VISA APPLICATION CHECKLIST FOR F-1 STUDENTS

- Pay SEVIS I-901 Fee at least a **WEEK** before your visa interview at the US Embassy or Consulate. Read the following links for more information on SEVIS I-901 Fee:
  - [https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/](https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/)
  - [https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/students/student/help.htm](https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/students/student/help.htm)

- Make your appointment with the US embassy or consulate **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**:
  - [http://evisaforms.state.gov/SchedulingSystem.asp](http://evisaforms.state.gov/SchedulingSystem.asp)

- Before applying for a visa, select the website of the US consulate/embassy near you at [http://www.usembassy.gov/](http://www.usembassy.gov/)

- **Fill out the Form DS-160** (Nonimmigrant Visa Application)
  - [https://ceac.state.gov/GENNIV/default.aspx](https://ceac.state.gov/GENNIV/default.aspx)

  *** PRINT YOUR CONFIRMATION AS A RECEIPT TO TAKE TO THE INTERVIEW***

- Make sure you sign your **SEVIS I-20 Form** or Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status and **if you are under 18 a parent or guardian has to sign as well**.

- Valid passport (Machine Readable Passport is required at U.S. Borders as of June 26, 2005.)

- Acceptance/ letter of admission from Elon University Admissions Office

- Evidence of financial ability to meet expenses (e.g., bank statement)

- Evidence of English proficiency (e.g., TOEFL score) if applicable

- Be prepared to discuss, if you are asked, your strong ties to your home country (e.g., marriage certificate, housing/mortgage agreement, job assignment after F-1 period, a letter/contract letter from current employer, all with English translation) and your intention to depart the U.S. after completion of your degree

- One (1) photograph (see the format explained in nonimmigrant photograph requirements [http://travel.state.gov/visa/visaphotoreq/digitalimagereq/digitalimagereq_5327.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/visaphotoreq/digitalimagereq/digitalimagereq_5327.html))

- Machine Readable Visa (MRV) surcharge fee (check the fee with the U.S. Embassy/Consulate in your area)

- Visa reciprocity fee (if applicable) [http://travel.state.gov/visa/fees/fees_3272.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/fees/fees_3272.html)