



## **Government Voices Webinar: Get to Know CBP Glossary**

Feb. 5, 2020

**Department of Homeland Security Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (DHS TRIP):** DHS TRIP is a single point of contact for individuals who have inquiries or seek resolution regarding difficulties they experienced during their travel screening at transportation hubs - like airports - or crossing U.S. borders.

This includes:

- watch list issues
- screening problems at ports of entry
- situations where travelers believe they have been unfairly or incorrectly delayed, denied boarding or identified for additional screening at our nation's transportation hubs

**Designated school official (DSO):** A regularly-employed member of the school administration designated by the head of a SEVP-certified school to provide recommendations to F and/or M students enrolled at the school regarding maintenance of nonimmigrant status, and to support timely and complete record keeping and reporting to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

**Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status:"** The form issued to an F or M nonimmigrant to be used as authorization for admission in and maintenance of nonimmigrant status for the duration of their visit in the United States.

**Form I-515A, "Notice to Student or Exchange Visitor:"** A form issued by U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the port of entry to students who arrive without all of their required documents. The Form I-515A allows students to temporarily enter the United States, and they have 30 days to submit the missing information to SEVP before their status is terminated.

**Form I-94, "Arrival/Departure Record":** An electronic Department of Homeland Security form issued to all nonimmigrants upon entry to the United States that is evidence of their admission and is used to document legal status in the United States, including length of stay.

**I-901 SEVIS Fee:** A fee all F and M students and most J-1 exchange visitors must pay prior to gaining F, M, or J status to support the administrative expenses of SEVP, and the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System.

**Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE):** A U.S. Department of Homeland Security agency that promotes homeland security and public safety through the criminal and civil enforcement of federal laws governing border control, customs, trade and immigration. Through SEVP, ICE helps secure the foreign student visa system.



**Immigration and Nationality Act (INA):** The INA was enacted in 1952 and collected many provisions and reorganized the structure of immigration law. The INA has been amended many times over the years and contains many of the most important provisions of immigration law.

**Passport:** A government-issued travel document that certifies the identity and nationality of its holder for the purpose of international travel.

**Port of Entry (POE):** An arrival point at a U.S. international airport, seaport or land border crossing, where a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer will determine whether students can enter the United States.

**Primary Inspection:** The process every F and M student goes through at the port of entry with a CBP officer. Students will present documents and the CBP officer will determine if they can enter the United States by verifying the information and purpose for their visit.

**Principal designated school official (PDSO):** A designated school official (DSO) with added responsibilities to:

- Serve as the primary point of contact with SEVP on any issues that relate to school bona fides or compliance with regulations.
- Administer the F or M program at the school, keeping the school information in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) up-to-date, manage DSOs, oversee the management of student records and respond to SEVIS-generated alerts.
- Submit school certification and recertification packages.

**Secondary Inspection:** If the CBP officer at primary inspection at a port of entry cannot verify a student's information, or if they do not have all of the required documentation, a CBP officer may direct them to an interview area known as "secondary inspection." Secondary inspection allows inspectors to conduct additional research in order to verify information without causing delays for other arriving passengers.

**SEVP Response Center (SRC):** The primary contact at SEVP for nonimmigrant students, academic institutions, government users of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), and the general public requesting guidance, data corrections and information on how to use SEVIS.

**Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS):** An internet-based application that facilitates timely electronic reporting and monitoring of international students and exchange visitors, as well as their dependents, in the United States. This application enables schools and program sponsors to transmit electronic information to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of State throughout a student's or exchange visitor's program in the United States.



**Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP):** A part of the National Security Investigations Division which acts as a bridge for government organizations that have an interest in information on nonimmigrants whose primary reason for coming to the United States is to be students. On behalf of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SEVP manages schools, nonimmigrant students in the F and M visa classifications and their dependents.

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP):** A U.S. Department of Homeland Security agency that secures the borders of the United States, including airports, land borders and seaports. When entering the country, F and M students go through inspections with CBP officers and must present proper documentation.

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS):** A federal agency whose missions include preventing terrorism and enhancing security, managing U.S. borders, administering immigration laws, securing cyberspace and ensuring disaster resilience. Through ICE and SEVP, DHS secures the student visa system.

**U.S. Department of State:** A federal agency that issues visas at U.S. consulates and embassies and offers student-specific information on its websites. The U.S. Department of State also manages the J visa programs within the United States.

**Visa:** A document issued by the Department of State that enables a student or exchange visitor to travel to a U.S. port of entry and request permission to enter the United States. Students need either an F-1 or M-1 visa to enroll in U.S. programs of study.