

# I-20 Form Details

To issue an I-20 form, Seattle Colleges will enter all of a student's relevant information in SEVIS. SEVIS is an online database created by the Department of Homeland Security and managed by the Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) to track students and exchange visitors while they are in the United States. As a SEVIS-approved institution, Seattle Colleges will regularly update SEVIS with a student's enrollment information after the student is admitted to Seattle Colleges.

NOTE: Per SEVP policy, I-20 forms can only be sent or given to the student, their dependents, or, if the student is a minor, to their parents or legal guardian.

Helpful information on the different sections of the I-20 form can be found below.

## Issue Reason

The I-20 form will list an issue reason, which could be one of the following:

- Initial Attendance (students who are not already in the United States)
- Initial Attendance, Change of Status Requested (for students in the United States applying to change to F-1 status from another non-immigrant visa status)
- Transfer Pending (students transferring to Seattle Colleges from another U.S. institution)

## Level of Study

The level of study on the I-20 form will vary depending on the student's intended program, their eligibility for the program, and on information submitted to Admissions regarding the student's English level.

Applicant's Program	Level of Study
Institute of English (no intent to study in a college-level program)	Language Training
Any college-level program - English level sufficient for placement in the Intensive English Program	Language Training***
Any college-level program - English level sufficient for guaranteed placement in College Bridge	Other: Pathway Program***
College-level degree* program - English level sufficient for guaranteed placement in college-level classes	Associate
College-level certificate programs**- English level sufficient for guaranteed placement in college-level classes	Other: Post-Secondary Certificate
Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) programs****	Bachelor's
College-level, non-degree / prerequisite study - English level sufficient for guaranteed placement in college-level classes	Other: Post-Secondary Non-Degree

\* University Transfer, High School Completion Plus, Career Training (degrees)

\*\* Career Training (certificate) or IP Short-Term Certificate

\*\*\* Remarks will indicate the student's college-level program objective.

\*\*\*\* Bachelor level I-20 forms are only issued to students who have met the program requirements. See the section "Major for Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) Programs" below.

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## Length of Study & Start and End Dates

The length of study on the I-20 form will vary depending on the level of study:

- Language Training: 24 months
- Other: Pathway Program: 12 months
- Other: Post-Secondary Certificate or Non-Degree Study: 3-12 months
- Associate: 36 months
- Bachelor: 24 months

The I-20 form will reflect both the start and end dates of the student's academic program, as well as the first day of classes of the first quarter. The program start date will be the first day of orientation, which is about one week before the first day of the quarter.

## English Level & Campus Selection

Applicants to a college program who submit proof of English level high enough for direct placement in college classes will be issued an I-20 form for their chosen Seattle Colleges campus.

Because the Seattle Colleges Institute of English (SCIE) currently offers classes only at Seattle Central College, applicants to a college program who demonstrate an English level placing them in the Intensive English or College Bridge program will receive an I-20 form from Seattle Central College, regardless of the campus they applied for. After students complete their English study, they can continue their college studies at the Seattle Colleges campus of their choice.

## Major

The major on the I-20 form is chosen by Seattle Colleges based on the kind of courses a student will take while enrolled here for their program. It may or may not exactly match a student's intended major for the following reasons:

- When issuing an I-20 form, schools must select the subject from a list of majors in SEVIS. They may be restricted to majors reported to the U.S. Department of Education. Although there are hundreds of choices, the SEVIS major does not always match exactly the major offered at a particular school.
- University Transfer and High School Completion Plus students may have a specific major in mind for a bachelor's degree, but courses taken for this major in the first two years are preparatory and often in a different subject area. If the first two years of study for a particular major are very general without many specific classes required, the major may say "Liberal Arts and Sciences, General." Seattle Colleges will choose the subject area that most accurately describes the courses taken during the student's first two years, not necessarily the major. If students list "Undecided" as a major on the application form, or leave the major blank, the I-20 major will be "Liberal Arts and Sciences, General."



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Example of Intended Majors	I-20 Major as listed on I-20 form
Business fields: Accounting, Marketing, Management, Hospitality Management, etc.	Business Administration and Management, General
Graphic Design	Art/Art Studies, General
Environmental Science	Biology/Biological Sciences, General
Pharmacy	Biological and Physical Sciences
Engineering (all fields: Chemical, Civil, etc.)	Pre-Engineering
Architecture	Liberal Arts and Sciences, General

## Major for Career Training Programs

The major selected for Career Training programs is determined by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, which registers the program with the U.S. Department of Education.

Certain Career Training programs require students to complete specific class prerequisites before being admitted to the program. Other Career Training programs have a formal application process prospective students must follow after being admitted to Seattle Colleges. Applicants interested in these programs must show proof they have completed prerequisite classes or have been admitted to these programs in order to receive an I-20 form for the program. Applicants who have not taken class prerequisites or been formally admitted will receive an I-20 form for prerequisite study, with comments indicating intent to enroll in the Career Training program.

## Major for Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) Programs

The B.A.S. programs are generally 2 years in length, comprising the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year of the bachelor’s degree. Except for the Dental Hygiene and Respiratory Care programs (see below), all B.A.S. programs require completion of an associate degree for admission. The major indicated for the Bachelor of Applied Science programs will vary depending on whether or not you have met B.A.S. program requirements.

The degrees accepted by each program are listed on the program websites. If you have not already completed a qualifying degree for the program, you will be asked by Admissions to indicate which associate degree you plan to pursue first with Seattle Colleges. The major on the I-20 form will be for the associate degree program you choose. Your I-20 form will be updated once you have completed the associate degree and are formally admitted to the B.A.S. program.

If you have already completed a qualifying degree when you apply, and you are formally admitted to the B.A.S. program, you will receive an I-20 form with the B.A.S. major.

Dental Hygiene and Respiratory Care: Because students must first complete prerequisites prior to applying to the B.A.S. in Allied Health program, the I-20 form will indicate a major of “Liberal Arts and Sciences”, with comments indicating the long-term goal of completing a B.A.S. in either Dental Hygiene or Respiratory Care.

## Financial Information

The I-20 form estimates tuition and fees, living expenses, and other expenses for one academic year (9 months) in the student’s program.