

## FAQ - USIL 2018

### Contenido

About Student Exchange Visas (SEV) .....	2
1. Is it necessary to request an SEV prior to the beginning of my international experience at USIL? .....	2
2. Do I need any document to get my SEV? .....	2
3. How does the SEV process works? .....	2
4. Can I go to the nearest Peruvian Consulate and get the SEV by myself? .....	3
5. The nearest General Peruvian Consulate is way too far; can I enter Peru with a tourist permit and change my migratory condition once I'm already in Peru? .....	3
6. Can I pick the General Peruvian Consulate located in Lima to pick my SEV? .....	3
7. There is a Peruvian consulate close to where I am. Can I process my SEV there? .....	3
8. How long does it take to process my SEV request? .....	4
9. Is there anything else I should be wary of? .....	4
About Declaration of Financial Support .....	4
1. What's the approximate amount required? .....	4
About Health Insurance .....	5
1. What's the approximate coverage required? .....	5

## About Student Exchange Visas (SEV)

### **1. Is it necessary to request an SEV prior to the beginning of my international experience at USIL?**

YES, it is necessary. In the past, international students could enter Peru with a simple tourist permit. The maximum number of days our students could get in a tourist permit was 183 days. You are probably wondering; that's more than enough, what's the problem then? The student could get a lower number of days such as 30, 60 or 90 days. If that was your case, you were basically forced to leave & re-enter the country (so you could get a new tourist permit with hopefully a greater number of days), get a student visa or pay a daily penalty (1 USD\$ per day). Let's not forget about a tiny but important detail, the tourist permit is not a multi-entry document. What is that supposed to mean? If you travel outside Peru, you will lose the current amount of days you originally received on your tourist permit.

After discussing the matter with the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we decided to process SEVs for all our international students to avoid any possible problem. What are the pros of getting an SEV? You won't have to worry about getting the necessary amount of days on your visa anymore because the SEV will cover the entire duration of your international program at USIL. Furthermore, the SEV is a multi-entry type of visa.

### **2. Do I need any document to get my SEV?**

YES, I will need the following documents in order to process your SEV:

- Copy of student's passport
- Copy of the student's international health insurance
- USIL Declaration of Financial Support
- Flight itinerary with arrival/departure dates\*
- The city of the General Peruvian Consulate where the student would like to receive his/her SEV

I am aware some students might have some problems trying to get a round-trip ticket; nevertheless, we always recommend students to have a tentative departure date. If you haven't bought your departure flight ticket yet, you can try booking a flight as an alternative. Booking a flight will work as long as you have some sort of digital confirmation\*.

On the other hand, if you are still not sure where you can find a General Peruvian Consulate, please visit the following link: <http://www.consulado.pe/paginas/Inicio.aspx>

### **3. How does the SEV process works?**

Once you have sent all the documents needed to process your SEV request. One of our executives will prepare a file for you and then send it to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the respective assessment of your

documents. As soon as your request is approved, we will contact you so you can schedule an appointment at the General Peruvian Consulate of your choice.

#### **4. Can I go to the nearest Peruvian Consulate and get the SEV by myself?**

NO, the SEV process is carried out through our international office in cooperation with the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Once we have gathered all the required documents to process your SEV request, we will send them to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs so they can start the assessment of your file. As soon as your request has been approved, one of our executives will contact you so you can arrange an appointment at the General Peruvian Consulate of your choice.

We recommend our students to bring some documents to their appointment such as their USIL acceptance letter, passport-size photos and their passports. There is a fee of 25 USD\$.

#### **5. The nearest General Peruvian Consulate is way too far; can I enter Peru with a tourist permit and change my migratory condition once I' m already in Peru?**

NO, that is not possible. If the student decides to enter Peru with a tourist permit, it will be the student's responsibility to change his/her migratory status accordingly. In this specific case, the student has 2 options:

- Leave and re-enter the country once his/her tourist permit has expired; by doing this, the student will "reset" his/her tourist condition and get a new number of days. I have already explained the cons of studying in Peru under a tourist condition\*.
- Get a STUDENT VISA. In case you are wondering whether a "Student" and a "Student Exchange Visa" are the same, no they are not. The SEV is a type of visa that is processed through the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs while the Student Visa is processed through the National Superintendent of Immigration (also known as "Migraciones"). For further information on how to get a STUDENT VISA, please visit the following link:  
<https://www.migraciones.gob.pe/index.php/solicitud-de-visas-temporales-2/>

#### **6. Can I pick the General Peruvian Consulate located in Lima to pick my SEV?**

NO, that is not possible. First of all, we do not have a General Peruvian Consulate here in Lima. Secondly, the SEV is a process that is coordinated between our international department, the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the General Peruvian Consulates located across the world. In other words, this type of process does only work when you are outside of Peru.

#### **7. There is a Peruvian consulate close to where I am. Can I process my SEV there?**

IT DEPENDS. When it comes to Peruvian Consulates, you will find 3 different types of institutions: General Peruvian Consulates, Honorary Peruvian Consulates, and Peruvian Embassies\*. Our students can get their SEV only through General Peruvian Consulates and Peruvian Embassies. Please visit the following link for further information: <http://www.consulado.pe/paginas/Inicio.aspx>

\*Does not apply to all them, most of our Embassies will have a “consular section” that will process those type of requests.

### **8. How long does it take to process my SEV request?**

The process itself takes approximately 2 or 3 weeks. Bear in mind this process can take even longer if you decide to send your request during national holidays.

### **9. Is there anything else I should be wary of?**

YES, I would recommend bringing all the required documents needed for your SEV to your Consulate appointment. On top of that, you should also include your acceptance letter and passport-size photos (just in case). Do not forget your passport!

If you need further information about the SEV, do not hesitate to contact me directly.

## About Declaration of Financial Support

### **1. What’s the approximate amount required?**

According to our research, international students coming to Peru will need approximately USD\$ 3,000 to cover all their expenses. This amount includes personal expenses.

Enrolling students are responsible for demonstrating that they have sufficient funds to meet all their tuition and living expenses during the entire duration of their studies at USIL.

The amount indicated must total or exceed the estimated living expenses (including tuition if any housing, meals, fees, health insurance, and estimated costs for books) while the student is living in Peru.

It’s also required a bank statement or bank letter indicating the amount of funds available for your international program.

## About Health Insurance

### **1. What's the approximate coverage required?**

The international health insurance must cover medical expenses in case of an accident, ambulatory treatment, medical evacuation and repatriation of remains (worst case scenario). We always recommend our students to invest wisely in their health insurance so they can enjoy their experience in Peru without worrying about getting sick or having an accident. A personal recommendation would be to check which private clinics or hospitals are included in the coverage prior to the start of the international program in Peru.