International Student Applicant Checklist

Shekinah is registered with SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) and is authorized to issue I-20 forms so International Students may acquire an F1 visa. International students desiring to attend Shekinah Christian School must provide the following as part of the admissions process:

NOTE: All documents must be translated into English and must be received before we will complete an I-20

- Completed Student Application
- A notarized form identifying the parents have authorized a US-based host family to be responsible for transmission of all fees and tuition from the student's parents and/or legal guardians in the foreign country. If the student is not placed by a credible existing organization, the school will conduct an in-home interview with the host family after receiving the completed International Student Application and international student registration fee. The host family must meet the same criteria as any other supporting parents who sends their students to SCS.
- $500 International Student Registration Fee
- Health Record Form (*This is VERY important. The school nurse has to report to the state that we have all the current records of our students.)*
- An Emergency Medical Authorization form provided by Shekinah Christian School must be signed by the student's parents for the guardians and/or host family and school.
- Proof of medical insurance is also needed. Students must purchase a health insurance policy before entering the United States. Shekinah Christian School recommends Global Underwriters.

- **TOEFL junior test score, or an iTEP qualifying result. Students need to have received a minimum score of 700.** https://www.ets.org/toefl_junior

- Complete School Records for every grade level a student has completed (Needs to be translated into English)

- After above documentation is received, a Skype interview with the International Student Program coordinator, the student's potential teacher, and the School Administrator will be scheduled.

- After this interview, a decision regarding whether to accept or deny the student's application to the International Student Program will be made.

- Signed Tuition Contract (*Note: International Tuition Rates are different from Domestic tuition rates due to the inclusion of up to 5-hours of one-on-one tutoring per week as needed, limited ESL support for a minimum of 1 year, and the inclusion of all fees and fundraising except for overnight trips. The school has found that an inclusive approach to international student tuition is much simpler for both parties than charging for each minor expense.)*

  Once the I-20 is completed, dates of arrival or departure are not to be changed. Be aware that the government may have additional fees for completing the I-20. For example: I-901 SEVIS fee of $350.

Note that there are other forms that will need to be filled out once the student is accepted. Also, be aware that we cannot guarantee that any international student will graduate with their chronological age group. Eligibility for graduation is determined by previous credits accrued, current academic performance and the successful completion of all other requirements expected of Shekinah students.

First year attendance

Our International guests are expected to attend a minimum of one semester per school year (August-May), and should not have graduated from high school in

their home country. Shekinah Christian School strongly prefers that students who are accepted and choose to enroll commit to graduating with the school.