

Tipps and Tricks to get a VISA in Serbia

Hints from the Program Coordinator:

- The official **Program** acceptance letter you get via post does not differ from the one we send you via e-mail (there is no additional stamp on it or something alike. You can print the e-mail version for your appointment in the embassy)

Steps to take (which requirements do you need to fulfill in Serbia?)

- Make an appointment with the embassy once you received the Program acceptance letter, and/or the LMU acceptance letter from the International Office. During the busy time in the summer months, once you show up at the embassy to make an appointment, you are usually only able to go in for the appointment in about 2-4 weeks from that date. In order to apply for the visa, you will need both letters of acceptance. If the International Office's deadline for submitting the documents is July 15, you go over to sign up around that date, and aim to get an appointment in about a month from that date. You are most certainly going to receive the letter from the IO by that time and can thus confidently go into your interview with everything you need. Worst case scenario, you could additionally submit what is missing if you tell them that the letter is on its way.
- Money - 60 euros, pay directly to your interviewer in cash.

Peculiarities of your country (e.g. meetings at the embassy cost money, missing documents lead to rejection or only put your VISA process "on hold", ...)

- The good thing about the Serbian embassy is that they are very approachable by phone, or even if you go there and talk to the front door personnel in person. In my case, they failed to notice during the interview that my acceptance letter from the IO was missing, so they gave me a call a few days later asking me to bring it over. I told them that I am still waiting for it in the mail and they asked me to just bring it when it's ready. So from that example, I would conclude that it is ok to have that one document missing and that you could submit it additionally without having to pay for another appointment. But you could always call to double check.

Tips and Tricks (what helped you to get your VISA in time?)

- The embassy took the original acceptance letter, as well as both copies from me and did not return the original on the spot. As I needed to have that document with me during registration at the university, I called them and ask to come in again and get the document. When I went there, the lady asked me when do I plan to travel, as my visa is not done yet. I said that I was going to leave in 5 days, and she just

said that I could come back later that afternoon to pick up my visa. So it cannot hurt for you to call/go in person/be a little pushy - they might speed up the process for you.