show proof of projected support from your sponsor(s) to cover remaining years. Projected support can come from part I or II below:

- I. Statement of your employer on business stationery showing:
  - Type of employment, dates of employment and description of position and
  - Current salary
  - Current U.S. tax return/W-2 form, if applicable.
  
- II. If self-employed:
  - Copy of the most recent income tax return filed in the U.S. or home country.
  - Statements of assets with supporting documents (Stocks and Bonds, Rents, etc).

**For student's and sponsor's use only (Do Not Submit)**

## Application for the Certificate of Eligibility – Your FINANCIAL DOCUMENTATION FORM

**Master's Degree:** U.S. immigration authorities require colleges to receive satisfactory financial certifications from prospective students before issuing a SEVIS I-20. The CUNY College that has admitted you requires documentation of guaranteed support for the first year and projected support for the following two years of study. Please refer to the "Sponsor Supporting Financial Documentation Guidelines" page for a list of acceptable supporting documents. You must attach original documents for each source of financial support you indicate. Be sure to request and retain a second set of original documents for your appointment at the U.S. Consulate/Embassy.

**Please indicate the source and amount of your financial support for each of the three years of study. Total amounts must meet or exceed the estimate of expenses (see "Sponsor Supporting Evidence" page). Note: Actual costs may rise 7-10% annually.**

**This form must be completed, signed by all appropriate parties and returned with your application.**

**You must provide the following documents in English:**

- 1) Bank officer's summary statement of account history (saving and/or checking accounts for guaranteed support).

### SOURCES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT (Amount in U.S. Currency)

#### A. Guaranteed and Projected Support

<b>Student's Full Name:</b> (as written in your passport) _____  <b>Name of Bank:</b> _____		Guaranteed Support 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Guaranteed Support 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Guaranteed Support 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	<b>TOTAL</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	

#### B. Individual Sponsor(s)

<b>Full Name of Sponsor #1:</b> _____ <b>Relationship to Student:</b> _____ <b>Name of Bank:</b> _____		Guaranteed Support 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Projected Support 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Projected Support 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	<b>TOTAL</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	

<b>Full Name of Sponsor #2:</b> _____ <b>Relationship to Student:</b> _____ <b>Name of Bank:</b> _____		Guaranteed Support 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Projected Support 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Projected Support 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	<b>TOTAL</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	

#### C. Government, University or Other Sponsor

<b>Source:</b> _____ <i>(Attach current signed, official copy of the terms of sponsorship, including amount of support in U.S. currency and period covered.)</i>		Guaranteed Support 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Projected Support 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Projected Support 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	<b>TOTAL</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	

#### D. Amount of Support: Grand Totals

<b>Add columns in Sections A, B and C from above, to calculate the Grand Total of Support for each column.</b> <i>Example: Add up all the guaranteed support 1<sup>st</sup> Year columns from A, B, C and write the amount under the guaranteed support 1<sup>st</sup> Year column in Section D. Then add up all of these columns for the Grand Total.</i>		Guaranteed Support 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Projected Support 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Projected Support 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	



## Transfer Recommendation Form Guidelines F-1 SEVIS I-20 Transfer Fact Sheet

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) requires that all F-1 students follow certain procedures when transferring schools within the United States. This also applies to students who have graduated from previous schools. Students must complete a school transfer procedure before or within 15 days of starting classes at their new school in order to maintain their F-1 status. **Please note: OPT students remember when you transfer your SEVIS I-20 to your new school, your OPT will be automatically terminated.**

To be eligible for a transfer, a student must have maintained status at the previous school, be officially accepted as a full-time matriculated student at Hunter College and pursue a full course of study.

### TO COMPLETE THE SCHOOL TRANSFER PROCEDURE:

- " Complete the information in the student section of the transfer form and sign your name in the space provided.
- " Mail or bring the Transfer Recommendation Form to the International Student Advisor of your current or previous and ask that he/she complete the school section and return it to the Hunter College International Students Office as soon as possible.
- " Mail or bring your Certificate of Eligibility (SEVIS I-20) application form and supporting documents to the Hunter College International Students Office to request your new I-20 form.
- " Give the Hunter College International Students Office staff **copies** of the following original documents:
  1. All your previous I-20s,
  2. I-94 electronic (you can retrieve your electronic I-94 card at the following website [www.cbp.gov/i94](http://www.cbp.gov/i94)). For students who have been on an F-1 visa before April 30th 2013 and have not traveled abroad give us a copy of the front and the back (white card stapled inside your passport).
  3. Passport page containing your biographical information
  4. F-1 visa stamp page or F-1 status 8 ½ x 11 sheet approval notice
- " Sign your new Hunter College SEVIS I-20 form to complete the school transfer.

### TO COMPLETE THE SCHOOL TRANSFER PROCEDURE WHILE ON OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT):

- " Visit the Hunter College International Students Office website and review carefully the transfer guidelines for students engaging in OPT <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/student-services/is/opt-cpt-information>
- " Contact the International Students Office to learn when you should request to transfer your SEVIS record to Hunter College.
- " Follow the steps as listed above in the school transfer procedure.

The International Students Office is here to assist you with a wide range of F-1 and J-1 services. Please call (212) 772-4864 or email us at [intlss@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:intlss@hunter.cuny.edu) if you have any questions about your school transfer or any other immigration related matter.

**NEVER DESTROY ANY OF YOUR PREVIOUS I-20(s).** Keep all I-20s stapled together in a safe place.

## TRANSFER RECOMMENDATION FORM for International Students in F-1 Status

### TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT:

Name: _____ <small>Family name, first name (as written in passport)</small>	Birth Date: ____ / ____ /19____ <small>Month/Day/Year</small>	Temporary ID/EMPL ID/CUNYFIRST ID#:
Country of Birth:	Country of Citizenship:	Last date of attendance of classes: ____ / ____ /20____
I intend to transfer to Hunter College for the <input type="checkbox"/> Spring 20 or <input type="checkbox"/> Fall 20 semester. I hereby grant permission for the information requested below to be made available to the International Student Office staff at Hunter College.		
YOUR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____		
<b>If you are traveling abroad, consult your current International Student Advisor regarding the appropriate transfer procedure.</b>		

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISOR AT YOUR PREVIOUS INSTITUTION:

The above-named student has been accepted to the City University of New York, Hunter College. We are requesting the following information below so that we may determine the student's eligibility for transfer. Any information you do not provide may hinder the student from receiving a SEVIS I-20 from our institution. Fax Transfer form to: **(212) 650-3147** and mail the original to us.

1. Is this student eligible to continue at your institution?  Yes  No
2. Was/is this student authorized by USCIS to attend your school?  Yes  No
3. Is the student In-status with USCIS?  Yes  No
4. Did the student attend last semester as a full-time student?  Yes  No
5. Is the student eligible for notification transfer procedure?  Yes  No
6. The last semester at your school is/was in \_\_\_\_\_  
(semester and year or date)
7. Your school SEVIS release-for-transfer date for this student: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_
8. Student's SEVIS# **N** \_\_\_\_\_ Student's SSN or temporary ID# \_\_\_\_\_
9. Has the student engaged in OPT?  Yes  No. If yes, please provide the following: Pre-Completion # of months \_\_\_\_ Post-Completion # of months \_\_\_\_ used.
10. Has the student engaged in CPT?  Yes  No. If yes, please provide the following: Curricular Practical Training # of months \_\_\_\_ used,  part-time or  full time.
11. We would appreciate any comment(s) you think may be helpful to us \_\_\_\_\_

Current level of study:  Secondary  Associate  Bachelor  Master  Language Training  other \_\_\_\_\_ (specify)

Estimated completion date of study on the SEVIS I-20 from your school \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Normal length of study: \_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution stamp: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To find Hunter College in SEVIS, to release the student's record, type: \*The City University\* and click search. Hunter College school code is **NYC214F00812008**.