VISA INFORMATION FOR SUMMER STUDENTS AT THE NEW SCHOOL

International Student Services Highly recommends that students attending summer programs at The New School apply for an I-20 and F-1 visa in order to appropriately receive F-1 student status on entry to the US. (Canadian and Bermudian students must apply for an I-20 and have a valid passport though no visa is required).

SUMMER PROGRAMS ELIGIBLE FOR F-1 STUDENT STATUS

PARSONS SUMMER INTENSIVE STUDIES
PARSONS SUMMER STUDIES IN CONSTRUCTED ENVIRONMENTS
PARSONS DUAL CITY SUMMER PROGRAM
ESL + DESIGN
PARSONS BOOTCAMP
SUMMER WRITERS COLONY
MATESOL SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAM

F-1 STUDENT STATUS :

Many international students who register for summer courses come to New York for the main purpose of studying, spend most of their time in class, and earn college credit for the courses. F-1 status is the most appropriate non-immigrant status for entry to the US as an international student taking a course of study.

B-1, B-2, AND VISA WAIVER TOURIST STATUS :

B-1, B-2, and Visa Waiver tourist status have strict restrictions on study*. *Only study which is recreational, non-vocational, and incidental to the trip is permitted on a visitor visa* and violating these restrictions can lead to problems with US visas in the future. Non-immigrants are legally and personally responsible for complying with the laws that govern their stay in the United States.

**A non-immigrant B-1 or B-2 visitor is prohibited by U.S. law from pursuing a "course of study" before changing status to F-1 Student. [8 CFR 248.1 (c) (3 and 214.2(f) (15) (iii)] A "course of study" is considered to be a focused program of classes, such as a full-time course load leading to or contributing to a degree or certification. Casual, short-term classes that are not the primary (main) purpose of the visitor's presence in the United States, such as a single English language class, would not constitute a "course of study". [INS Field Memorandum, April 12, 2002]*

Only study which is recreational, non-vocational, and incidental to the trip is permitted on a visitor visa. The determining factor is the traveler's primary purpose in coming to the United States. Furthermore, any kind of study that would earn credit or certification is not permitted on a visitor visa. As an example, if a student is taking a vacation to the U.S. and during this vacation would like to take a two-day cooking class for enjoyment, and there is no credit earned, then this would be permitted on a visitor visa. A consular officer will determine the visa category the student will need based on the purpose of travel and supporting documentation. [Adapted from Department of State FAQs http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1267.html#important]

RESOURCES AND LINKS :

Please visit the link on your acceptance letter for more information on applying for an I-20.

To learn more about applying for an F-1 visa visit:
http://www.newschool.edu/studentservices/international/ns_obtain_visa.aspx

To learn more about international students at The New School visit the ISS website at:
http://www.newschool.edu/studentservices/international and click on Guide for International Students.

International Student Services

79 Fifth Ave, 5th Floor New York, NY 10003 Phone (212) 229-5592Fax (212) 229-8992
150 West 85th Street, Lobby New York, NY 10024 Phone (212) 580-0210Fax (212) 580-1738
ISS@NewSchool.edu