



Online Change of Status
Form 1-539 Filing Guidebook

Important: Please Read Before Beginning

The purpose of this guidebook is to assist students in filing the Form I-539 for Change of Status via an online account with U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The information contained on our website is provided as a service to the international students, faculty, staff, employees, and administrators of Wichita State University, and does not constitute legal advice on any immigration, tax, or other matter. Our goal is to provide useful information, but we make no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in or linked to this website or any associated site. As legal advice must be tailored to the specific circumstances of each case, and laws are constantly changing, nothing provided herein should be used as a substitute for the advice of competent counsel. Neither Wichita State University nor the Office of International Education (OIE) is responsible for any errors or omissions contained in this website, or for the results obtained from the use of this information.

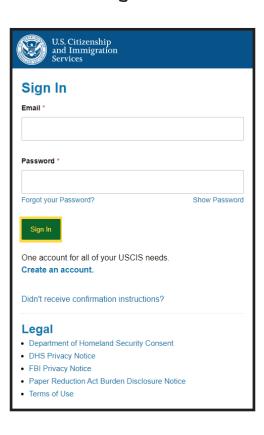


Accessing the USCIS Website

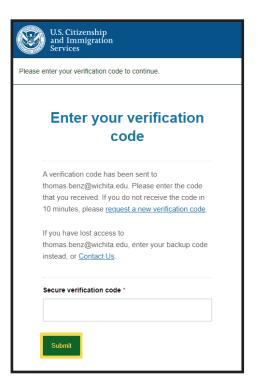
Online Form I-539: Application to Extend / Change Nonimmigrant Status | USCIS Creating Your USCIS Account: How to Create a USCIS Online Account | USCIS

The rest of this document assumes you have followed the above steps to create a USCIS account.

1. Go to uscis.gov and click Sign In.



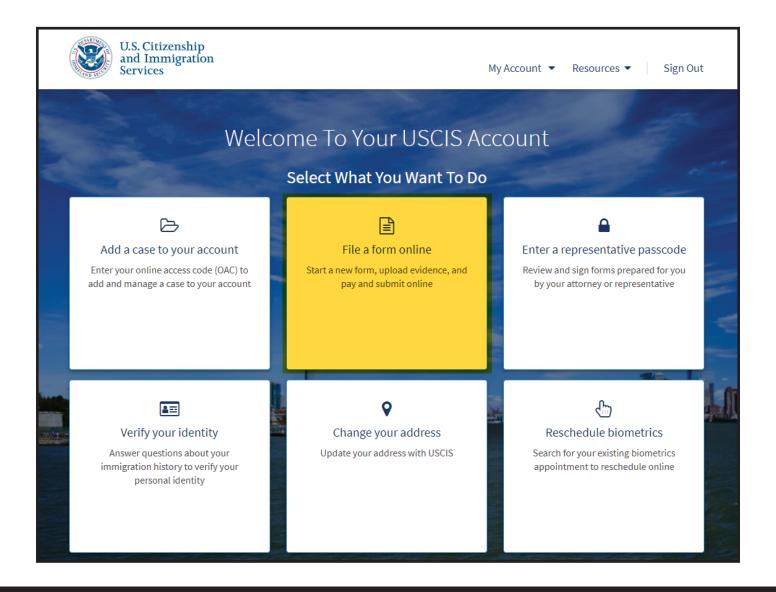
2. Enter your verification code (sent to the method you chose when creating your account) to authenticate your login.





Starting Your Application

3. Select the *File a form online* option highlighted below.

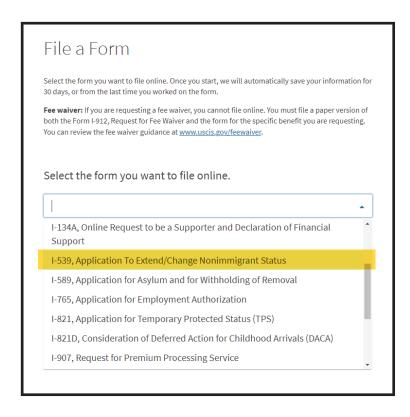




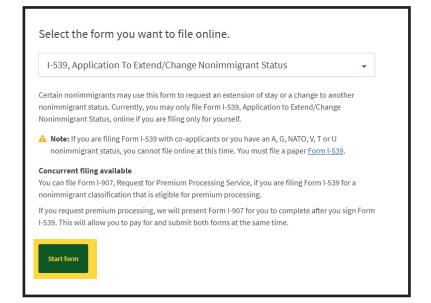
Selecting the Correct Form

4. Select the highlighted option below:

I-539, Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status



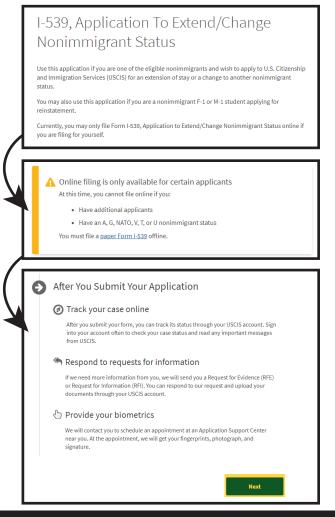
5. Click *Start form* to continue.





Getting Started

6. This page contains a large amount of useful information about the I-539 application. Please read the section that specifies which types of applicants are not eligible to file this form online. After reviewing this page, click *Next* to continue.



7. Further details about the I-539 application. Review These details before moving to the next step.

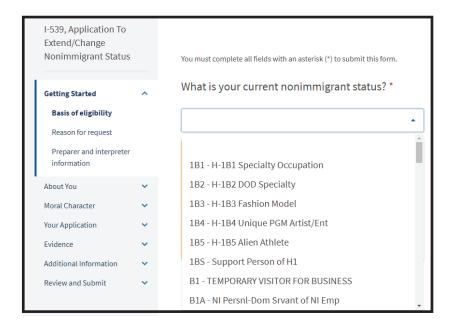
Click the *Start* button to begin filling out your form.

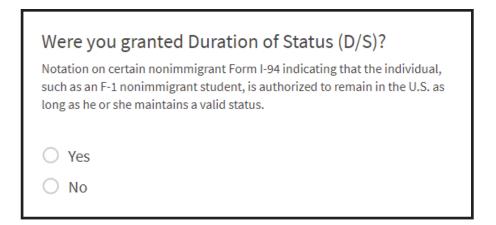




Basis of Eligibility

8. Choose your current visa category from the drop-down menu.



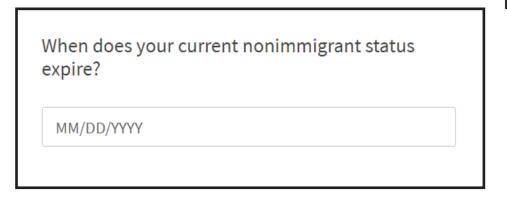


9. This information can be obtained from your I-94 Arrival Record. You can download your most recent I-94 from i94.cbp.dhs.gov

If your last entry into the U. S. was prior to April 2013, you were likely issued a paper I-94. If you access your I-94 online, save it as a PDF as you will be required to upload it to your application.



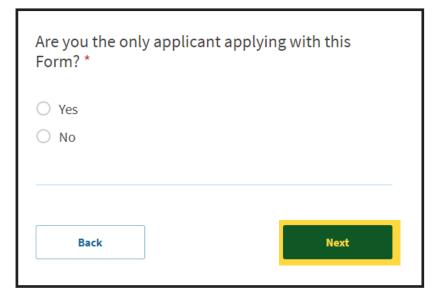
Basis of Eligibility cont.



10. This information can be obtained from your I-94. F-2 and F-1 non-immigrants are granted "duration of status" when they enter the U.S. and do not have a set date their status expires. We recommend entering the I-20 program end date or EAD expiration date here if you are in F-1 or F-2 status.

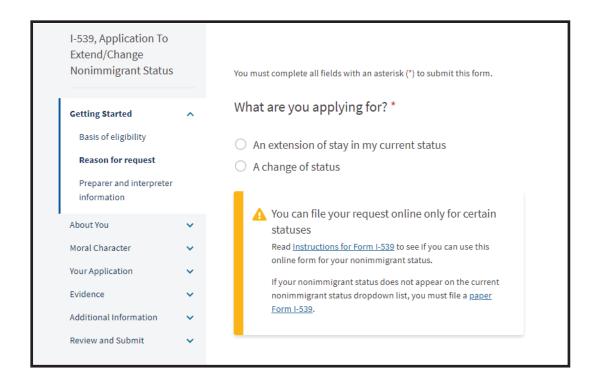
11. Only individual applicants may apply online. If you answer *No*, you will be directed to apply via a paper application.

If you are the only applicant, answer Yes and click Next.

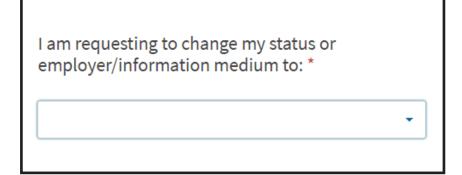




Reason for Request



12. Choose *A change of status* in this section.



13. Select the status you are requesting to change to.



Reason for Request cont.

14. Changing to F-1: Enter the program start listed on the I-20.

Changing to F-2: Enter your desired date.

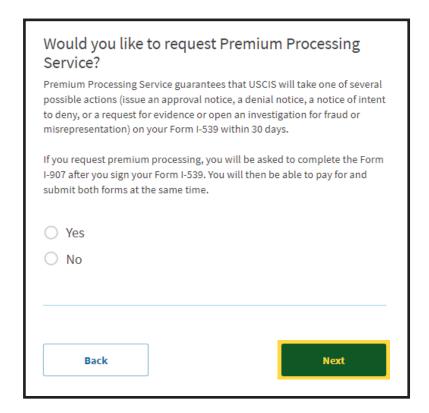
When do you want the requested change to become effective? *

MM/DD/YYYY

15. Enter the F-1 I-20 program end date or EAD expiration date here. Regardless of the date entered, if F-1 or F-2 status is approved, Duration of Status, or "D/S" will be assigned as the end date.

What date are you requesting your current or requested status be extended until?

MM/DD/YYYY



16. If the visa category you are changing to is eligible for a premium application, you will be asked if you would like to apply for premium processing. Please note that there is an additional fee of \$1965 if you select Yes. After making your choice, click *Next* to move to the next page.

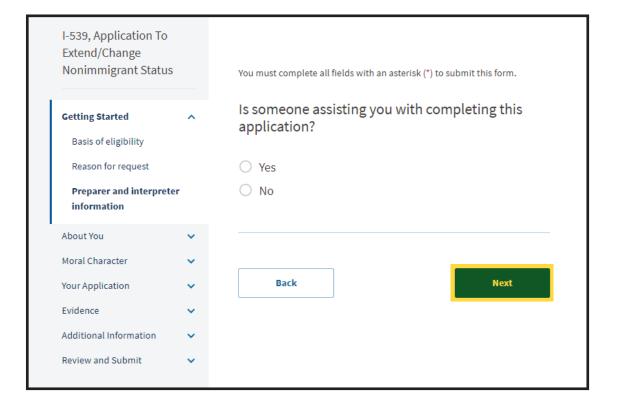
Be aware that if you choose to continue with premium processing, you will be required to fill out an additional form (I-907).



Preparer and Interpreter Information

17. Typically, the answer to this question is *No*. If an attorney is assisting you, answer *Yes* and complete the additional fields.

Once you have made a selection, click *Next* to conintue.

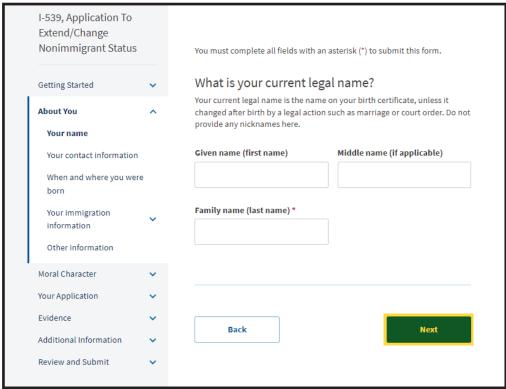




Your Name

18. Enter your name as it appears on your passport in these fields. These fields have character limits. Enter as much of your name as possible. Utilize the middle name field if your given name exeeds the character limit.

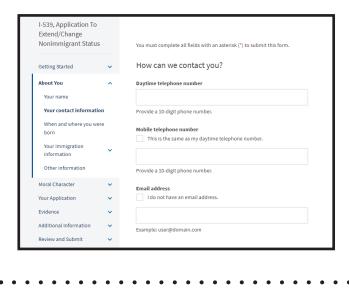
Once you have entered your details, click *Next* to conintue.

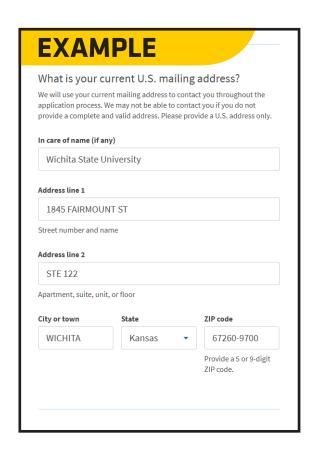




Your Contact Information

19. Enter you details in this section.





20. You may choose to enter the Office of International Education's (OIE) mailing address here, as shown in the example image. When received, USCIS mail will be opened by OIE staff and scanned into your file. If you are changing from F-1 to F-2 and you do not have an enrollment history at WSU, the mail will be scanned into the F-1's WSU file. We'll contact you via email when we receive USCIS mail. If you choose to use your own mailing address, please keep OIE updated on the progress of your application. Important updates need to be made in SEVIS and in the university database that can affect your status and ability to enroll. USCIS does not independently alert the school when decisions are made.



Your Contact Information cont.

21. Answer *Yes* if you used your own address in the previous step. If you used another address, answer *No* and you will be prompted to enter your own address.

Is your current mailing address the same as your physical address?
○ Yes
○ No

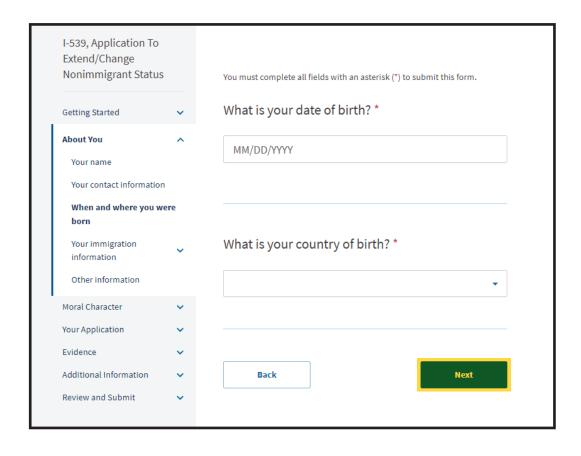
22. Enter your details here.

Once you filled out all fields, click *Next* to continue.

Country		
		•
Address line 1		
Street number and	name	
Address line 2		
Apartment, suite, u	nit, or floor	
City or town	Province	Postal code



When and Where You Were Born



23. Enter your details in these fields.

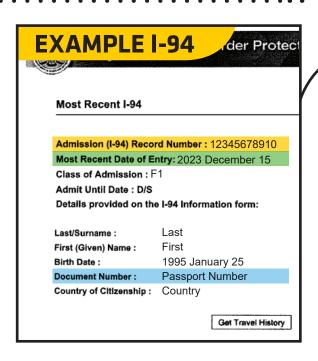
After completing both fields, click *Next* to continue.



Your Immigration Information

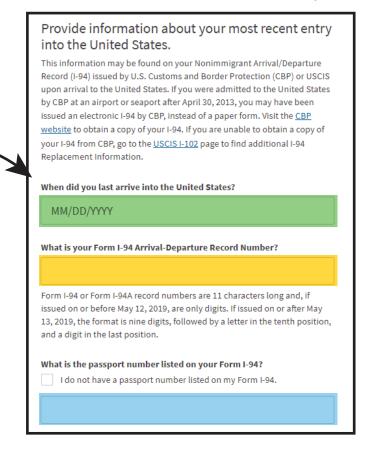
24. Choose your country of citizenship or nationality.





25. You will need to access your I-94 arrival information to answer these questions. Use the link to the CBP website to access your I-94.

Use the Example I-94 to fill these fields with the correct information from your I-94.

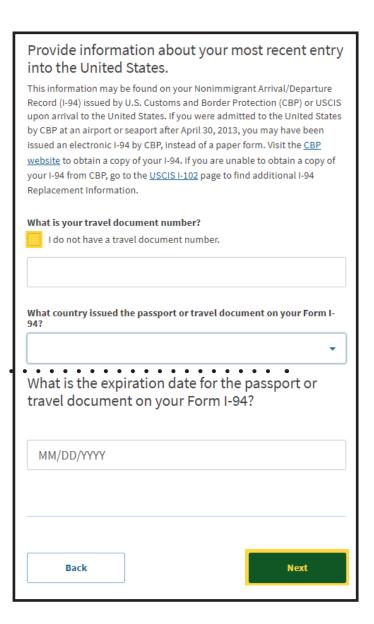




Your Immigration Information *cont.*

26. Most individuals enter the U. S. using a passport, not an alternative travel document. If you do not have a travel document, check the highlighted box.

27. Enter the expiration date for the passport used for your last entry into the U.S., which is reflected on your I-94.

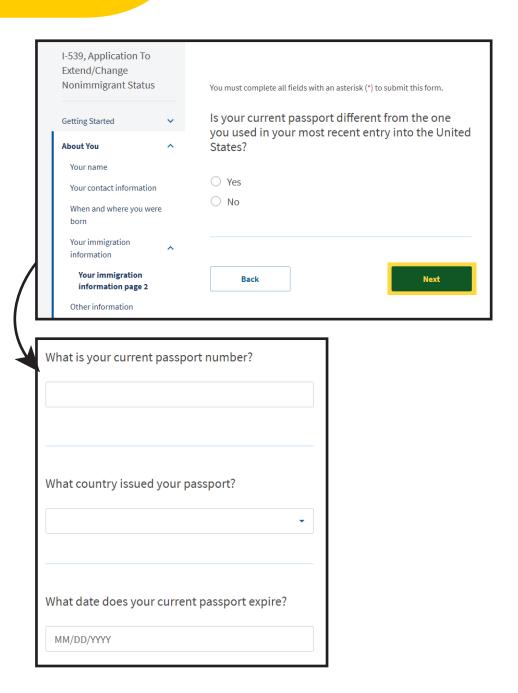




Your Immigration Information cont.

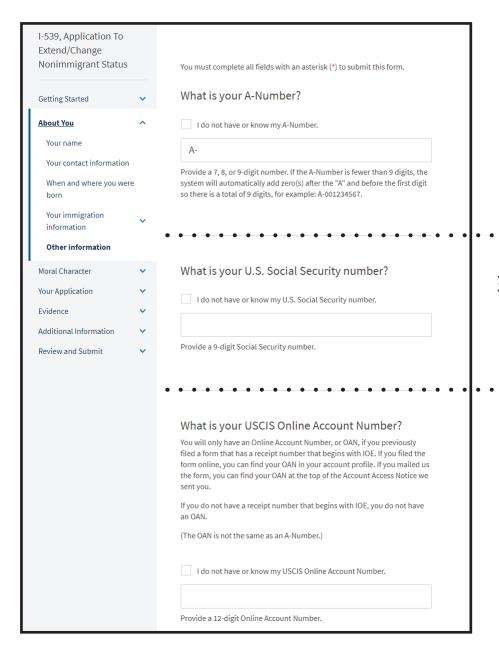
28. Answer Yes if you have been issued a new passport since your last entry into the U.S. You will then be prompted to answer questions about the passport number, country of issuance and expiration date of your new passport. Remember, if you renew your passport while in the U.S., you will still enter your country of citizenship to answer the question "What country issued your passport?" Do not select "United States." After completing each field, click *Next* to continue.

If you answer *No*, you will then click *Next* to continue.





Other Information



29. Most applicants will not have an A-Number, unless they have been issued an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) in the past. If you have been issued an EAD, enter the "USCIS#" from that EAD as the A-Number.

30. Enter your U.S. Social Security Number or mark the box if you do not have a number / know your number.

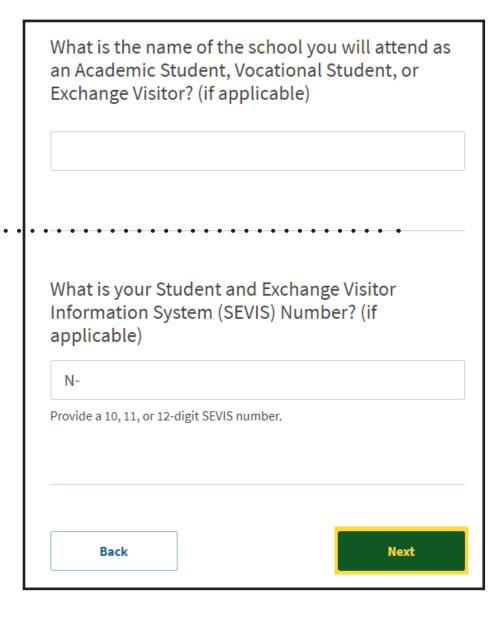
31. Enter your USCIS Online Account Number or mark the box if you do not have a number / know your number.



Other Information cont.

32. Complete this field if you will be attending a school.

33. The SEVIS number can be found in the upper right corner of the Form I-20. For F-2 changing to F-1, enter the SEVIS ID for your F-1 I-20.





Moral Character & Your Application

34. The *Moral Character* and *Your Application* sections are a series of "yes" or "no" questions for which you may be asked to provide additional information.



35. On the final screen of yes/no questions, you will be asked "Have you EVER been employed in the United States since last admitted or granted an extension or change of status?"

There is a 500-character limit for your response. If you do not have enough space to complete your answer, you can add more information under "Additional Information" which comes later in the application.



If you have been employed in the U.S. since your last admission, select "yes." You will then be asked to "Describe any and all periods of employment. Include the name and address of the employer, weekly income, and whether the employment was specifically authorized by USCIS."



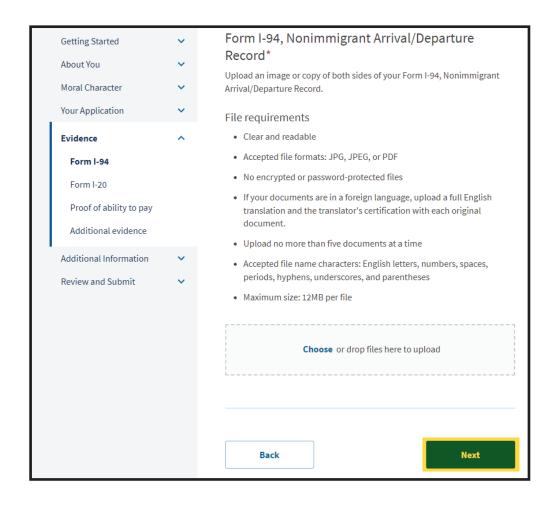
If you have not been employed in the U.S. since your last admission, select "no." You will then be asked to "Describe how you are supporting yourself. Include any documentary evidence of the source, amount, and basis for any income." Here you will describe how you are supporting your stay in the U.S. (personal funds, family funds, scholarships, etc.).

Click Next to continue into the Evidence section.



Form I-94

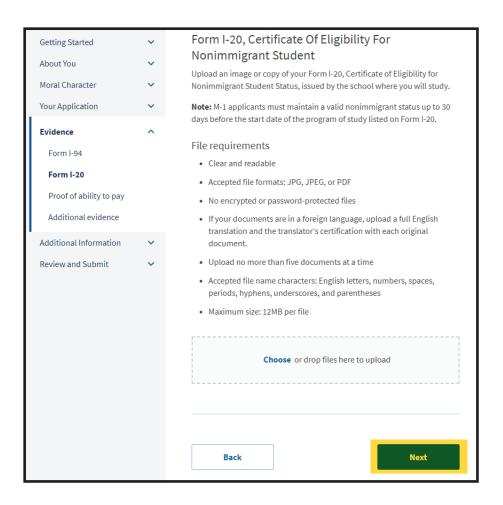
36. Upload a copy of your I-94 Arrival Record. Please note, this is **not** the Travel History page associated with your I-94.





Form I-20

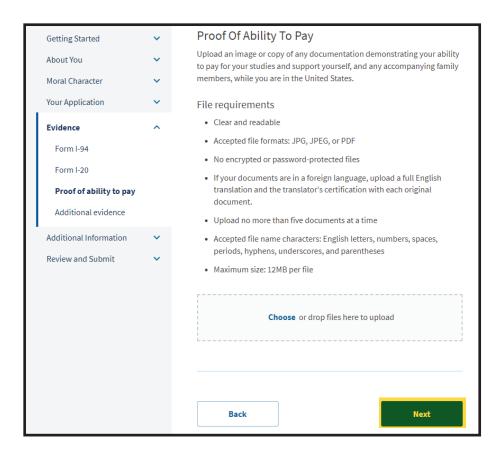
37. Upload the I-20 for change of status. Later in the application you will be asked to upload additional evidence. In that section we recommend uploading evidence of your current status which may include your current F-1 or F-2 I-20.





Proof of Ability to Pay

38. Upload financial documentation that helps demonstrate your ability to support yourself while in the U.S.

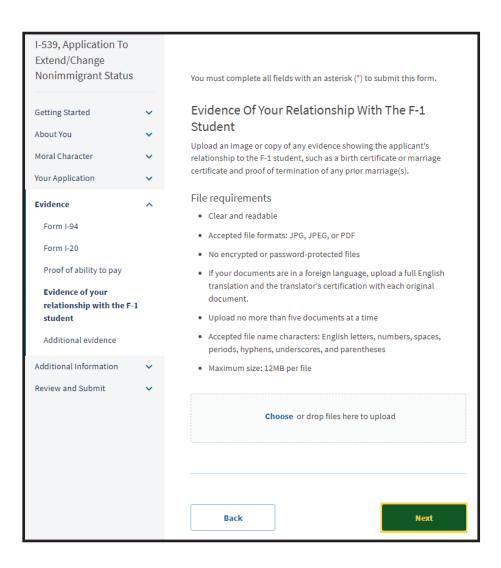




Evidence Of Your Relationship With The F-1 Student

Only For Change of Status to F-2

39. Upload any evidence you would like to provide, including documents listed in the instructions.

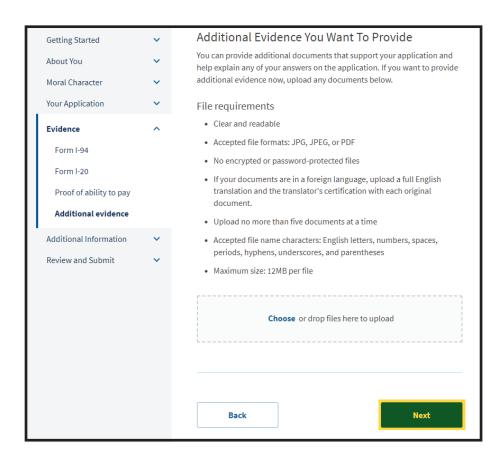




Additional Evidence

40. We recommend uploading the following documents:

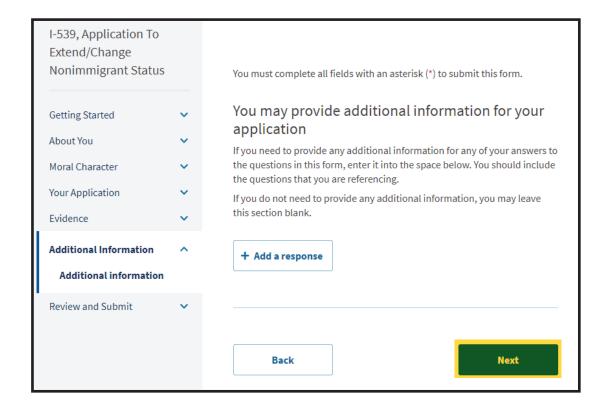
- Evidence of your current status. If you are F-2 changing to F-1, this will include providing evidence the F-1 primary status holder is in valid status.
- Applicant statement explaining your reasoning for requesting a change of status. At your discretion, you may choose to provide details on your ties to your home country or foreign country of residence.
- Any other documents you believe are pertinent to establishing you are eligible for a change of status.





Additional Information

41. This section gives you the opportunity to provide additional information or context to your answers to specific questions. Choose the section and question your information relates to, and then record your additional details. Note there is a 200 character limit for each response.





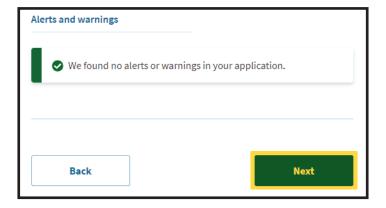
Review Your Application

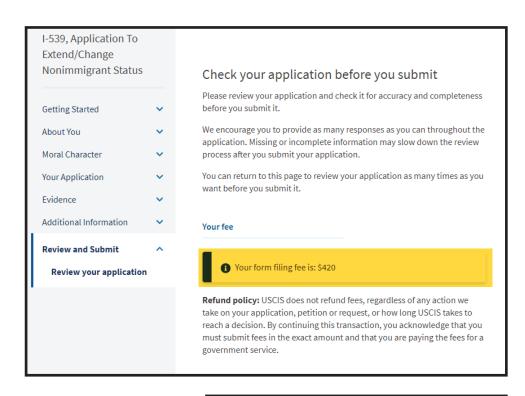
42. Check your application and fix all errors that are mentioned. You can click *Edit my responses* to quickly move to pages with errors.

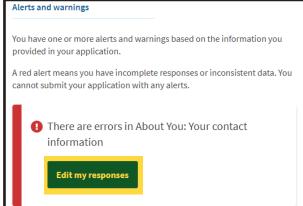
Once you have fixed all errors, the green checked box will display.

Make sure the correct filing fee of \$420 is displayed.

Once there are no alerts remaining, click *Next* to continue.









Your Application Summary

43. This page includes a summary of your entire application. You are able to review this page to confirm all your answers are accurate. If you would like an advisor from the OIE to review your I-539 for completion, click on *View draft snapshot* to download your I-539. Send this file to iss@wichita.edu and an advisor will check if any information is missing.

Click *Next* to continue.

Review the I-539 form information

Here is a summary of all the information you provided in your application.

Make sure you have provided responses for everything that applies to you before you submit your application. You can edit your responses by going to each application section using the site navigation.

We also prepared a draft case snapshot with your responses, which you can download below.

View draft snapshot

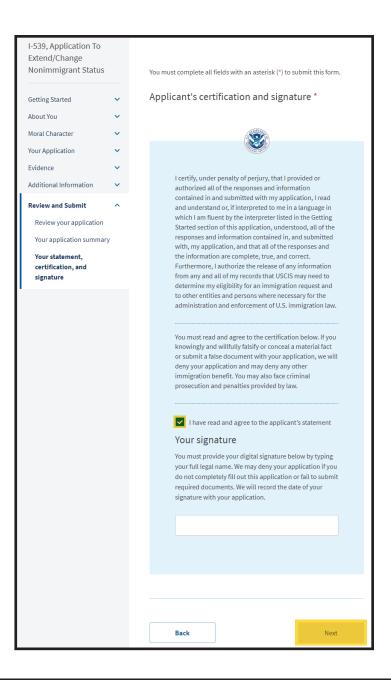


Print



Your Statement, Certification, and Signature

44. Check the box to accept the statement and type your full legal name into the field that appears.

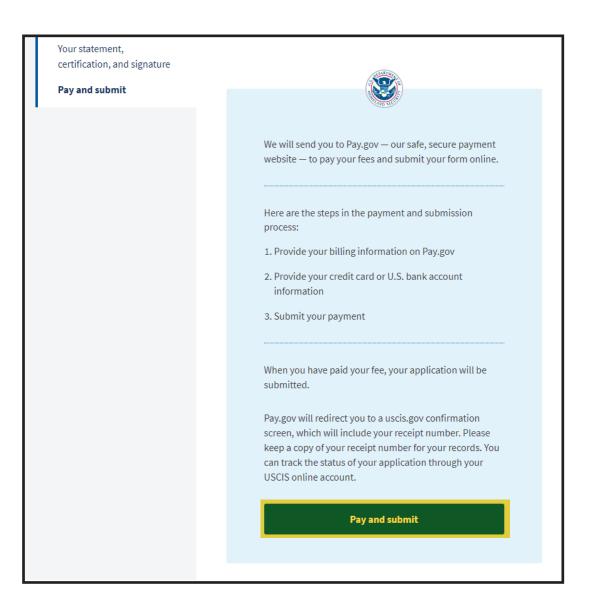




Pay and Submit

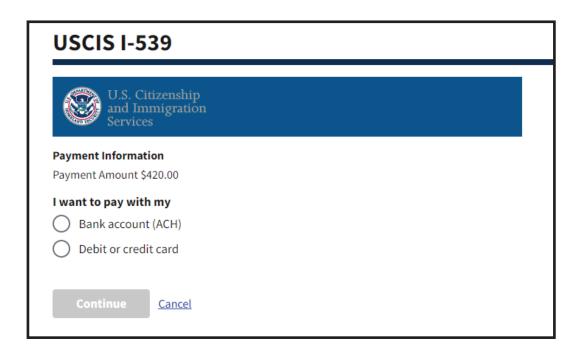
45. You will be able to pay by ACH withdrawal from your savings/checking account or by credit/debit card.

Click *Pay and submit* to continue with the payment.



Pay and Submit cont.

46. Choose your payment method and enter your payment details.



47. Once you have completed your payment with pay.gov, you should see a confirmation message regarding your payment, and you should receive an email from pay.gov confirming your payment has been received.

It is recommended to securely store the emailed confirmation notice for your records.



Change of Status Application Completed

48. You have submitted your Change of Status application! You may track the progress of your application by viewing *Your Cases* in your USCIS account and clicking on *Case Status*, *Case History*, or *Documents* for application history/receipt.

If you have any questions that were not answered by this guidebook, please send an email to iss@wichita.edu. You may also contact the Office of International Education (OIE) during walk-in advising hours, which are usually Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1pm - 4pm, by coming in person to our office or calling 316-978-3232.

