

Cancel vs. Terminate vs. Reinstatement

F-1 student records in SEVIS

Knowing which status to use helps keep student SEVIS records accurate.

Cancel

Cancel the student record when:

- The student has not yet entered the United States on this record and does not plan to attend your school.
- The record was created in error or is a duplicate.
- The student's program start date has passed, the student has not reported to the school and the SEVIS record has no information confirming admission into the United States.

Avoid canceled student records by checking, and, if necessary, deferring the program start dates for students in Initial status.

Remember to check for duplicate records before creating a new Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status."

Terminate

Terminate the student record when:

- The student entered the United States and failed to register within 30 days of the program start date.
- The student has not maintained their status.

Be sure to select the correct termination reason. When in doubt, contact the SEVP Response Center for guidance.



Caution:

Terminating a student record for the incorrect reason may cause undue hardships for your student!

Reinstatement

Request reinstatement if the student is out of status based on their own actions or as a result of circumstances beyond the student's control.

The student must receive a recommendation in SEVIS from the DSO for the reinstatement, fill out a Form I-539, "Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status," and follow the instructions on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website: <http://www.uscis.gov/i-539>.

For more detailed information, please see related articles on the [SEVIS Help Hub](#).