

**International Student Services
Champlain College
163 South Willard Street**

P.O. Box 670

Burlington, VT 05402-0670

Phone: +1-802-865-6485

E-mail: international@champlain.edu

Congratulations on your admission to Champlain College! International Student Services is your office! Our goal is to help you with any question, concern, or challenge you may have. We can answer questions about visas and immigration, the College in general, academics, adjusting to a new culture, and anything else you want to know!

Please find enclosed with this letter your **Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status – For Academic and Language Students.**

Canadian citizens are not required to apply for an entry visa at a U.S. Consulate; however, Canadians are subject to all the other immigration regulations relating to F-1 international students who are studying in the United States (i.e. employment in the U.S., full-time course load, and other provisions for maintaining status).

It is **especially** important for Canadian students to be vigilant about entering the United States **in proper F-1 student status**, as immigration inspectors are accustomed to admitting Canadian citizens as visitors. **To enter the U.S. in F-1 student status, Canadians must present the items listed below to the Customs and Border Protection immigration inspector at the port of entry:**

1. Original Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status from Champlain College.
2. Pay the U.S. SEVIS I-901 fee and print out the receipt at this link: <https://www.fmjfee.com/>. You will need to present this receipt at the border **This fee is required for ALL international students who want to study in the United States.**
3. Valid passport (valid at least 6 months beyond intended stay)
4. Original letter of acceptance from Champlain College
5. Original Champlain College Financial Aid Award Letter
6. Original financial documents (originals of the scans you showed for the Initial I-20)
7. Official test scores (TOEFL, IELTS, etc)
8. Official transcripts and diplomas
9. Proof of ties to your home country

After the border official reviews your documents, you will be either given an I-94 Admission/Departure card to complete or just stamp in your passport. Be sure to look at your I-94 card/stamp before you leave the inspection area to ensure that it has the notations "F-1 D/S" written on it. If your I-94 card/stamp does not have "F-1" "D/S", you are considered to be in Visitor (B-2) status, a status which does not permit study in the U.S.

IMPORTANT NOTE: DO NOT plan to enter the United States earlier than 30 days before your program start date indicated on your Form I-20.