F-2 Dependents

International Student Services

F-2s are dependents of F-1 students. To qualify as an F-2, the dependent must be the spouse (married partner) or unmarried minor child under the age of 21.

If you are married or have a child or children, you may want to bring your dependents with you to Minnesota as F-2 dependents.

During the application process:

F-1 applicants must show an additional $6,000 in funding for the first dependent, and an additional $3,000 for each additional dependent after the first.

- *For example, an F-1 applicant with one F-2 dependent must show $30,015. An F-1 applicant with two F-2 dependents must show $33,015.*

The passport of the F-2 dependent as well as documentation certifying the relationship to the F-1 student is required in the application process.

Once the F-1 applicant has been accepted to Saint Paul College and documentation for the F-2 dependent(s) has been submitted, an I-20 will be issued for the F-1 student, as well as I-20s for F-2 dependent(s).

The F-2 dependent(s) will use the F-2 I-20 to apply for the F-2 visa.

Regulations for F-2 dependents (after arrival to Saint Paul College):

- F-2 dependents are not eligible to work in the US and cannot obtain a social security number. There is zero option for work authorization while on F-2 status.
- F-2 dependent children can attend public school while in the US.
- F-2 dependents can engage in study at a SEVP-certified school (including Saint Paul College), as long as they are enrolled in less than a full course of study (less than 12 credits each semester).

F-2 dependent(s) maintain legal presence in the US as long as the F-1 student maintains their legal F-1 status. If the F-1 student departs the US permanently, the F-2 dependent(s) must also depart.

F-1 students can bring their spouse or children dependent(s) when they first enter the US, however, F-1 students can also bring them after they have entered the US. The F-2 dependent would still need to go through the F-2 visa application process.