

VISITOR VISA (B-2) FOR FAMILY

Per guidance from U.S. Department of State officials, the ISSS Office does not provide letters of invitation for student and scholars' family members to bring with them to visa appointments. These letters are not required by the U.S. Consular Offices for family members to obtain visitor visas. Family members who would like to visit you in the U.S. for a short period of time should follow the procedures outlined by the U.S. embassy or consulate in their home country. A list of U.S. embassy and consulate websites can be found at: <http://www.usembassy.gov/>

You may also provide your relatives with additional information to assist them in their visa interview. The U.S. Department of State describes the B-2 visitor visa application process available at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/visit/visitor.html> If your guest is not fluent in English, you may translate the information or recommend that they contact the nearest U.S. consulate to request a translated version before applying for the visa.

Documents that may be helpful to provide to your visitor include:

- An invitation letter written by you, the student or scholar—sample template on next page (write a separate letter for each visitor)
- Evidence of your status in the U.S.: copies of your I-20/DS-2019, passport, visa, and I-94, plus unofficial transcript printed from RamWeb or copy of your course schedule
- Proof of relationship to your guests such as a birth certificate (letters should only invite primary family members: parents, grandparents, siblings)
- A Colorado State University enrollment verification certificate, which you can order through [RAMweb](#)
- Commencement ceremony information: <http://commencement.colostate.edu>

For the actual tourist visa application, **your family member will need to show that they have the funds to support themselves during their stay in the U.S. They will also need to explain their ties to their home country.** Since the tourist visa is a non-immigrant visa, they will need to be prepared to demonstrate their intentions to return home after their short stay in the U.S. Some of the documents that may be used by applicants to support their intent to return home after their visit may include:

- Proof of a job / employment (such as an employer's letter describing the employee's position, company permission for the trip, and the expected return date to employment)
- Property or land ownership, or substantial investments in their home country
- Personal / familial obligations
- Records of other trips abroad and return
- Itinerary for their visit to the United States

Disclaimer: The materials in this handout have been prepared for general informational purposes only. They do not constitute legal advice or serve as a substitute for legal counsel. They have been adapted from similar resources provided by Johns Hopkins University and University of Southern California.

Sample Invitation Letter

[Your name]

[Local address in the U.S.]

[Phone number]

[Date]

U.S. [Consulate or Embassy]

[City, Country of location of U.S. Consulate or Embassy]

To Whom It May Concern,

I am currently a [graduate/undergraduate] [student/scholar] at Colorado State University in F-1/J-1 status. I started my studies/appointment at Colorado State University on [start date on I-20/DS-2019] and my expected completion date is [end date on I-20/DS-2019].

I am writing in support of my [relationship to you]'s application for a visitor visa to [state purpose of the trip] for the period from [date] to [date].

Visitor information

Name:

Relationship to student:

Date of birth:

Country of citizenship:

Passport number:

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your signature]

[Your name]