

The background of the image is a waving American flag, showing the stars and stripes in a dynamic, wavy pattern. The stars are white on a blue field, and the stripes are red and white.

Student Visas

U.S. Embassy *Vilnius*



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Does it matter what school?

- The school does not matter, but the student must have a realistic plan for their education and return to their home country.
- The student should be able to articulate the reasons for choosing a program or particular school.



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Qualifying for a Student Visa (F-1/M-1)?

- Acceptance at school
- Proof of sufficient funds
- Preparation for the course of study
- Present intent to leave the USA at conclusion of studies

If one or more criteria are not met, the applicant will be refused a visa under section 214(b) of the INA.



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How to Apply for a Student Visa?

www.ustraveldocs.com/lt/

- DS-160 application form
- Visa fee (160\$) payment in "Swedbank"
 - Registration for the interview



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Before the interview

Prepare your documents for the interview:

Passport

DS-160 confirmation form

Appointment confirmation

Bank receipt

Form I-20

SEVIS fee payment

Color photo, 5x5 cm (no eyeglasses)

Documents proving your ties to Lithuania



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Proof of Ties

- Lithuanian documents that are helpful:
 - ✓ Documents demonstrating strong financial, social, and family ties to your home country that will compel you to return to your country after your program of study in the United States ends.
 - ✓ School attendance records (tuition payment, transcripts, etc.).
 - ✓ Bank statements.
 - ✓ Letters of employment showing your position title, salary, and amount of time on the job, if applicable.



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Proof of Ties

- Lithuanian Documents That Are Not Helpful:
 - ✘ Credit cards and card statements
 - ✘ Documents from countries outside Lithuania
 - ✘ Letters of support from third parties unless indicated on I-20
 - ✘ Airline tickets and hotel reservations
 - ✘ Family photos

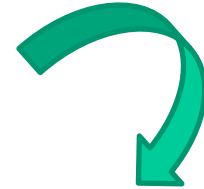
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On the Day of the Interview





After the Interview – Visa Denied (1)

- If you are refused – the most common refusals are under:
 - Section 221(g) of the INA – further documents or processing are required:

You		We
Send in the docs	→	Review and issue
	→	Review and don't issue
Don't send the docs	→	Wait for 1 year and then refuse



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After the Interview – Visa Denied (2)

Section 214(b) of the INA – you have not overcome the presumption of being an intending immigrant and are therefore, not eligible for a visa at this time.

! Section 221(g) and 214(b) are refusals and you will not be able to travel under the Visa Waiver Program.



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On-Campus Employment

- ◆ Must be approved by the designated school official; work in an enterprise operated by or on behalf of the school (cafeteria, bookstore, etc.).
- ◆ The work should directly provide services for students.
- ◆ May not exceed 20 hours a week while school is in session, but may be full time while school is not in session.
- ◆ The student must be successfully maintaining student status.



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Off-campus Employment

- ◆ An F-1 students may be eligible to apply after completing an academic year in F-1 status.
- ◆ Apply to USCIS for employment authorization which may be granted for up to 1 year.
- ◆ Not more than 20 hours a week when school is in season.
- ◆ The student must be successfully maintaining student status.

Spouses and children of F-1/M-1 students may not accept employment.



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OPT (Optional Practical Training)

When? After completion of a full academic year in an approved college-level institution or upon completion of a degree.

Why? It's intended to provide a student with practical experience in F-1 student's major area of study, etc.

For how long? Usually it must be completed within 12 months.



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For more information, please visit:

- U.S. Visa Information Center:

www.ustraveldocs.com/lt/

- U.S. Embassy Vilnius:

vilnius.usembassy.gov

- U.S. Department of State:

travel.state.gov



Shall we
interview you?

