

Before you enter the United States

- Visit the online orientation link. Thoroughly read all of the materials provided, including the health insurance information. Put your insurance card in your wallet!
- Use the link provided in the online orientation to schedule your visa interview appointment.
- DO NOT pack your DS-2019, and SEVIS receipt in your checked luggage. Keep it accessible for entering through Customs.
- You can enter the U.S. up to 30 days in advance of the start date printed on the DS-2019. Contact Cultural Vistas immediately if you will be late in arriving.

Once you enter the United States

- Notify Cultural Vistas of your arrival within 5 days by emailing the date you arrived, your new address, and your phone number by following the instructions in STEP 2. (You need to update each time you move.)
- Wait 48 hours after contacting Cultural Vistas and a minimum of 10 business days after your arrival in the U.S. before applying for your Social Security card at your local office. Please see STEP 3 for more information.
- Print your I-94 electronic admission record. Your admission number and electronic I-94 can be accessed online at <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/consent.html>. You will likely need to present this document to your host company.

Evaluations

Evaluations are required to be completed and submitted to Cultural Vistas in order to maintain your valid visa and program status. Cultural Vistas will email you and your supervisor links to the appropriate evaluations during your program.

- Mid-term Evaluation – If your program is 6 months or longer, this evaluation is to be completed half-way into your program. You and your supervisor each need to complete an evaluation.
- Final Evaluation – This evaluation is to be completed at the end of your program. You and your supervisor each need to complete an evaluation.

After your program

- You can remain in the U.S. up to 30 days after the end date printed on your DS-2019 form for travel only.
 - Consider your tax obligations. You may be required to file a tax return regarding income received while in the U.S. Please see STEP 3 for more information.
 - Leave your forwarding address with your employer in case they need to send you tax documents.
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