



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

- Welcome to the Winter 2017 SEVP InFocus Webinar
- The webinar will begin promptly at 2 p.m. EST
- Audio will stream through your computer speakers
- Please take a moment to answer the poll questions on your screen

SEVP
STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

Winter 2017 SEVP InFocus Webinar

Dec. 14, 2017, 2 – 3 p.m. EST



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and Customs
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Housekeeping Notes

- **Download items in the Webinar Resources pod**
 - Hyperlink appendix
 - Presentation PDF
 - Glossary
- **Experiencing technical difficulties?**
 - Provide a description of the issue through the Technical Difficulties pod
- **Webinar recording and resources available after event**

Today's Presenters



Marissa Tinsley
Management and Program
Analyst

Dilhara Barber | Cassie Hero | Heather Young
SEVP Field Representative Panelists

Lauren Caricato
Moderator

Presentation Overview

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THE LATEST NEWS

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NOTIFICATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP

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FACTS + FIGURES

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SEVP FIELD REPRESENTATIVE PANEL

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HELPFUL RESOURCES

THE LATEST NEWS

Information from SEVP

California Wildfires

- **Reminders for DSOs**
 - Ensure students maintain status during an emergency
 - Encourage students to sign up for alerts from local law enforcement
 - Review campus emergency planning materials
 - Resources available on Study in the States
 - SEVP Ask the Experts Webinar: Campus Emergency Planning and the International Student Community recording and resources
 - Maintaining Student Status During an Emergency resource page

Information from SEVP

Ensure Students Maintain Status

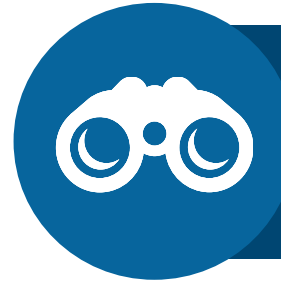
- **Keep in in contact with students**
 - F and M students must maintain nonimmigrant student status during emergency events
- **Remind students to keep important documents safe**
 - Passport and visa
 - Student forms
 - DSO emergency contact information
- **Explain resources available to students**
 - Campus emergency planning resources
 - Study in the States and government partner resources

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP

News for School Officials

Uploading Evidence in SEVIS

- **Functionality available Jan. 8, 2018**
 - 60 calendar day transition period
- **DSOs must submit evidence in SEVIS for:**
 - Initial SEVP certification
 - Recertification
 - Form I-17 updates
 - Correction requests sent to SRC
- **Documents cannot be encrypted or password protected**



REMEMBER

Filing evidence guides
located at
[ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools](https://ice.gov/SEVIS/Schools)

Save the Date

SEVIS Upload Evidence Webinar

- **Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, 2 - 3 p.m. EST**
 - Registration required before webinar
- **Preview SEVIS upload evidence functionality**
- **Participate in a live question and answer session**



Learn more in the SEVIS Help Hub at:

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/SEVIS-Help-Hub/Learn-More/Webinars

Ask the Audience



SEVP Webinar Recordings

What types of SEVP webinar recordings have you watched? Select from the options below.

SEVIS Enhancements

SEVIS Release 6.36

- **Introduced the following:**
 - Changes to practical training functionality
 - New alerts and changes to alert lists
 - New on-screen help text
- **Fixed the following:**
 - Student financial information for Batch change of education level
 - Numbering errors on the printed Form I-17
 - Duplicate record creation when user double-clicks for transfer
 - CED for schools is correct

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

Follow-up

SEVP Portal

SEVP Portal | Student and Exchange Visitor Program Portal

Sign In

Attention: Only students who have OPT approved may use the SEVP Portal. You must create an account and set a password before using this log in page. Go to [Portal Help](#) for more information.

Email

Password

Login [Reset Password](#)

This system supports the following browsers: IE11 and above, Mozilla 38 and above, Google Chrome Version 53.0.2785.116 m and above, Safari OS X and above

Department of Homeland Security Consent

You are about to access a Department of Homeland Security computer system. This computer system and data therein are property of the U.S. Government and provided for official U.S. Government information and use. There is no expectation of privacy when you use this computer system. The use of a password or any other security measure does not establish an expectation of privacy. By using this system, you consent to the terms set forth in this notice. You may not process classified national security information on this computer system. Access to this system is restricted to authorized users only. Unauthorized access, use, or modification of this system or of data contained herein, or in transit to/from this system, may constitute a violation of section 1030 of title 18 of the U.S. Code and other criminal laws. Anyone who accesses a Federal computer system without authorization or exceeds access authority, or obtains, alters, damages, destroys, or discloses information, or prevents authorized use of information on the computer system, may be subject to penalties, fines or imprisonment. This computer system and any related equipment is subject to monitoring for administrative oversight, law enforcement, criminal investigative purposes, inquiries into alleged wrongdoing or misuse, and to ensure proper performance of applicable security features and procedures. DHS may conduct monitoring activities without further notice.

DSOs: Ensure students on post completion OPT have accurate and up-to-date email addresses in SEVIS to prepare for the SEVP Portal launch

Update

SEVP External Training Application

- **Learning management tool for SEVP stakeholders**
 - Provides training courses on a variety of topics related to SEVP and the international student process
- **Will replace existing DSO training modules on [ICE.gov/SEVP](https://ice.dhs.gov/SEVP)**
- **Application currently in development**

Stay tuned to Study in the States and social media for the latest SETA news and updates

Recertification vs. Petition Updates

Know the Difference

- **Form I-17 updates are not the same as recertification**
- **Schools can submit updates when filing for recertification**
 - Apply for recertification from the School Information page in SEVIS
 - Edit the Form I-17 to reflect any changes and provide evidence
 - Upload a complete recertification package in SEVIS
- **Edits not allowed when filing for recertification***
 - Change in ownership
 - Change in instructional site

* SEVP will cancel recertification filings with these edits

Form I-17 Updates Processing Times

What Stakeholders Need to Know

- **Understanding Form I-17 updates**
 - Processing times depend on complexity and type of update
 - Updates processed in the order in which they are received
- **Processing time for all Form I-17 updates**
 - On average, 90 business day minimum
 - Excludes PDSO and DSO updates
- **Processing time for PDSO and DSO updates**
 - 10 business days

DON'T FORGET...

Verify Your School Officials

SEVIS Annual Verification

- **Verification period**
 - Dec. 2, 2017, to March 2, 2018
- **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

Students and OPT Reporting

Reminders for DSOs

- **OPT overview and purpose**
 - Students gain experience in a program of study
 - Students must comply with all U.S. laws and regulations
- **If a student witnesses fraudulent activity:**
 - Contact the HSI Tip Line
 - 866-DHS-2ICE (866-347-2489)
 - [ICE.gov/Tips](https://ice.dhs.gov/tips)
 - Victims and witnesses may be eligible for immigration relief

Students and OPT Reporting

Tips for DSOs

- Ensure students understand they must follow OPT regulations to maintain nonimmigrant student status
- Make sure students using recruitment agencies ensure agencies are trustworthy and reputable
- Inform students to contact the HSI Tip Line immediately if they encounter fraudulent activity tied to OPT

Additional information available in the Practical Training section
at [ICE.gov/SEVP](https://ice.dhs.gov/SEVP)

Ask the Audience



Students and
OPT Reporting

DSOs: Have you notified your students about reporting reminders related to OPT fraud?

FACTS + FIGURES

SEVP Year in Review

Responding to Stakeholder Feedback

INCREASING INTRAGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION



Since January 2017:

55 trainings to government partners

63 joint conference presentations

SEVP Year in Review

Responding to Stakeholder Feedback

INCREASING GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY



Since January 2017:

5 updates to the Trends and Improvements section
on Study in the States

Pathway Programs | Field Representative Knowledge and Utilization
SRC Inconsistencies | SEVIS Modernization (June 2015 – June 2016)
Guidance for Changes to School's Business Structures

SEVP Year in Review

Responding to Stakeholder Feedback

STUDY IN THE STATES BLOG POSTS



Study in the States blog posts directly responding to stakeholder feedback:

Emergent Circumstances vs. Temporary Protected Status: What's the Difference

Community Voices: Four Tips for M-1 International Students

What Does the Term Nonimmigrant Mean?

SEVP Site Visits and School Visits

SEVP Year in Review

Responding to Stakeholder Feedback

STUDY IN THE STATES RESOURCE PAGES



Study in the States resource pages directly responding to stakeholder feedback:

English Language Training
International Student Life Cycle
M-1 Extension of Stay
DSOs and the Form I-20

Ask the Audience



**SEVP Response
to Stakeholder
Feedback**

Overall, how would you rate SEVP's ability to respond to stakeholder feedback?

SEVP FIELD REPRESENTATIVE PANEL

SEVP Field Representative Panelists



Dilhara Barber

SEVP Field Representative
Territory 20
Tulsa, OK



Cassie Hero

SEVP Field Representative
Territory 12
San Diego, CA



Heather Young

SEVP Field Representative
Territory 35
Nashville, TN

Ask the Audience



SEVP Field
Representatives

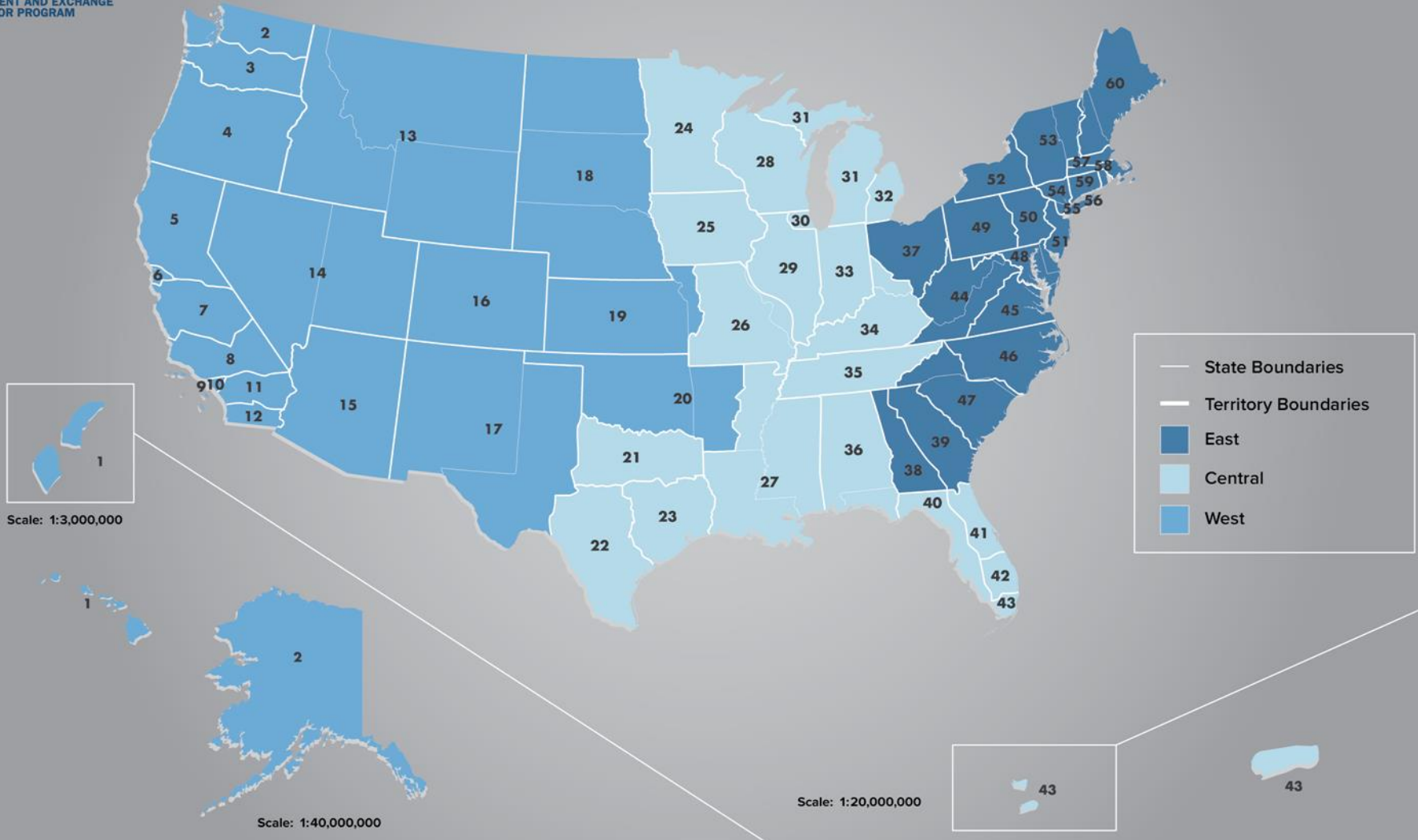
DSOs: How would you describe your relationship with your SEVP field representative?

Overview

SEVP Field Representative Mission

- Serve as a liaison between SEVP and SEVP-certified schools
- Provide localized support to school officials
- Enhance national security by fostering an understanding of regulatory compliance and SEVIS data integrity

Field Representative Regions & Territories



Overview

SEVP Field Representative Duties

- **SEVP field representatives:**
 - Normally meet with schools at least once per year
 - Help explain SEVP rules and regulations
 - Answer questions related to F and M student process
 - Educate DSOs on SEVIS enhancements
 - Attend conferences in their territory

Overview

SEVP Field Representative Training

- Eight-week training at SEVP headquarters for new field representatives
- Training courses include:
 - Legislative and regulatory training
 - SEVP processes, policies and procedures
 - Frequently asked questions
- Field trips and speakers
 - CBP
 - CTCEU
 - Department of State

Ask an SEVP Field Representative

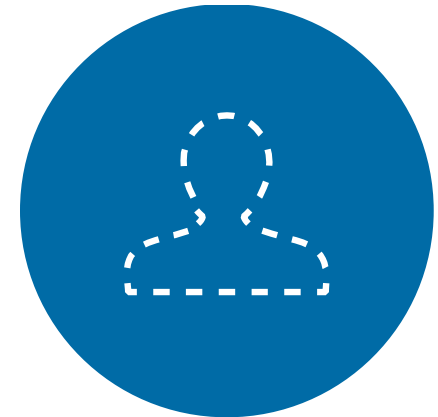


SEVP Field
Representative
Weekly Schedule

What does your typical weekly schedule look like?

Field Representative Unit Updates

- **Remaining vacancies**
 - Baltimore, Maryland*
 - Detroit, Michigan*
 - Kansas City, Missouri*
 - San Antonio, Texas*
 - Raleigh, North Carolina
 - St. Louis, Missouri



* SEVP field representatives are scheduled to deploy to these territories in January 2018

Ask an SEVP Field Representative



Working with
Your SEVP Field
Representative

Do you have tips for DSOs to help enhance their relationship with their SEVP field representative?

Enhancing Customer Service

Serving Stakeholders

SEVP Field Representative
SINCE DEPLOYMENT IN MAY 2014



40,000+
SCHOOL VISITS



280+
CONFERENCES

Ask an SEVP Field Representative



What You Wish
DSOs Knew

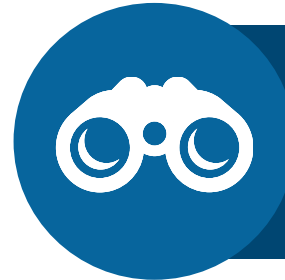
What are the top things you wish DSOs knew about SEVP field representatives?

HELPFUL RESOURCES

New Stakeholder Resource

Government Voices Webinar Series

- Learn how U.S. government agencies work together to facilitate the international student process
 - Joint areas of responsibility
 - Examples of intragovernmental collaboration and support
- Webinars will have presenters from two or more government agencies
- Designed for DSOs and those with an interest in the international student process



LEARN MORE

Visit the Stakeholder
Webinars page on Study in
the States

Save the Date

Government Voices Webinar: Exploring the International Student Life Cycle

- Jan. 31, 2018, 2 - 3 p.m. EST
- Join four U.S. government agencies for a discussion about the international student life cycle
- Government presenters:
 - SEVP
 - USCIS
 - CBP
 - U.S. Department of State

New Resource Page

English Language Training

The screenshot shows the 'STUDY in the STATES' website. The header includes the Homeland Security logo, a 'View Disclaimer' link, a language selection dropdown, and a search bar. The main navigation bar contains 'STUDENTS', 'SCHOOLS', 'BLOG', 'TOOLS', and 'STEM OPT HUB'. The page title is 'English Language Training'. On the left, a 'RELATED CONTENT: STUDENTS' sidebar lists various topics. The main content area includes an introductory paragraph, a bulleted list of program types, a paragraph about SEVP rules, a 'Guidance for Students' section, and a 'Full Course of Study' section. An '+ Expand' button is located at the bottom of the page content.

Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

Homeland Security

STUDY in the **STATES**

[View Disclaimer](#)

Select Language | SEARCH

STUDENTS SCHOOLS BLOG TOOLS STEM OPT HUB

RELATED CONTENT: STUDENTS

- ▶ Getting Started
- ▶ Traveling to the United States
- ▶ Studying in the United States
- ▶ Student Benefits
- ▶ STEM OPT
- ▶ Status Changes
- ▶ K-12 Resources
- ▶ Outreach
- ▶ Tools

English Language Training

English language training programs enroll F-1 students who want to pursue an English language training course of study. The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) defines two types of English language training programs:

- A "stand-alone" English language training program is an SEVP-certified institution whose officials have indicated on the school's Form I-17, "Petition for Approval of School for Attendance by Nonimmigrant Student," that the school offers **only** English language training programs of study.
- A "combined" English language training program is an SEVP-certified institution whose officials have indicated on the school's Form I-17 that the school offers an English language training program of study, as well as other programs of study.

It is important that both English language training students and schools understand how SEVP rules and reporting requirements relate to their unique program of study. Failing to properly comply with federal regulations may have adverse impacts on a student's status or a school's SEVP certification.

Guidance for Students

Like other F-1 students in the United States, English language training students must maintain their status by enrolling in a full course of study and following the rules associated with their benefits outside of the classroom. This section explains these requirements and provides links to more resources on Study in the States.

Full Course of Study

All English language training students must enroll in either 18 clock hours per week if the majority of the program consists of classroom instruction or 22 clock hours per week if the majority of the program consists of lab instruction. Online courses cannot count toward a full course of study for an English language training student.


[+ Expand](#)

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/English-Language-Training

Enhanced Resource

Redesigned Ask a Question Tool

Official website of the Department of Homeland Security



Homeland Security

STUDY in the STATES

[View Disclaimer](#)

Select Language

STUDENTS | SCHOOLS | BLOG

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are the answers to the most frequently asked questions about international student process in the United States. To skip to a specific section, use the anchored links below. To read an answer, click expand button next to the question.

[Getting Started](#)

[Traveling to the United States](#)

[Studying in the United States](#)

[Student Benefits](#)

[Status Changes](#)

[SEVP Certification](#)

Getting Started

- + How does an international student receive a Form I-20 and why do they need one?
- + Can international students attend a kindergarten through grade 12 school in the United States?
- + Can international students bring their family members to the United States while they study?
- + What is the difference between a student visa, student status and a student's Form I-20?
- + What is accreditation and how does the Accreditation Act apply to SEVP-certified schools?

Traveling to the United States

- + What is the I-901 SEVIS fee and how much does it cost?
- + How do international students pay and receive a receipt for their I-901 SEVIS Fee?
- + How do international students who haven't begun studying transfer their I-901 SEVIS Fee to a different school?

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



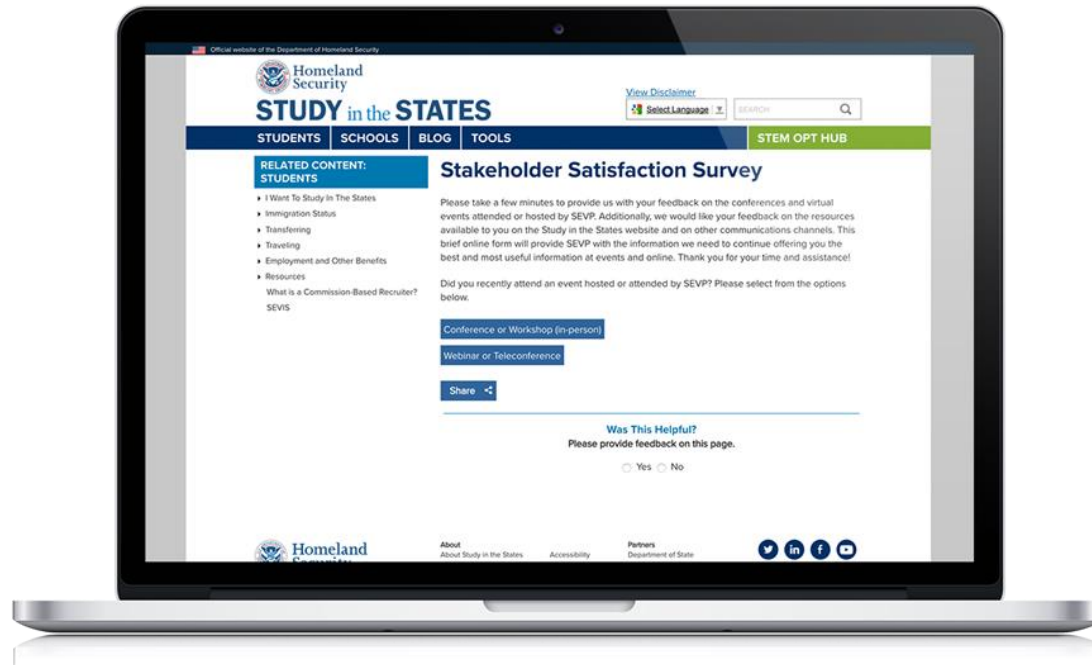
Facebook.com/StudyintheStates



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 federal holidays
Additional contact information at StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Contact-Us

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



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

- Thank you for joining today's webinar
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