

**Checking Your DS-2019:**

1. Check your date of birth, name, and other personal information for accuracy.
2. Sign at the bottom where it says your name and date.
3. Make a copy of this for your records to leave at home with a family member along with a copy of your passport.

**Paying Your SEVIS Fee:**

1. You must have your DS-2019 before you can pay the SEVIS fee.
2. The easiest way to pay the SEVIS fee is online with a credit card.
3. Be sure to enter your personal information exactly as it appears on your DS-2019.
4. The Valencia College Program Number is P-1-13704. Your SEVIS ID number is printed at the top right of the DS-2019 above the bar code. It starts with the letter "N"
5. When paying the fee online, be sure to have your printer ready before you start the payment process. Do not exit the receipt page until you have successfully printed the receipt, because you will need it to present at the U. S. Consulate to prove that you paid the SEVIS fee. You will not be able to return to the receipt page after you exit it.
6. Print out your receipt for your embassy appointment.
7. Make an appointment with your local U.S. embassy (find your embassy: <http://www.usembassy.gov/>).
8. Prepare for your interview with the information below.

**What to Take with You to the Consulate:**

1. Passport (valid for at least 6 months beyond your program end date)
2. Form DS-2019
3. Acceptance letter from Valencia
4. Letter from Valencia describing the J Exchange Visitor program and Valencia's partnership with your school
5. Your current bank statement showing sufficient funds to cover all expenses in the United States
6. Proof of payment receipt of the required SEVIS fee
7. Form DS-160, Nonimmigrant Visa Application
8. Other forms, photo, and visa application fee as required by the U. S. Consulate (check with your specific consulate for full information)
9. Documents that demonstrate your ties to your home country, such as your plan of study to obtain a degree at your university, evidence of your family's property or business ownership, or anything else to show that you have strong reasons to return home after you complete your program. Exchange Visitors are expected to return to their home country to utilize the knowledge and skills they acquired while in the U. S., so consular officials will be looking for clear evidence that you will do that.
10. You may wish to carry a copy of your birth certificate. This depends on your country of residence since some countries are much more strict when it comes to proving who you are.

**Preparing for Your Interview:** *Make sure you speak through the following questions before your interview in English.*

1. Listen carefully to the questions that the consular official asks you.
2. You must answer all questions asked.
3. Prepare reasons why you want to study in the United States and how this will benefit you when you return.
4. Show that you know about the college that you have applied to.
5. Do not say that you want to go to the U.S. because your friends or family are there.
6. You will be refused a visa if the official thinks you intend to stay in the United States. If denied, you can reapply, but you must provide additional evidence of your ties to your home country.
7. When you are at the appointment, it is important that you emphasize that the purpose of this program is to enroll in a course of study at Valencia College that relates to your major at home.
8. **INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE PROGRAM:** If they ask about Disney, explain that you will be working there as part of the course of study at Valencia. The primary purpose of your visit is to study—NOT to work at Disney. Explain that you will use the knowledge from this experience to further your studies and career when you return to your home country.