



# GOVERNMENT VOICES WEBINAR SERIES

## What to Expect at a U.S. Port of Entry

*CBP | SEVP*

Wednesday, May 16, 2018  
2 to 3:00 p.m. EDT

- Welcome to today's Government Voices Webinar
- The webinar will begin promptly at 2 p.m. EDT
- Audio will stream through your computer speakers
- Please take a moment to answer the poll questions on your screen

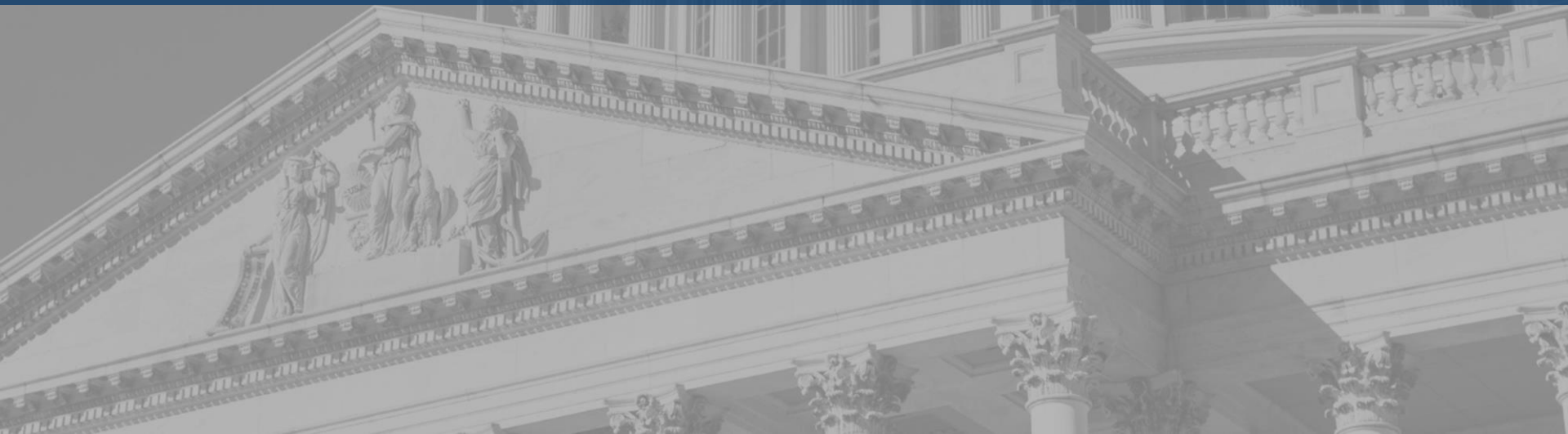


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# Housekeeping Notes

- **Hyperlink appendix**
  - Contains links to all web pages mentioned today
- **Other documents available for download**
  - PDF of today's PowerPoint
  - Glossary
- **Technical difficulties pod**
  - Report technical difficulties experienced during webinar

# Today's Presenters

- **David Campos**
  - Program Manager, CBP
- **Barry Kobe**
  - Team Lead, SEVP
- **Kelly Pilleux-Petronia**
  - Panel Moderator

# Presentation Overview

**1** Arriving to the United States

**2** Entering the United States

**3** Traveling on a Student Visa

**4** Helpful Resources

**5** Live Q&A

# ARRIVING TO THE UNITED STATES



# Arriving to the United States

## *After Receiving a Student Visa*

- **Next steps**
  - Book travel arrangements to the United States
  - Get travel documentation in order
  - Pack to leave
- **Recommendations**
  - Stay in contact with DSO about travel plans

# Arriving to the United States

## *Travel Documentation*

- **Required**
  - Valid passport
  - Valid visa
  - Form I-20
- **Recommended**
  - Customs Declaration
  - Acceptance letter
  - Evidence of financial support
  - DSO contact information



# Pre-submitted Question



**Mobile  
Passport**

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**Can nonimmigrant students use CBP's  
new Mobile Passport app?**

**CBP**

# Arriving to the United States

## *Form I-20*

- **Original, ink signature**
  - Required at student visa interview
  - Required at U.S. port of entry
- **Circumstances that warrant using a copy**
  - Contact U.S. Department of State

# Arriving to the United States

## *Student Travel Reminders Prior to Departure*

- **What to pack in carry-on**
  - Required and recommended documentation
  - Copies of documentation
- **What to pack in checked luggage**
- **What not to pack**
  - Full list on [CBP.gov](https://www.cbp.gov)

# Arriving to the United States

## *Student Reminders Prior to Departure*

- **Reporting to school**
  - Student can enter the United States up to 30 days prior to the official program start date
    - Entrance to the United States recorded in SEVIS
  - Must report to school by program start date on the Form I-20
- **Student responsibility to communicate**
  - Arrival to the United States
  - Failure to enter for the term listed on Form I-20
  - Late arrival for term listed on Form I-20

# ENTERING THE UNITED STATES



# Entering the United States

## *Primary vs. Secondary Inspection*

- **Primary inspection**
  - Review all documents for validity
  - Query for record in nonimmigrant data systems
- **Secondary inspection**
  - More time and systems to review all available records
  - If correctable issues arise, CBP issues a Form I-515A

# Pre-submitted Question



## Admissibility

What SEVIS information do CBP officers look at to determine a student's admissibility?

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# Entering the United States

## *Ports of Entry*

- **What to expect at air and sea ports of entry**
  - Automated Form I-94
  - Controlled environment
    - Gives CBP officers time to process applicants for admission in primary inspection
- **What to expect at a land port of entry**
  - Paper Form I-94
  - Applicants often referred to secondary inspection due to lack of a passenger manifest



# Entering the United States

## *Tips for Border Commuter Students*

- Typically affects schools close to the Canadian and Mexican borders
- Special rules for border commuter students
  - Allowed to study part time
- Students should contact school officials to decide if they want to study under these rules
- Tips
  - Carrying all required and recommended documentation for each crossing
  - Enroll in the Trusted Traveler/SENTRI program

# Entering the United States

## *Handling a Form I-515A*

- **Student's responsibility to notify DSO of Form I-515A**
  - DSO receives notice via email
- **Send response to SEVP within 30 days of issuance**
  - Consequences of failure to comply
- **SEVP processes documents and returns to DSO**
- **Resources on Study in the States**
  - “Handling the Form I-515A” one pager
  - “What is a Form I-515A?” page with frequently asked questions

# Pre-submitted Question



## Incorrect Visa Admission

If an individual with a nonimmigrant or exchange visitor student visa is admitted under the wrong visa classification (e.g. a B visa), what can students or school officials do to correct the error?

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# STUDENT TRAVEL



# Student Travel

## *Domestic and International Travel*

- **Suggestions for DSOs**
  - Verify record status for students who are traveling
  - Remind students Form I-20 endorsement is only valid for one year
  - Every inspection at a U.S. port of entry is unique
- **SEVP support**
  - Resources for students on Study in the States
  - Students can call SRC while traveling

# Student Travel

## *Duration of Status, Program Completion Date and Grace Period*

- **Duration of status**
  - Listed on Form I-94 instead of “Admit until date”
  - Defers to program end date listed on Form I-20
- **Program end date**
  - Listed on Form I-20
  - Expected date the student’s program will end
- **Grace period**
  - The period after students finish their programs of study and/or post-completion practical training

# HELPFUL RESOURCES



# Helpful Resources

## *U.S. Customs and Border Protection*

- **CBP main website**
  - Travel information and news
- **CBP travel page for international visitors**
  - Travel tips and reminders
- **DHS TRIP**
  - Inquiries about U.S. port of entry experiences
- **Form I-94 website**
  - Apply for or retrieve the Form I-94 online

The screenshot displays the official website for travelers visiting the United States, specifically the I-94 website. The page features a navigation bar with links for 'HOME', 'APPLY FOR NEW I-94', 'GET MOST RECENT I-94', 'VIEW TRAVEL HISTORY', 'VIEW COMPLIANCE', and 'FAQ'. A central banner reads: 'Official Site for Travelers Visiting the United States: Apply for or Retrieve Form I-94, Request Travel History and Check Travel Compliance'. Below this, four main service tiles are visible: 'Visiting the U.S. & Arriving via a Land Border?', 'Already Visiting & Need Proof of Visitor Status?', 'Need A History Of Your Arrivals & Departures?', and 'How Much Longer May I Remain in the U.S.?'. Each tile includes a brief description and a corresponding action button. A 'Frequently Asked Questions' section is also present, with four questions related to the page. The footer contains contact information for the CBP Info Center, including a phone number (1-877-234-5141) and a website link (cbp.gov), along with a privacy policy link and a copyright notice for 2017.

CBP



# Helpful Resources

## Student and Exchange Visitor Program

- Study in the States
  - Information for F and M students
  - Information for SEVP-certified schools
  - Webinars
  - Blog posts
- ICE.gov/SEVP
  - SEVP policy and regulation
  - SEVP-certified school operating instructions

Official Website of the Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Report Crimes: Email or Call 1-866-DHS-2-ICE Search ICE.gov

Home Who We Are What We Do Newsroom Information Library Contact ICE Careers En Español

Student and Exchange Visitor Program

Student and Exchange Visitor Program

Overview Study in the States Initiative Mission Glossary

SHARE

STUDENTS SCHOOLS SEVIS

Related Information

Schools Students SEVIS Contact Us

Stay Connected

Sign up to receive SEVP email updates.

Email Address Sign up

As a reminder to our stakeholders, ICE has a policy in place that advises against enforcement actions at schools or churches. With that said, SEVP personnel often visit SEVP-certified schools or those seeking SEVP certification. Many of these visits are required in order to maintain a school's SEVP certification. Learn more about ICE's sensitive locations policy.

SEVP-certified schools are subject to review of their certification at any time based on federal regulation. Visit the School Status page for a list of schools that have been withdrawn in SEVIS upon review due to a failure to comply with 8 CFR 214.2(b)(1)(i)(II).

SEVP Overview

Welcome to the official SEVP and SEVIS website. Here you can find the latest information and resources for F (academic) and M (vocational) students, as well as designated school officials (DSOs).

The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) is a part of the National Security Investigations Division and 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 Department of Homeland Security (DHS), SEVP manages schools, nonimmigrant students in the F and M visa classifications and their dependents. The Department of State (DoS) manages Exchange Visitor Programs, nonimmigrant exchange visitors in the J visa classification and their dependents. Both SEVP and DoS use the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) to track and monitor schools, exchange visitor programs; and F, M and J nonimmigrants while they visit the United States and participate in the U.S. education system.

Background: SEVP and SEVIS

Expand All Collapse All

What is SEVP? +

What is SEVIS? +

What is the purpose of SEVIS? +

Who are F and M nonimmigrant students? +

# Helpful Resources

## *Presenter Contact Information*

### CBP

General questions:

**877-227-5511**



Report suspicious activity:

**800-232-5378**

### SEVP



Case-specific questions:

**[SEVP@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:SEVP@ice.dhs.gov)**

Technical questions:

**[SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov)**



**703-603-3400**

**800-892-4629**

LIVE Q&A





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