

Visas

What is a visa?

- Permission from another country to enter that country
- A stamp in your passport
- Consulate acts as the representative of that country
- Important - BCA does not grant you your visa!

What are the steps to get a visa?

- Passport
- Information from BCA
 - Specific to your program and, in some cases, consulate specific
 - Read the information as soon as you receive it and follow the directions carefully
 - You cannot begin the visa process without this information
- Contact consulate
 - Consulates are constantly changing their requirements
 - Visa fees, in person vs. mail, office hours
 - Strongly recommend that you contact your consulate frequently
 - If you cannot get through by phone, try faxing – don't give up!
- Don't wait until the last minute!

Why is it taking so long to receive information from BCA?

- Visa process is our top priority, but we are often waiting on documents from the foreign universities.
- Be patient and know that we are doing the best we can to help you get your visa in a timely manner.

Once again, it is very important for you to realize that BCA is not granting you your visa. The government of the country in which you are studying abroad is. We will provide you with all the documents you will need to begin the process and we can give you advice and guidance, but we cannot go through the steps for you.

Remember, we are right on your campus! So, if you are feeling overwhelmed or you don't think you can meet a deadline, do not hesitate to contact us or just drop by.

Questions?