



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

- Welcome to today's SEVP InFocus Webinar
- The webinar will begin promptly at 2 p.m. EST
- Please take a moment to complete the attendance poll

SEVP
STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

SEVP InFocus Webinar

Dec. 14, 2016, 2 – 3 p.m. EST



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

SEVP

STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

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Today's Presenters

**Marissa
Tinsley**

Management and
Program Analyst

SEVP Strategic
Communications
Team

**Tandice
Ghajar**

Management and
Program Analyst

SEVP Strategic
Communications
Team

**Sanna
Serspinski**

Senior Policy Analyst

SEVP Policy Unit

**Anisha
Woodley**

Adjudicator

School Certification
Unit

Lauren Caricato
Moderator

Presentation Overview

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HELPFUL RESOURCES

THE LATEST NEWS

Interim Final Policy Guidance

Evidence for Schools Not Meeting Eligibility Criteria

- **Overview**
 - Clarifies acceptable evidence for schools that do not meet eligibility criteria defined in federal regulation
- **Comment period closed Dec. 12, 2016**
 - SEVP officials will review stakeholder comments
 - Schools expected to adhere to guidance

Access the interim final policy guidance on the Schools page at [ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools](https://ice.dhs.gov/SEVIS/Schools)

Form I-17 Filing Evidence Process

What DSOs Need to Know

- **Beginning Oct. 1, 2016**
 - Electronically provide evidence at the time of submission in SEVIS
 - Scan and email evidence documents to SEVP
- **SEVP email addresses**
 - Initial SEVP-certification petition:
 - Email Initial.SEVIS@ice.dhs.gov
 - Update to existing Form I-17 petition:
 - Email Update.SEVIS@ice.dhs.gov
 - DSO changes:
 - Email FormI17SupportingEvidence@ice.dhs.gov
 - Recertification packages:
 - Email Recert.SEVIS@ice.dhs.gov

Poll Question



Form I-17 filing
evidence process

Were you aware of changes to the
Form I-17 filing evidence process?

SEVP Portal

Prepare Now

- **Overview**
 - Tool for F-1 students on post-completion OPT to enter information
 - Students will not have direct access to SEVIS
 - Students can add or edit personal and employer information
- **Launch**
 - Future SEVIS release
 - Early 2017
 - Prepare now
 - Ensure students have accurate email addresses listed in SEVIS

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOLLOW UP

Upcoming Policy Guidance

- Change of ownership
- Student absence and school breaks
- Annual vacation
- Definition of the academic year
- Secondary postgraduate year
- Service of official SEVP notices
- Derogatory information
- Student employment

SEVIS Enhancements

- **SEVIS Release 6.31 – Dec. 18, 2016**
 - Functionality to upload supporting evidence for correction requests into SEVIS
 - Will not be available until early 2017
 - Submit a foreign telephone number during batch registration events
 - Security warning page shown upon initial login

Visit the SEVIS Help Hub for resources and information about future SEVIS releases at:

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/SEVIS-Help-Hub

SEVP Field Representative Updates

- **Remaining vacancies**
 - Arlington, Virginia*
 - Baltimore, Maryland
 - Detroit, Michigan
 - Kansas City, Missouri*
 - San Antonio, Texas
 - San Jose, California*

* SEVP will train and deploy SEVP field representatives to these territories in spring 2017

Redesigned FMJFee.com

Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee

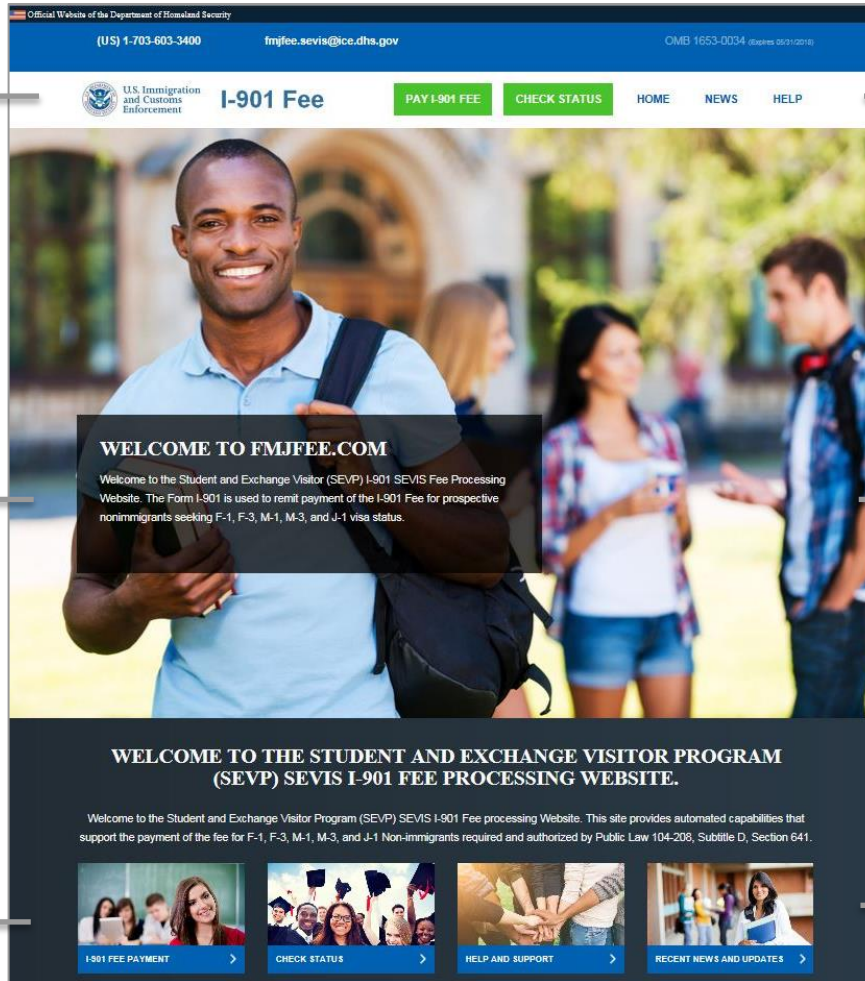
Check I-901 SEVIS Fee payment status

New website design and layout to ease navigation

Access from a mobile device

Contact SEVP for assistance

View site news and updates



Poll Question



FMJFee.com

Have you visited the updated
FMJFee.com?

DON'T FORGET...

PDSO/DSO Annual Verification

Verify Your School Officials

- **Verification period**
 - Dec. 2, 2016, to March 2, 2017
- **PDSO must verify that all current SEVIS users:**
 - Are still employed by the organization and serve as a PDSO or DSO
 - Require continued SEVIS access

Learn more in the SEVIS Help Hub:
StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/SEVIS-Help-Hub

Holiday Break

Tips and Reminders for DSOs

- **Register students at the start of the new academic session**
 - Complete within 30 days of the start of each session
 - Applies to Continuing and Initial students



Holiday Break

Tips and Reminders for DSOs

- **Ensure students are prepared for international travel**
 - Have proper documentation and DSO contact information
 - Hand carry important documents
 - Understand the port of entry process
 - Primary and secondary inspection



The Form I-515A

Reminders and Updates

- **Do not create a new SEVIS record to correct a Form I-515A**
 - SEVP cannot adjudicate the Form I-515A
 - Assist students in complying with Form I-515A requirements
- **Be aware of the new noncompliance procedure**
 - “Intent to Terminate” notices
- **Questions?**
 - Email SEVIS.I515@ice.dhs.gov or contact SRC

FACTS + FIGURES

Showcasing Study in the States

Site Visitors



NUMBER OF SITE VISITORS

- August **132,859**
- September **111,569**
- October **114,064**
- November **104,752**



NOVEMBER 2016 SITE VISITORS

- New site visitors: **94,544**
- Returning site visitors: **42,869**

Showcasing Study in the States

Top Countries



UNITED STATES



INDIA



NIGERIA



UNITED KINGDOM



CANADA

Showcasing Study in the States

Top Pages



TOP FIVE PAGES IN NOVEMBER

- School Search
- Paying Your I-901 SEVIS Fee
- What is the Form I-20
- Home Page
- Students Page



TOP REFERRAL SITES

- ICE.gov
- EducationUSA
- USCIS

SPECIAL SEGMENT: PATHWAY PROGRAMS

Poll Question



Pathway Programs

Please indicate whether your school currently offers or plans to offer a pathway program.

Pathway Programs Guidance Series

Background

- **Guidance series:**
 - Conditional admission
 - The Form I-20 and the English proficiency field
 - Pathway programs for reasons of English proficiency
- **Development**
 - Developed over a three-year period
 - Released draft guidance for public comment in 2013 and 2014

Read the final policy guidance in the Schools section at [ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools](https://ice.dhs.gov/SEVIS/Schools)

Final Policy Guidance Overview

Conditional Admission and English Proficiency on the Form I-20

- **Definitions**
 - Conditional admission
 - Standards for admission
- **What school officials need to know**
 - Form I-20 issuance
 - Record keeping



Final Policy Guidance Overview

Pathway Programs

- **Overview**
 - Third part of policy guidance series on pathway programs, conditional admission and English proficiency
 - Defines a pathway program
 - Topics not addressed in guidance
- **Fact sheet**
 - Input pathway program information into the Form I-17
 - Properly issue Forms I-20 for pathway programs

Next Steps

Pathway Programs

- **Effective date**
 - Schools with SEVP-certified pathway programs must comply with policy guidance standards by Oct. 28, 2017
- **Actions for DSOs**
 - Ensure Form I-17 reflects school's current operations and programs
 - Submit a Form I-17 update to add a pathway program
- **Guidance review**
 - Periodic review
 - Provide feedback to SEVP@ice.dhs.gov

Pre-submitted Question



Form I-20 issuance
for pathway
programs

If a pathway program has dual governance, which institution should issue the Form I-20?

Will the Form I-20 include a pathway program level or indication?

Pre-submitted Question



Form I-20 issuance
for pathway
programs

Many students must take remedial level English prior to enrolling in the university's regular-level English programs. Should DSOs create a Form I-20 for students that take remedial-level English?

Pre-submitted Question



Pathway program
credit
requirements

Can SEVP clarify whether students enrolled in a pathway program are required to take one credit-bearing course each semester?

Pre-submitted Question



Pathway program
credit
requirements

What are the minimum number of credits that a student must take at the college level to be eligible for a pathway program?

Pre-submitted Question



Pathway program
credit
requirements

Does credit-bearing coursework in a pathway program need to count towards the student's eventual degree?

Pre-submitted Question



**SEVP certification
of pathway
programs**

Can a university add a pathway program to its Form I-17 when the university governs the pathway program, but a third party provider delivers the ESL portion of the program?

Pre-submitted Question



Community colleges and pathway programs

Does SEVP consider community colleges a pathway program and does the recent guidance apply to them?

Pre-submitted Question



Community colleges and pathway programs

If a student finishes ESL courses at a community college on a language training Form I-20, takes placement courses for regular-level English and places low on the exam, our school recommends that the student enroll in half-degree seeking courses and half high-level ESL courses. Does SEVP consider this situation a pathway program?

HELPFUL RESOURCES

New Study in the States Home Page

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov



Engage with SEVP

Stay Connected



KEY NEWS AND CONTENT

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Blog

Publications

SEVP Spotlight

SEVP Outreach Bulletin



ENGAGE THROUGH CONFERENCES

Fill out the SEVP Event
Request Form at

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Conferences



@StudyinStates



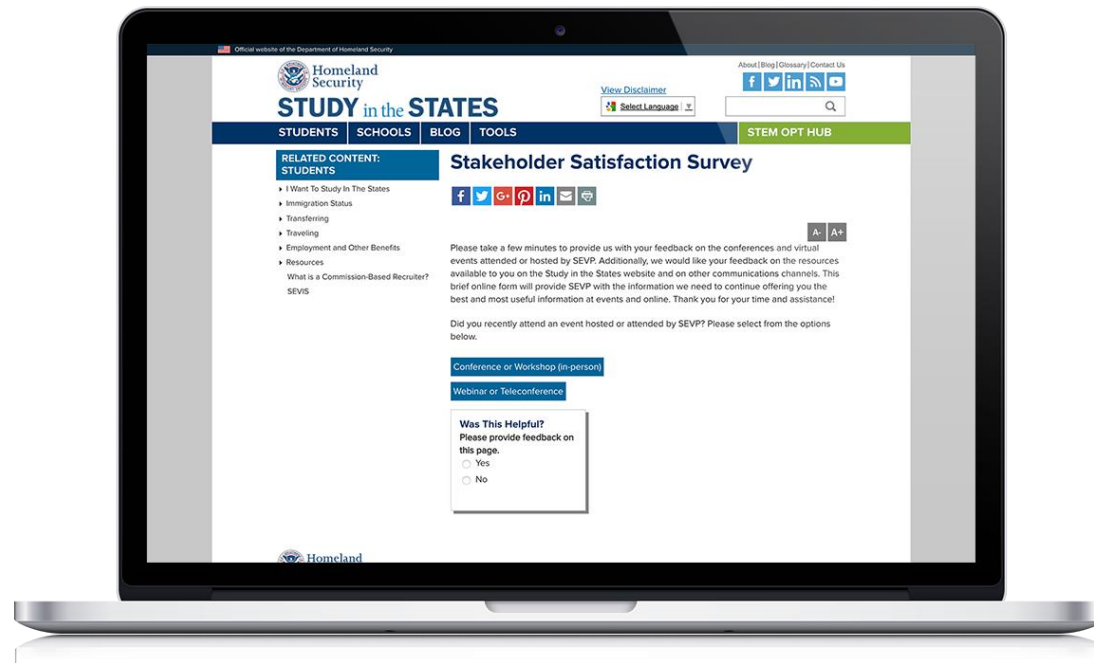
Facebook.com/StudyintheStates



Linkedin.com/Company/Student-and-Exchange-Visitor-Program

SEVP Values Your Feedback

- Provide feedback on this conference presentation
- Comments reviewed throughout the year



StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Survey

SEVP Contact Information



PHONE

703-603-3400

800-892-4829



EMAIL

Case-specific questions

SEVP@ice.dhs.gov

Technical issues

SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, except holidays

Closed Wednesdays from 12:50 to 1:20 p.m.

for system maintenance and testing

**Contact your local field representative for questions about SEVP policies,
processes and updates**