



A GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

The following information is intended to help you, as an international applicant, decide about studying at Catholic Theological Union (CTU). CTU welcomes the international student into our diverse community. We look forward to the rich experiences that you bring and contribute to the entire student body, faculty, and staff. This document covers many items, including cost, Student Visa information, and application deadlines. Due to the length of the Student Visa application process, international students must apply by the dates given below, in order to be considered for admission for the specific term. The amount of time needed to secure a visa can vary depending upon the applicant's home country. Since communication is also an important part of the admissions process, we ask that the international applicant contact the Admissions Office through email (<mailto:apply@ctu.edu>). While the information here is subject to change, we hope it answers some of your questions and provides you with some idea of what might be involved if you want to study in the United States at CTU. For the most current information on student visas visit <http://www.travel.state.gov>.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Students wishing to enroll at CTU must apply by the following dates in order to be considered for admission for the indicated term. Because of COVID and delays in certain countries, the visas may come later than desired. Students may need to begin their course work online until it would be possible to travel to the U.S. You are encouraged to apply after these deadlines.

Term applying for	Potential date application must be submitted by
Fall 2021	May 1, 2021
Spring 2022	October 1, 2021
Fall 2022	May 1, 2022

STUDENT VISA

The procedure for obtaining a valid Student Visa (F-1 visa) begins after a student has been admitted and may be a lengthy process. International students wanting to study at CTU must have a valid **F-1 NonImmigrant Student Visa**. The student must apply for the Student Visa at his/her U.S. embassy or consulate in their country. In order to apply for the Student Visa, the student must receive a valid **I-20 form** from CTU. In order for CTU to give the student an I-20 form, one must be admitted to CTU as a student and must submit to CTU:

- **Original Official Affidavit of Financial Support (I-134)**
- **Copy of his or her passport ID picture page**

- **Copy of visa page, if holding a current visa**
- **Official copy of a current bank statement showing funds available, and**
- **\$2,000 monetary deposit towards his/her enrollment.**
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OFFICIAL AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT

Before the United States Federal Government allows CTU to issue the international student an I-20 form, CTU must receive an Official Affidavit of Support, form I-134, from the international student. CTU is unable to assist students in locating financial sponsors. This form can be found at the following website: <http://www.uscis.gov>. This form must clearly show that the sponsor of the international student is committing to support the student for the cost of studying here in the United States (see the below estimates for tuition). This commitment means that the sponsor must know about and be ready to support the international student with the tuition, housing, and personal expenses (\$34,000 to \$40,000) per year. **The I-134** form has a list of instructions on how to fill out the application and how to validate and verify the form. The international applicant should send the Official Affidavit of Support, I-134, which has been verified and notarized to the Registrar's Office after admission to CTU. The Registrar's Office can only accept an original copy of this form; faxed or photocopied forms will not be permitted. The international student should also have an original copy of this form so that it can be used when going to the visa interview at the embassy/consulate.

The student also needs to submit a **\$2,000 (USD) enrollment deposit** to CTU. This monetary deposit is to secure enrollment for the student. After the monetary deposit has been received, along with financial documentation, the I-20 form with a SEVIS I-901 Fee Remittance Form will be mailed by the Registrar's Office. The deposit can be made as a traveler's check, bank transfer, bank check, certified check or money order. If you wish to do a bank transfer, please contact Maria Lemus at <mailto:registrar@ctu.edu>. If the applicant does not enroll, the deposit will be returned to the person that submitted the enrollment deposit. If the student does enroll, the deposit is applied to tuition, fees, and housing expenses.

The SEVIS I-901 fee is **\$200** that the international student needs to pay to the government before going to the visa interview at the United States embassy or consulate. The SEVIS I-901 fee is mandated by the U.S.A. Congress to support the program office and the automated system that keeps track of students and exchange visitors and ensures that they maintain their status while in the United States. Each student or exchange visitor issued an initial Form I-20 on or after September 1, 2004 is responsible for paying this fee to SEVIS. ***Please DO NOT send this fee to CTU. This fee must be paid directly to SEVIS and can be paid via regular postal service, Internet, or Western Union.*** To learn more about this fee or to pay the fee online, you can visit the following website: <https://www.fmjfee.com>.

If you would like more information about obtaining a Student Visa to study in the U.S., please visit the following website: <http://educationusa.state.gov/> or <http://www.uscis.gov>.

If you have another type of visa and are not sure if you are able to use it for your study in the U.S., please check with the U.S. Department of State at the following website: <http://travel.state.gov/> or <http://www.uscis.gov>. The U.S. Department of State website will have all the necessary information regarding U.S. visa policies and procedures.

HEALTH INSURANCE

International students are required to have health/medical insurance that is acceptable in the United

States in case of unexpected health problems. Some international health insurances are not valid in the United States. Please check with your insurance company about the validity of your insurance policy in the United States. If you need health insurance, Student Services can provide you with a list of health insurance available for students. Generally, the cost of health insurance per year is \$2,500 to \$6,500.

HOUSING & OTHER PERSONAL EXPENSES for IRF PARTICIPANTS

CTU does not have on campus housing but we are able to connect students will possible opportunities as they become available. An **estimate** of these and other annual personal expenses would include:
Costs can increase in subsequent years.

Cost of the Institute of Religious Formation	\$12,600	
Books and supplies for class ~	\$1,000	
Student Health Insurance	\$6,500	**These are estimates.
Housing cost (9 Months) approximately	\$12,000	Actual expenses may be
Meals (Students are responsible for food preparation/shopping)	\$4500	higher. Costs are expected to increase in subsequent years.

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