BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Applying for the F-1 Visa From Abroad



International Student Center, Room SC-110
Pitkin Education Center
Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Road, Paramus NJ 07652, USA

International Student Center, 400 Paramus Rd, Paramus, NJ 07652-1595
Phone: +1 (201) 689-7601 / www.bergen.edu/isc

# Applying for the F-1 Visa from Abroad

## Thank you for your interest in attending Bergen Community College!

The following information packet is for applicants who will apply to Bergen Community College (BCC) for the F-1 visa from abroad. Applicants who are currently living outside the United States (US) may apply for an F-1 student visa from their home country. Please submit the following documents to the International Student Center and allow up to 3 weeks for processing. More information is available at www.bergen.edu/isc. If you need assistance, please e-mail us at intadmissions@bergen.edu.

**Check List for applicants applying from abroad:**

- ☐ BCC application for admissions, available at www.bergen.edu. Click the *apply online* option. All F-1 students MUST apply for a degree or certificate program.
- ☐ Proof of graduation from high school or college (translated into English, if necessary)
- ☐ Photocopy of passport identification page
- ☐ Bergen Community College Financial Agreement of Support
- ☐ Bank Statement or letter showing at least $22,000 USD (from a personal checking or savings account)
- ☐ Biographical Information Form

You may submit your documents as pdf files to intadmissions@bergen.edu or you may return the paperwork to:

International Student Center, Room SC-110
Pitkin Education Center
Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Rd.
Paramus, NJ 07652
U.S.A.

**What you need to know:**

- Applicants may not apply directly to The School of Health Professions Program. International applicants must first apply to a general program, for example, the Associate of Science, Natural Science and Math, General (AS.NSM.GEN) and then apply for a change of major after one semester of study or after fulfilling all prerequisites.

- Standardized tests (the SAT, TOEFL or IELTS) are not required for admission. However, if you have taken the SAT, you may be exempt from taking certain sections of the placement testing depending on your SAT scores and SAT completion date. For the placement test waiver eligibility requirements information, visit https://bergen.edu/testing/placement-test-waiver-information/.

- If a student is not exempt from the language based placement test, he or she will take the Accuplacer ESL test at BCC. This is not an entrance examination; it is used for placement only. If it is necessary for a student to take English as a Second Language courses through the American Language Program (ALP), the test score will determine the appropriate ALP course level. Each level is one semester long.

- Students may be exempt from providing proof of high school graduation if they have completed 30 or more college level credits at a regionally accredited US college/university. Students will have to provide an official transcript from each school attended to the International Student Center.

- International students at BCC are required to show sponsorship of at least $22,000 at the time of application. The $22,000 figure reflects tuition and fees for one academic year of study and estimated living costs. Tuition and fees for an international student are estimated at $10,000 per year, or approximately $5,000 per semester.

- An applicant that wishes to bring a spouse to the US (on an F-2 visa); an additional $12,000 must be reflected in the financial statements and indicated on the Agreement of Support Form. If the applicant wishes to bring a dependent child, an additional $6,000 must be reflected on the affidavit and bank statements.

- Remember, BCC does **NOT** provide housing and therefore students must obtain housing on their own.

- International students are **NOT** eligible for the in-county tuition rate, and are therefore charged out-of-county tuition rates. Financial aid is not available to international students.

- Admitted international students are strongly advised to purchase adequate health insurance coverage.

- Upon being admitted, students will receive a medical history form, which will require a physical examination by a doctor and proof of immunization records in English. This examination can be performed either in the student's home country or in the US upon arrival. Students will have to show proof of immunization against Measles, Mumps and Rubella in English. It is extremely important that students submit necessary health records. The form can be found at: www.bergen.edu/isc/forms.

International Student Center, 400 Paramus Rd, Paramus, NJ 07652-1595
Phone: +1 (201) 689-7601 / www.bergen.edu/isc

# Agreement of Support

International applicants must show financial sponsorship of at least **$22,000 USD*.** This form may be duplicated for multiple sponsors. Students who wish to show personal funds to satisfy the $22,000 requirement do not need to complete the Agreement of Support, but must show a bank statement in their own name for the entire amount. All bank statements are required to be within the last six months.

BCC Student ID: _____

Name of Sponsor: _____ Sponsor's relationship to student: _____

Complete Address of Sponsor: _____

_____

I hereby certify that I promise to provide _____
(Name of International Student)

funds in the amount of US $ _____ for each year of study at Bergen Community College.

I hereby affirm that the contents of the statements of this form are true and correct.

| _____ | _____ | _____ |
|---|---|---|
| (Sponsor's Name Printed) | (Sponsor's Signature) | (Date) |

If the international student is bringing dependents with him/her to the USA and those dependents will be supported by the sponsor indicated on this form, an additional $12,000 for a spouse and an additional $6,000 per child must be evident.

**Sponsor MUST attach a bank statement or bank letter showing the amount indicated above. The $22,000 is an estimate for tuition and living expenses for one academic year. ($10,000 for tuition/fees and $12,000 for room/board) These figures are subject to change.*

International Student Center, 400 Paramus Rd, Paramus, NJ 07652-1595
Phone: +1 (201) 689-7601 / www.bergen.edu/isc

# Biographical Information

This form will be used to create your Form I-20. Complete the following information below and write clearly. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

Process I-20 as (check one box): ☐ Initial ☐ Transfer ☐ Change of Status

*Initial* – Applicant residing outside the U.S. who will apply for an F-1 student visa in their home country.

*Transfer* – Applicant is already in F-1 status transferring from one U.S. institution to BCC.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

BCC Student ID: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Country of Birth: _____ Country of Citizenship: _____

E-mail: _____ Telephone: _____

All students must provide their foreign permanent address and current U.S. address if applicable. By checking one of the two boxes below, I request that my admission packet and Form I-20 be sent to the following address (please write clearly and do NOT provide PO Box addresses):

☐ Foreign Permanent Address: _____

_____

☐ U.S. Current Address (if applicable): _____

_____

Check all of the following that are applicable:

- ☐ I have a degree from the United States. (Enclose a copy of your degree)
- ☐ I have a degree from a country other than the United States. (Enclose a NACES approved evaluation report of your degree. Approved listing of foreign evaluators accepted by BCC can be found at the following website: http://www.naces.org/members.htm.
- ☐ I have taken the TOEFL exam. (Enclose a copy of your TOEFL Score Report)
- ☐ I have taken the SAT exam. (Enclose a copy of your SAT Score Report)
- ☐ I have taken the IELTS exam. (Enclose a copy of your IELTS Score Report)
- ☐ None of the above applies to me.

Only provide the following information below if you require an I-20 for your spouse or child. If you do not wish to bring a dependent with you to the USA, do not provide this information.

- Copy of valid passport
- Copy of the marriage and/or birth certificate translated into English

Make sure that you provide additional financial supporting documentation for each dependent (additional $12,000 for spouse and $6,000 per child).