

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.

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 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 information on SEVIS Termination Reasons, visit: <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/update-records/maintain-student-records/maintain-student-records/termination-reasons>.