

N.U.in Greece Visa Guide 2019



U.S. Citizens

Please check with the [Greek consular authority in your region](#) (<https://www.mfa.gr/usa/en/about-us.html>) for the most updated Greek visa requirements and processes. The information listed below is intended as informational guidance only and does not constitute legal advice.

Please note that the process for attaining a visa can take 6-12 weeks, so begin the process as soon as possible if you need a visa.

Do I need a Visa?

U.S. citizens may enter Greece without a visa and stay for 90 days provided that they will not be in Greece or in the [Schengen area](#) (<http://www.schengenvisainfo.com/schengen-visa-countries-list/>) for a period longer than 90 days over a period of 180 days. However, if you have traveled to the [Schengen area](#) in the past 180 days or intend to remain in the Schengen area after the program ends, you may need to apply for a Greek visa (National visa, also called Type-D visa) and residence permit. Please plan accordingly, as you will not be able to apply for this visa once you have arrived in Greece. This visa **must** be secured prior to departure for Greece.

For example, a U.S. citizen who entered Italy on July 1, 2019, and stayed for a period of 14 days, wishes to enter Greece on September 18, 2019, and stay for a period of 88 days. In this case, the individual should apply for a National/Type –D Visa as they will be staying in the Schengen area for more than 90 days over a period of 180 days.

To calculate your authorized period of travel within the Schengen area, you may use the following link: <https://ec.europa.eu/assets/home/visa-calculator/calculator.htm?lang=en>.

Visa Information for U.S. Citizens

N.U.in Greece students who need a visa should apply for a National Visa (alternately referred to as a Type-D visa) prior to departure. Upon arrival in Greece, students may also need to apply for a residence permit. Please review the below information to learn more about both processes.

Which consulate do I use?

To find the consulate responsible for your region, you may visit the following link: <http://www.immihelp.com/visas/schengenvisa/greek-consulates-usa.html>

What do I need to apply for my visa?

All students who need to apply for an National/Type-D Visa will need both a **Letter of Acceptance (LOA)** from the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT) and a **Letter of Support (LOS)** from Northeastern University. In order to obtain these documents, [students must complete the following online form with all necessary information](https://neu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3gGmz38gF5ndzzn) (https://neu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3gGmz38gF5ndzzn).

Please also send a follow up email to the Assistant Director of N.U.*in* after submitting the online form to notify them that you are actively seeking to apply for the visa to Greece and confirm that you have submitted the online form.

The N.U.*in* Boston staff will contact ACT to obtain the LOA on behalf of the student. The LOA will then be mailed to the student's mailing address provided in the above online form. Please note that the LOA needs to be processed by the Greek government, so it may take 2-3 weeks to obtain. The Letter of Support (LOS) will be emailed to the student's Husky email address within 1 week of receiving the request.

Additional documents and processes for the visa application are listed below. Please make sure to consult the website of the consulate responsible for your region to confirm the most up-to-date process and documents required.

Visa Process and Additional Documents

Required Documents/Processes	Approximate Cost
Valid passport (valid until at least June 10, 2019)	N/A
Letter of Acceptance from ACT (Mailed to students directly by ACT via FedEx or DHL)	N/A
Letter of Support from Northeastern (obtained from Assistant Director)	N/A
National criminal background check <ul style="list-style-type: none">This process can be done online and in an expediated manner. Please check the guidelines section below for more information,.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$18 for FBI check~\$20 for fingerprinting services

- This is a lengthy process if not done online, so begin this part of the application as soon as possible
- Check with your consulate to verify if they will accept background checks that have been processed by FBI approved channelers as this will expedite the process. Please note that not all consular offices will accept channeler-facilitated background checks, so please plan accordingly.
- Applicant must have fingerprints taken by the police, send them to the FBI, and wait 6-10 weeks for this to return. See background check guide below for further information on the process of attaining a background check.

Visa Application

- Consulates have slightly varying application forms, so please verify with your consulate whether the online application form is the one they accept
- ~\$100 (may change annually and with change in exchange rates) Some consulates require this payment in cash. Others require a money order.

Medical Form

- For some consulates, this is a letter from a physician stating the applicant does not have any communicable diseases
- Dependent on personal insurance:
 - Price of co-pay in some instances (\$20-50)
 - Price of labs without insurance- upwards of \$400

One color passport photo (2x2 inches)

- ~\$15 at local drugstore for a pack of photos

Flight information to and from Greece

N/A

Parent's bank and credit card statements for 3 months prior to the visa interview

As per the Ministry of Foreign Affairs guidelines*

Parent's W-2 forms for the last 2 years

N/A

Travel insurance stating that the student is covered in case of a medical emergency and repatriation in the Schengen States (minimum coverage of €30,000)

Dependent on personal insurance

Visa Interview

- After collecting the documents listed above, including the background check results, students will need to sit for an in-person interview appointment at the Greek consulate responsible for their region
- Some consulates require appointments, while others allow drop-ins
- For 17 year olds, both parents are required to accompany the student to the visa appointment

Dependent on distance from the regional Greek consulate

*Must provide evidence that they have adequate income to meet study and subsistence costs, amounting to at least €400 a month. The amount of sufficient income is proved by a deposit account, a bank transfer, a scholarship, or a proof of salary in case the student is employed.

Please note that the consular authority reserves the right to request additional documentation at any time.

Guidelines for Obtaining an FBI Identity History Summary Check

A pivotal aspect of your student visa application is getting an official Identity History Summary Check from the FBI. **Please note that this process may take 1-2 weeks to complete if done electronically. The processing time for Identity History Summary requests submitted via mail is 14-16 weeks, so please begin as soon as possible. You will need your FBI results before sitting for your visa interview.**

You must request the official criminal history report through the FBI. The document is officially called the "FBI Identity History Summary". Although the most updated process is listed on the FBI website, you can begin by following the guidelines below:

- Students have the option of using an Electronic Departmental Order (eDO) in order to secure a Background Check as this can expedite the process. In order to proceed with this process please

visit <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks> and follow the instructions for acquiring an FBI Identity History Summary.

- Obtaining a set of your fingerprints and mailing this set to the FBI is part of the application process, even if the application is done online. The FBI website above provides more information on this part of the application process.
- If you are unable to request an Identity History Summary electronically, you will need to follow the steps for Option 2 of submitting a request to the FBI via Mail.

Please be sure to confirm acceptance of the online or expedited (through a channeler) background summary with your consulate of jurisdiction – not all consular authority locations will accept these forms.

Residence Permit Process

U.S. nationals who obtained a type D visa to enter Greece and, for the purpose of study, will remain in the Schengen Area for more than 90 days from the date of entry into the Schengen with the visa will likely need to apply for a Residence Permit once they are in Greece. Further information will be provided during On-Site Orientation, and the ACT Student Services Coordinator will provide support for students through this process.

The following list of requirements is not exhaustive, and is subject to change, so please be sure to work closely with the ACT Student Services Coordinator as you move through the Residence Permit process.

Residence Permit Requirements

Required Documents/Processes	Approximate Cost
Valid passport	N/A
Proof of Social Security Card, or similar Tax Identification Number <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students should bring a copy of this with them to Greece so that it is easily accessible	N/A
Proof of Permanent Address <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A copy of a driver's license is sufficient	N/A
Passport Photos	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ~\$15

Greek Health Insurance

- ACT will help students to obtain this upon arrival in Greece

- ~\$145 for insurance
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Greek Bank Account

- ACT will help students to open this upon arrival in Greece
- Students will need to deposit €500 in the account to open it, which they will then be able to use while in Greece, or withdraw following receipt of the Residence Permit
- Students should have access to cash through an ATM card or other means, so as to be able to easily withdraw the money needed to open the account

- ~\$600 in cash initially, but students will be able to access this money during the semester and get it back after obtaining Residence Permit
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Residence Permit Application

- ~\$200 in cash
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Meetings

- ACT will have an initial meeting with students about the Residence Permit Process during orientation
Following orientation, students will be expected to fulfill appointments to open the bank account, pick up the certificate, etc. Students should monitor their Husky email upon arrival in Greece for further information about these meetings

N/A

Important Reminders

This document has been prepared based on the information and links provided by the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

Northeastern University and ACT have no influence on the outcome of immigration applications and no ability to contact the MFA to inquire about an individual visa application or residence permit application, or expedite the process for an individual student. In addition, *N.U.in*

employees are unable to provide advice to students or families concerning visa requirements and/or application processes.

Students are responsible for completing their visa application correctly and in an effective manner and for obtaining a valid visa prior to the program start date. If the student cannot obtain a valid visa in time for the program start date, please refer to the N.U.in Withdrawal Policy and contact the N.U.in office to discuss next steps.