

# Prepare For Your Visa Interview

## Here are Some Tips



1. **Demonstrate ties to your home country:** Because an F-1 student visa is a non-immigrant visa, you must be able to show that you have reasons to return to your home country after you finish your education. Do you have family in your home country? A job to come home to? A family business or property you will go back to care for? Be sure to share this with the consular officer!
2. **If possible, conduct the interview in English:** Showing your English ability can help consular officers see that you are qualified to study in the US. Try to speak English as much as you can before the interview. To help reduce anxiety, practice the visa interview with family or friends.
3. **Speak for yourself:** Your family can go with you to the consulate for support, but you need to go up to the interview window alone. This is your chance to share your own reasons for wanting to study in the US!
4. **Remember your plan:** If you plan on getting a Bachelor's degree, explain why you want to do the first two years at Shoreline. For example: the classes at Shoreline are smaller which allows more time with each student, the cost savings on tuition compared to a four year university, and a very high transfer rate. If you already have conditional guaranteed admission for the school where you will complete your bachelor's degree, this would be a good time to share that information.
5. **Be brief, polite, and sincere:** Most students only have 2 to 5 minutes for their interview. Practicing in advance can help you remember to share all of the important information. It helps to be prepared!
6. **It matters how you dress:** US Consulate staff tend to dress very formally, so it is advisable for you to also wear professional attire to the interview.