



U.S. Immigration
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U.S. Department
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SEVP

STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

SEVIS Batch Webinar
March 4, 2016



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Before we start,

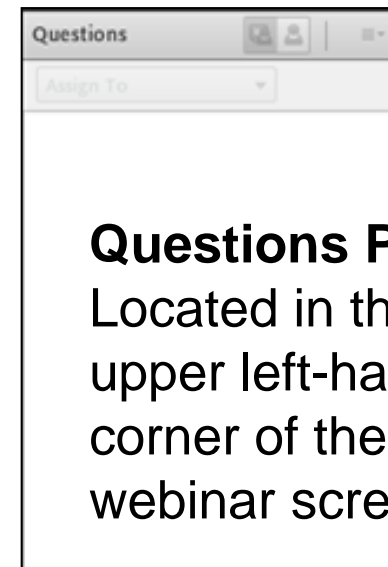
A QUICK ORIENTATION



Communications

- Use the Questions Pod to let us know if you are having audio or other technical issues
- Type your questions in the Questions Pod as they occur to you

There will be a Q&A session at the end of each topic, where we will answer your questions, but you may submit questions at any time.



Questions Pod:
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Name	Size
FAQ Accreditations and Recognitions Conversion.pdf	242 KB
Webinar Participant Guide.pdf	139 KB
Slides Pre-Release Webinar SEVIS 6-16.pdf	991 KB
Accreditation Conversion Worksheet.xlsx	56 KB



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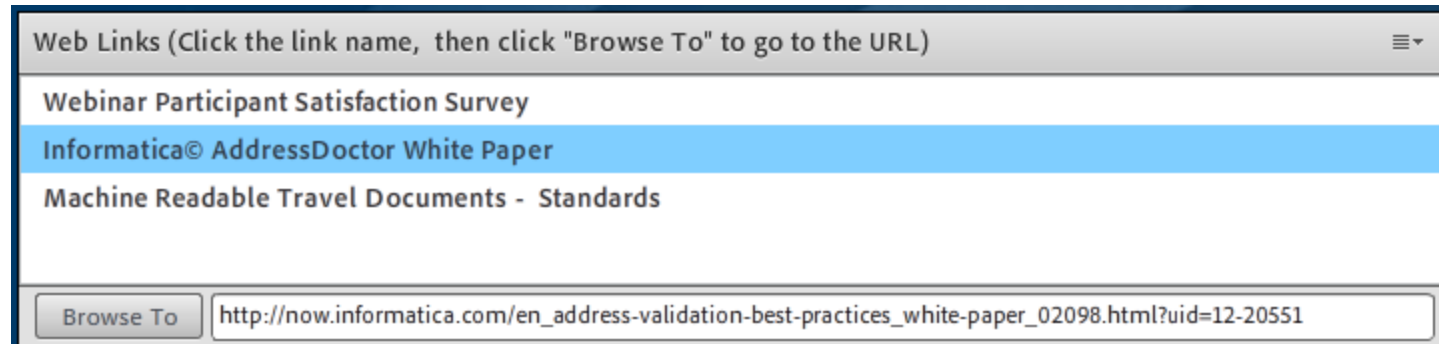
Documents Available to Download Today

- SEVIS Batch Webinar Slides
- SEVIS Pre-Release 6.25 Webinar Slides
- F-1 Cap Gap Extension User Guide

Also look on *Study in the States* for these materials.

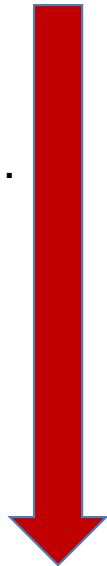


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March 4, 2016



Presenters

- **Ann Balough**, Lead, SEVIS Program Development and Management Section and SEVIS Business Project Manager
- **Amy Newman**, Department of State, SEVIS Liaison
- **Jared Allen**, SEVIS Webinar Facilitator



Batch Webinar Agenda

- SEVP communications with batch software developers
- Schedule for release of batch schema and deployments to the Alpha SEVIS test environment for June 2016 release
- SEVIS Release 6.25 enhancements
- Department of State batch updates
- Batch-related functionality in SEVIS June 2016 release
- Future webinars
- Resources
- Q&A



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SEVIS RELEASE SCHEDULE



SEVIS Release 6.25 Schedule

- Date: Friday, March 18, 2016
- Time: 8 PM
- Duration: 4 hours or less
- No expected interruption to normal processes



Future SEVIS Release Schedule

- Release 6.26 - May 2016
- Release 6.27 - June 2016 (batch implications)
- Release 6.28 - August 2016



Batch Development Critical Dates

Date	Event
February 12	Deployed into production a fix to batch transaction log error
March 3	Sent draft Exchange Visitor schema to vendors
March 4	Send stories/bug/improvement documentation for Sprint 31 to vendors
March 11	Full Batch Release to Alpha, Full Draft Schema, and Draft API
April 1	Send requirement documentation for Sprint 32 to vendors
April 28	SEVP Regression testing and bug fixes starts
April 29	Send requirement documentation for Sprint 33 to vendors
May 6	Deploy update to Alpha environment
May 8	SEVP Regression testing and bug fixes end
May 10	Code Complete
June 3	Deploy update to Alpha environment
June 24	Release 6.27 deployed to Production and Alpha environments; Final Schema and API posted
July 8	Release 6.27 deployed to Beta

Note: There may be issues beyond our control that affect this schedule.



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SEVP BATCH COMMUNICATIONS



Batch Working Group On-site Conference

- On-site conference – January 13, 2016
- Attendees – 43
- Vendors:
 - Buchanan and Edwards
 - CCUSA
 - CIEE
 - DOS/ECA/EX/IT
 - ECFMG
 - Ellucian, Inc.
 - Greenheart International
 - Institute of International Education
 - Intrax
 - Rimini Street, Inc.
 - Rivera Group
 - SUNAPSIS
 - Terra Dotta
 - Youth For Understanding



Batch User Working Group Conference Calls

- SEVP and DHS partners are working together to advise and involve all concerned organizations in the IT change process.
- Batch User Working Group Conference Call:
 - Date: Every third Tuesday of the month
 - Time: 2:00PM – 3:00PM
 - Email SEVISTechnicalFeedback@ice.dhs.gov, to join the working group. Preference given to batch software developers and SEVIS IT managers.

Note: Conference call access limited to 100.



Weekly Developer Meeting

- Limited to developers
- Thursdays at 11:40 AM
- Agenda:
 - SEVP/DoS will report on any action items or important developments.
 - Group consideration of any bugs/improvements previously submitted.
 - Discussion of any issues.



Expectations

- Vendors will train their batch developers in existing SEVIS functionality.
Note: SEVP cannot walk developers through how to set up records for effective testing.
- Batch specialist can provide some support but must support all batch users.
- Understanding that our mission is SEVIS:
 - We will provide transparency into what we are developing.
 - We cannot support vendor-specific functionality.
 - Our help/support assets are limited.



SEVP/DoS Batch Parameters

- Primary purpose is to support the submission of bulk data via a compliant XML file.
- SEVIS mission:
 - National Security
 - Enforce immigration regulations for F, M, and J nonimmigrants
 - Monitor schools and programs
- Support academic and program users with:
 - Real-time interface
 - Submission of bulk data via XML files (Batch)
- Support of batch developers:
 - Provide information
 - Testing environment
 - Development support for submitting and processing XML files



Reporting Batch Issues

Send email for questions, bugs, and improvements to:

- SEVIS.batch@ice.dhs.gov for:
 - Access to the Alpha and Beta environments
 - Help with adjudicating actions
- Include copy regarding bugs and improvements to:
 - SEVISTechnicalFeedback@ice.dhs.gov
 - JSEVIS@state.gov



Reporting Batch Issues

- Enter **Batch Issues** in Subject Line.
- Make email **High Importance**.
- Include in email:
 - Description of actions taking place when incident occurred.
 - Description of action needed, school, program, and SEVIS ID affected.
 - Screen shots of issue.



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SEVIS RELEASE 6.25 ENHANCEMENTS

– F/M SEVIS ONLY;

NO BATCH IMPLICATIONS



SEVIS Release 6.25 Enhancements

- Improvements to cap gap extensions.
- Minor improvement when searching for schools in the transfer-out process.
- Downloadable Report: *Students and Dependents without a Record of an Updated Form I-20, 'Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status'*

Note: For more information on SEVIS Release 6.25 enhancements, refer to files in Download Pod.



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SEVIS RELEASE ENHANCEMENTS JUNE 2016

March 4, 2016

25



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J-SEVIS BATCH UPDATES FOR JUNE 2016

March 4, 2016

26



Biographical Validations

- Exchange Visitor must be between 4 and 100 years old.
- Removed fields Foreign Field of Study and Foreign Degree from Student Intern.
Note: These fields have been added to the T/IPP.
- Add phone number on update.
- Program Begin Date cannot be more than 1 year in the future.
- Spouse/Dependent must be under 100 years old.
- Corrected issue where Au Pair record cannot be created, if they are 26 years old as of the Program Begin Date.



Validation Action

Removed ability to add visa and entry information from the Validate action.



Secondary School Student Updates

- Limited Subject/Field Code selection to only include the codes related to secondary school.
- Added a zip code field for Local Coordinator.

Note: Will still have the Local Coordinator Last Name and First Name.

- If Residential Address Type is Host Family, must choose the type:
 - Arrival
 - Temporary
 - Permanent



Secondary School Student Updates

- If Residential Address Type is Boarding School, adding fields for:
 - Primary Contact Last Name
 - Primary Contact First Name
 - Primary Contact Title
- Can update biographical information for Secondary School Student in Initial status after visa.
- Residential Address information is required prior to validation.



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F/M-SEVIS BATCH UPDATES FOR JUNE 2016

March 4, 2016

31



Create Certificate of Eligibility (F/M/J)

- Validations if country of birth = U.S. or U.S. territory.
- Date of Birth:
 - Student must be between 4 and 100 years old.
 - Spouse or child must be under 100 years old.
- Add U.S. mailing address field.
- Add fields for U.S. and foreign phone numbers.



Create Certificate of Eligibility (F/M/J)

- Limit Acceptable CIP codes for K-12.
- Remove Normal Length of Study.
- Add Initial Session Start Date (ISSD).
- Verify rules for English proficiency.
- Same rules will apply when creating Form I-20 for:
 - Initial
 - Change of Educational Level
 - Transfer



Minor Changes to Form I-20

No need to reprint if the student already has a Form I-20 that does not have a barcode.



Reminder: By July 1, 2016, active students must have a version of the Form I-20 that does not have a barcode on it.



Registration

- Address, telephone, and email will be required for continuing registration.
- Length of session – cannot be more than 183 days long; if longer, must register via RTI to validate session length.
- Length of breaks between sessions – cannot be more than 153 days long; if longer, must register via RTI to validate length of break.
- The first registration will be based on ISSD, instead of Program Start Date.
- Allow submission of “Thesis or Dissertation” and “Study/Research Abroad.”



Update Personal, Program, or Financial Information

Change validation rules to match validations used when creating COE.



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FUTURE WEBINARS



Future SEVIS Webinars

Date	Topic
April 1, 2016	Certificate of Eligibility Webinar
April 29, 2016	SEVIS Registration Webinar
May 20, 2016	Form I-17 Webinar (Basic Form I-17 Update)
TBD	Form I-17 Webinar (Detailed Form I-17 Update)

Note: New Form I-17 will be released in late summer. (Estimated date of release is August 2016). Changes are being made to the Form I-17, but DSOs do not have to change anything that is already in SEVIS.



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RESOURCES



Release Resources

- Batch Webinar Slides
- Pre-Release 6.25 Webinar Slides
- F-1 Cap Gap Extension User Guide
- SEVIS Transfer Out Student User Guide
- SEVIS Release 6.25 Planning Guide
(March 2016)
 - <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/learn-more/sevis-enhancements>

Note: Available on Study in the States and Webinar Download Pod.



Study in the States Website URLs

- SEVIS Information Page
 - <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis>
- Webinar Page
 - <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/webinars>
- SEVIS Help Hub
 - <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub>



Other Resources

- SEVIS Email
 - SEVISTechnicalFeedback@ice.dhs.gov
- SEVIS Batch Email
 - SEVIS.Batch@ice.dhs.gov
- Department of State Email
 - jsevis@state.gov
- SEVP Response Center
 - SEVP@ice.dhs.gov
- SEVIS Help Desk
 - 800-892-4829
 - SEVISHelpdesk@ice.dhs.gov



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS