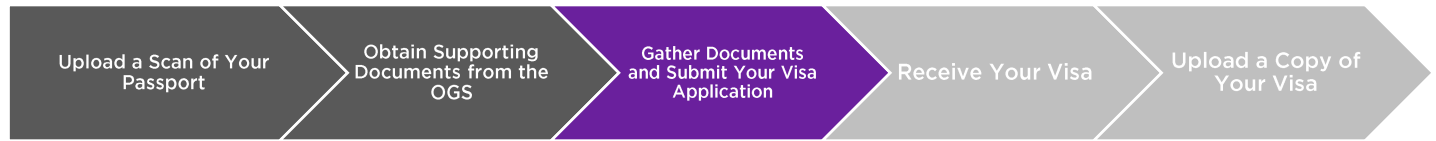




# Apply for Your Chinese Visa



## Document Checklist to Obtain a Visa (Shanghai)

ALL STUDENTS attending NYU Shanghai must have a Student Visa in order to study in China (unless you are a Chinese citizen traveling on a valid Chinese passport OR are from Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan and hold a valid Mainland Travel Permit). Students studying at NYU Shanghai for **one semester** will apply for the **X2 visa**. Students studying at NYU Shanghai for the **academic year** will apply for the **X1 visa**. The process and documentation remains the same for both.

Many students will also need to apply for a residence permit, or additional visa entries, after they arrive in China. A recommended list of documents to bring follows the Document Checklist.

- A. Valid Passport AND a copy of signature and bio page
  - Your passport must be valid at least 6 months BEYOND your date of departure and have at least two blank visa pages.
  - You must surrender your passport for the duration of the application process.
  - Your passport MUST be signed or the consulate may reject your application.

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- B. Proof of legal status AND a copy
  - If you are not applying from your country of citizenship:
    - Original and copy of visa or residence permit for country in which you are applying. i.e.
    - I-20 and F-1 visa or US permanent resident card for non-US citizens applying from the US; Spanish student visa for any student applying in Spain, etc.
  - NOT required for US citizens applying in the US

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- C. Copy of Student or State ID
  - You must submit whichever ID shows proof of residence in the consulate's jurisdiction.
  - This ID should match the address you put in your visa application! (i.e. if your application is for the Chinese Consulate in New York, your NYU Student ID suffices for this requirement as proof of residence in the New York Jurisdiction)

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- D. One fully completed visa application form (**filled out in CAPITAL letters**)
  - If applying in New York, complete the [Chinese Online Visa Application \(COVA\)](#) form. If applying at another consulate, visit their website to access the application form.
    - Please be sure to download, print, and sign the completed COVA forms.
  - Please follow our [Sample Application Guide](#) to help you complete the form.

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- E. One recent digital [passport-size photo](#)
  - You can have this taken at the [StudentLink Center](#) (\$10 for two photos); please tell StudentLink you need a **digital** version of the photo sent to your email.
  - Do not attempt to take/print your own "passport-style photo." It never works. This photo does NOT need to match the photo in your passport.
  - [Chinese Government's Photo requirements](#) [JPG: 3,386KB].
    - Typically, the consulate has accepted US Standard 2x2" photos.



- F. Photocopy of previous Chinese passports OR previous Chinese visas held
  - If applicable.

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- G. OGS Support Letter packet AND a copy of each letter
  - You will receive an alert from OGS when your packet is ready. We MUST have a copy of your passport and information from the Shanghai Immigration Form before we can obtain your documents. This packet includes:
    - Official Acceptance Letter from NYU Shanghai in English and Chinese
    - Visa Application for Study in China Form – JW202/DQ
      - You will not usually need to submit this with your application, however, you will need to bring this with you to Shanghai for the semester.

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- H. Visa Processing Fee
  - Visa fees will vary based on your citizenship and the consulate where you submit your application. Please refer to the consulate for an update list of fees.
    - [Chinese Consulate Fees in New York](#).
  - Visa fees can be paid by credit card (Visa or Mastercard) or money order. Cash or personal checks are NOT accepted.
  - If paying the fee by [money order](#), make it payable to the order of the “Chinese Consulate (or Embassy) in [City].”

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- I. Any additional documents specified by the consulate’s website
  - All consulates operate autonomously and reserve the right to request any materials they deem necessary to evaluate your visa application.
  - Check your consulate’s website. If you show up to your appointment without all of the required materials, your application may be rejected and you will need to make a new appointment.

**Note:** Students entering China on the X1 visa may not arrive more than 1 week prior to the move-in date.

\*There is an in-country process for both X1 and X2 visa holders that NYU Shanghai will help you through. X1 visa holders must convert to the residence permit within 30 days of arrival or they will be considered in “overstay” status and will have to pay a fine. X2 visa holders **may be** able to apply for an additional entry to China. **The ability to do so is at the discretion of the Shanghai Exit-Entry Administrative Bureau.**

To apply for an additional entry or residence permit, it is **STRONGLY** encouraged that you bring the following documentation to Shanghai with you as the Shanghai Exit-Entry Bureau has been known to request it:

- Birth Certificate
- PHOTOCOPY of parents’ passport bio pages
- PHOTOCOPY of your previous passport(s) bio pages if applicable
- High School graduation certificate/diploma
- **If you or your parents are naturalized citizens**, provide a PHOTOCOPY of the certificate
- **If your parents are/were Chinese citizens**, provided a PHOTOCOPY of their Chinese National ID, US Green Card, or Permanent Residence card
- **If you were adopted from China** and your parents are not Chinese citizens, please provide the adoption letter from Chinese authorities