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SEVP

STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

SEVIS 6.27 Post-Release Webinar
July 22, 2016



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Before we start,

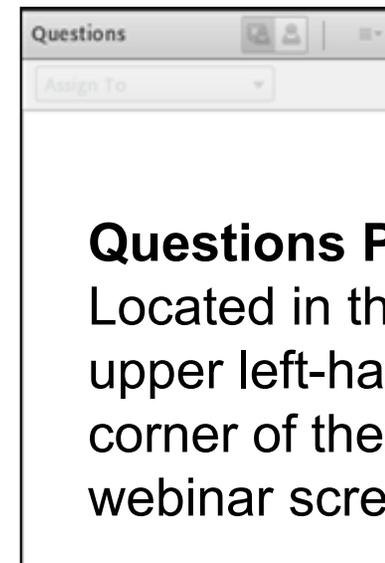
A QUICK ORIENTATION



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.

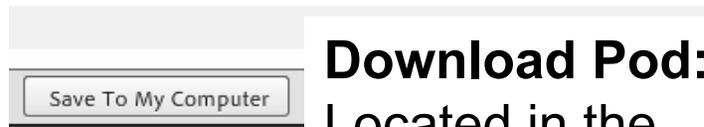


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Download Pod

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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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1. Select file.
2. Click **Save To My Computer**.
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4. Save the file using your system procedures.

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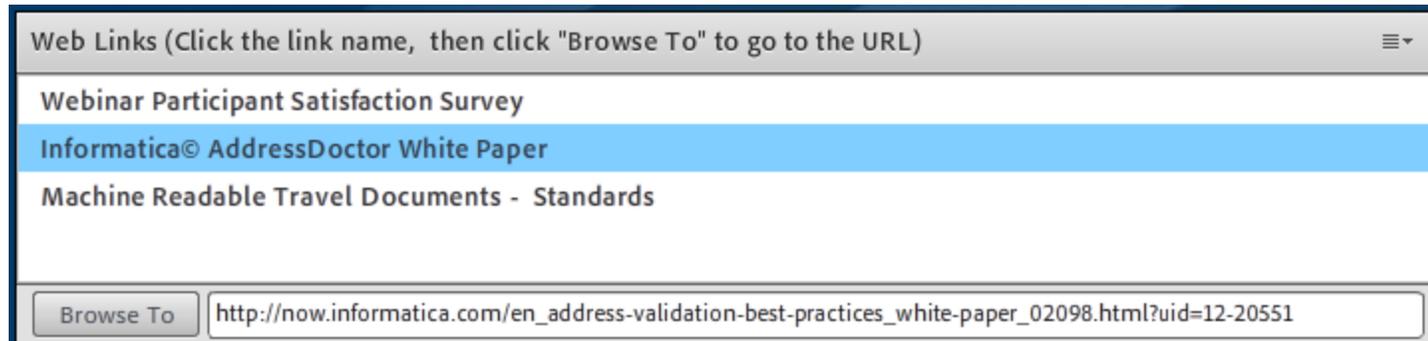
Documents Available to Download Today

- Post-Release 6.27 Webinar Slides
- Screenshots for SEVIS 6.27 Release
- SEVIS 6.28 Release Planning Guide

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



Web Links Pod



Web Links Pod:

Located at the bottom of the webinar screen.



How to access web links:

1. Select link – this displays the URL.
2. Click **Browse To**- this navigates to the web site.



Web Links Available Today

- Webinar Satisfaction Survey
- Create F/M Certificates of Eligibility (COE) (Form I-20) Webinar
- SEVIS Registration for F/M Students Webinar
- SEVIS 6.27 Pre-Release Webinar



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July 22, 2016



Presenters

- **Ann Balough**, Lead, SEVIS Program Development and Management Section and SEVIS Business Project Manager
- **Debbie Kyle**, Department of State, SEVIS Liaison
- **Helene Robertson**, SEVIS Help Team Lead



Agenda

- SEVIS 6.27 Release review and Q&A for J SEVIS
- SEVIS 6.27 Release review for F/M SEVIS
- SEVIS Release 6.28 (F/M SEVIS only)
- Release 6.27 key issues for F/M SEVIS
- Future webinars
- Reporting release issues
- SEVIS resources
- Question and Answer session



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SEVIS RELEASE 6.27 REVIEW – J SEVIS



Changes to J SEVIS

- Improved workflow and added validations for creating Certificates of Eligibility (Forms DS-2019)
 - Added Contact and Program Information page
 - Initial
 - Transfer
- Revised Exchange Visitor (EV) update pages:
 - Update Biographical Information
 - Update Financial Information
 - Update Contact and Program Information



Changes to J SEVIS (cont'd)

- Improved Alerts and Exchange Visitor Lists
- Removed port of entry, visa, and passport information from the Validate Program page
- Added ability to change Program End Date during transfer-in process
- Added fields for Secondary School Student category
- Added Residential Information page for Secondary School Student and Au Pair



Release 6.27 DoS Webinar

Topic	Date
Create Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (Form DS-2019)	April 15, 2016

Note: The DoS webinar presentation and questions and answers generated from the webinar are located at:

<http://j1visa.state.gov/sponsors/current/sevis/sevis-alertsannouncements/>



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS – J SEVIS



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SEVIS RELEASE 6.27 REVIEW – F/M SEVIS



Changes to F/M SEVIS

- Improved workflow and added validations for creating Certificates of Eligibility (Forms I-20):
 - Initial
 - Change of Education Level
 - Transfer
 - Reinstatement
- Introduced Initial Session Start Date (start of classes) as separate concept from Program Start Date (report date)



Changes to F/M SEVIS

- Created new Travel, Visa, and Passport page
- Changed look of Student Information page
- Revised the Update pages:
 - Update Personal Information
 - Update Program Information
 - Update Financial Information
- Improved Manage Initial Program and Session Dates page (formerly Defer Attendance)



Changes to F/M SEVIS (cont'd)

- Improved Alerts and Student Lists
- Updated Registration workflow and validations:
 - Initial registration
 - Continuing registration
- Added Mass Registration functionality



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SEVIS RELEASE 6.28 (F/M SEVIS ONLY)

SEVIS Release 6.28

When:

- August 12, 2016
- 8 PM – Midnight (ET)

Functionality Included:

- Add Current Session Start Date to Registration page as an editable field
- Fix Batch logic for the length of F/M sessions and breaks

Current Session Start Date

- Cannot be more than 183 days before Current Session End Date
- DSOs can overwrite any existing value in the field
- Required field in RTI and in Batch

Communication with Batch Vendors

- Batch Vendors were involved in the decision to move the implementation from September 30 to August 12
- Unexpected strain on their resources
- Most, but not all, vendors are able to accommodate this change

What happens if your school cannot implement the update to your batch software by August 12?

- After August 12, you may need to use RTI for registration until the change to vendor software can be deployed at your school
- Suggest using the Mass Registration functionality in RTI



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RELEASE 6.27 ISSUES



Resolved Issues

Issue	Status
<p>SEVIS would not accept the Initial Session Start Date (ISSD) on registration for a transfer-in student.</p> <p>All occurrences were transfer students on post-completion OPT whose records were released on or after July 9, 2016. Regardless of the date entered for the ISSD, the error message states, "The Initial Session Start Date may not be more than 152 days after the earliest of the student's Program End Date (if not on post-completion OPT) or the Transfer Release date."</p>	<p>Resolved: Emergency Release on Friday, 15 July 2016.</p> <p>Note: For students whose records were on optional practical training (OPT), the business rule for ISSD was looking at their previous Program End Date, rather than the Transfer Release date.</p>



Resolved Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Students' email addresses and telephone numbers removed.</p> <p>School had students' email addresses and telephone information prior to the release, but that information was erased at the release. Event history did not have any indication of this.</p>	<p>Resolved: Emergency Release on Friday, 15 July 2016.</p>



Resolved Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Schools unable to register students who have a foreign telephone number only.</p> <p>Schools cannot register a student without either entering a U.S. telephone number or saying the student does not have a telephone number, which wipes out the foreign telephone number, if the student has one.</p>	<p>Resolved: Emergency Release on Friday, 15 July 2016.</p> <p>Note: Update added a foreign telephone number field to the continuing registration page.</p>



Issues To be Addressed in a Future Release

Issue	Status
<p>SEVIS does not display the Current Session Start Date or the session length calculation, contrary to what the SEVIS Help materials say.</p> <p>SEVIS will not display Current Session Start Date, if the student is not in an actual session.</p>	<p>Resolution: This will be fixed in the August 2016 Release.</p>



Issues To be Addressed in a Future Release

Issue	Status
<p>Length of program appears to be too short.</p> <p>On records with a Program Start Date (PSD) and Program End Date (PED) of exactly one year (for example, PSD: 01/01/xxxx; PED: 12/31/xxxx), SEVIS displays a program length of 11 months on the <i>Create Student</i> page.</p>	<p>Resolution: Will be added to January 2017 Release.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have confirmed that the range changes to 12 months, as soon as the number of days is 366, as opposed to 365 days. • The 11-month length does not display on the Form I-20 or anywhere else in SEVIS.



Issues To be Addressed in a Future Release

Issue	Status
<p>Users unable to update Next Session Start Date for students who have a past Current Session End Date.</p> <p>A school user was unable to update a Next Session Start Date for students, who have retroactively opted to take a vacation after the session ended, because the registration event requires them to enter a Current Session End Date that is greater than or equal to today's date.</p>	<p>Resolution: Will try to add to the January 2017 Release.</p> <p>Note: Until resolution implemented, create a Help Desk Ticket to have the dates adjusted.</p>



Issues To be Addressed in a Future Release

Issue	Status
<p>Continuing registration page indicates that the Next Session Start Date is required even when student is in the last term.</p> <p>User questioned why the Next Session Start Date has an asterisk next to it, even when “Student is in last session” is checked.</p>	<p>Resolution: Will try to change in the January 2017 Release.</p>



Pending Issues

Issue	Status
<p>DSOs cannot register Border Commuter students unless an I-901 SEVIS Fee payment is on the record.</p> <p>SEVP guidance states that Border Commuter students must have a new initial Form I-20 issued every semester, but are only required to pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee once. Issue occurred because a new SEVIS business rule requires an I-901 SEVIS Fee payment on every initial record in order to register the student.</p>	<p>Resolution: DSOs must transfer the Border Commuter students' I-901 SEVIS Fee to register the students in each of their subsequent initial records.</p> <p>Note: SEVP is researching a solution for this issue.</p>



Batch Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Batch schema for SEVIS Release 6.27 not posted to ice.gov in a timely manner, preventing schools from validating their batches.</p> <p>Prior to the release, the batch schema was sent to the DHS officials who maintain the ICE.gov website. The delay in updating the site caused this problem.</p>	<p>SEVP is working on a solution to this problem, so it does not happen again. Details will be shared once they are available.</p>



Batch Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Batch: Unable to submit continuing registration – receive error S1197 - Current Session Start Date is not populated. You must process this registration in RTI.</p> <p>Implementation of Current Session Start Date (CSSD) rules required that CSSD not be applied to all records. Some batches are failing with the instruction to users to process these registrations in RTI.</p>	<p>Resolution: Change will be added to the August 2016 Release.</p> <p>Interim Resolution: Complete registration in RTI or use the Mass Update function.</p>



Batch Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Batch: Cannot register a student for the next session before the current session ends.</p> <p>The new functionality in SEVIS that calculates and displays current session information relies on the current session start date being available. When the session ends, the Current Session Start Date can be replaced by a new value.</p>	<p>Resolution: This will be fixed in a future release.</p>



Batch Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Batch: Personal Info events, while successful, do not have the updated values when viewed RTI.</p> <p>User reports that after a batch of Personal Info events to update a student's telephone number, the SEVIS transaction log and the Event History indicated a successful update, but the telephone number field was still empty.</p>	<p>Intermittent Batch issue – Submit any examples of this issue to: SEVIS.Batch@ice.dhs.gov and SEVISTechnicalFeedback@ice.dhs.gov</p>



Batch Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Some users have reported inability to register Change of Education Level students in batch.</p> <p>This is a pre-existing problem with batch as SEVIS does not know which record to tie the registration event to.</p>	<p>Resolution: Complete Change of Education Level in RTI.</p> <p>This will be fixed in a future release.</p>



Browser Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Display issues with Chrome browser.</p> <p>Symptoms include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transfer in and Active student lists do not have any data.• Screen elements overlap.	<p>Resolution: Clear cache and cookies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Left click and hold the Reload [Refresh] button.• Click option to clear the cookies and cache. <p>Note: The left click feature does not work, if Chrome does not have any cache or cookies to delete.</p> <p>Alternate resolution: Contact institution's technical support to request they reset AJAX.</p>



Browser Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Attempt to download Excel list creates an XML file rather than an Excel file.</p> <p>Issue occurs when attempting to download various alerts or lists to an Excel spreadsheet using Firefox as the browser.</p>	<p>Resolution: Both Internet Explorer and Chrome browsers are able to download an Excel spreadsheet. Use either Internet Explorer or Chrome to download an Excel spreadsheet.</p> <p>Note: Users may use Firefox to download CSV files.</p>



Annoying Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Users cannot see the Registration button, so they cannot register students.</p>	<p><i>Student Information</i> page layout has been changed. Registration section with Registration button are on right side of the page.</p>

Reprint I-20

Print Draft I-20

Student Information

F-1 STUDENT
Parker, Lynda

SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies -
SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies
Start Date: August 15, 2015 End Date: May 29, 2019

Status: **ACTIVE**
Status Change Date: May 13, 2016
SEVIS ID: N0004690151

I-901 Fee Paid I-20 ISSUE REASON: CONTINUED ATTENDANCE

Edit

View: Event History

Request/Authorization Details

Transfer History

Employment Information

Actions: Authorize To Drop Below Full Course

Change Education Level

Complete Program

Disciplinary Action

Extend Program

Shorten Program

Terminate Student

Transfer Out

Employment/Training: OPT Employment Authorization

Off-Campus Employment

OPT Request

Corrections: Request Change to Program

Personal / Contact

Gender: **FEMALE**

Date of Birth: **July 24, 1951** Age 64

Country of Birth: **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**

Country of Citizenship: **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**

Telephone: **Student does not have a telephone number.**

Email Address: **lp@gmail.com**

Overall Remarks

Program

Education Level: **MASTER'S**

Major 1 and Name: **14.0701 - Chemical Engineering**

Major 2 and Name: **00.0000 - None**

Minor and Name: **00.0000 - None**

CPT Employment Authorization: **00.0000 - None**

Program Start Date: **August 15, 2015**

Program End Date: **May 29, 2019**

English Proficiency

Requires English Proficiency for This Program

Registration

Initial Session Start Date: **August 15, 2015**

Current Session End Date: **February 2, 2017**

Next Session Start Date: **February 15, 2017**

Length of Next Break/Vacation: **12**

Last Session: **No**

Study/Research Abroad: **No**

Thesis/Dissertation: **No**

I-901 SEVIS Fee Payment



Annoying Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Export of student lists exports only records on screen.</p> <p>User expressed concern that it is not clear that the function to export a list only exports what is on the screen, rather than the entire list. (An entire list would be a maximum of 1000 records, since that is the upper limit that can be viewed.)</p>	<p>This function is working as planned, as exporting a list of up to 1000 records would slow SEVIS production.</p>



Annoying Issues

Issue	Status
<p>“Needs U.S. Address” flag displays on initial records.</p> <p>Users request “Needs U.S. Address” flag be removed from initial records, since some students do not have to have a U.S. address yet.</p>	<p>This feature is working as planned. The “Needs U.S. Address” flag will remain. It is a reminder that the student will need a U.S. address. It does not keep the student from being registered.</p>



Annoying Issues

Issue	Status
<p>U.S. address and telephone information required to create a transfer-in Form I-20.</p> <p>User expressed concern that the U.S. contact information is being required for transfer students, as they may not have provided U.S. address information in their admissions materials and the student may not presently be in the United States.</p>	<p>This function is working as planned. The U.S. address and telephone information is required, so the DSO must ask the student for this information and enter it into SEVIS.</p>



Annoying Issues

Issue	Status
<p>Guidance needed on English proficiency navigation for schools.</p> <p>English proficiency information does not allow the entry of “Yes; English proficiency required by the school”, but “No; student does not have the required English Proficiency.”</p>	<p>This function is working as planned. SEVP released final policy guidance on July 14, 2016.</p>



Annoying Issues

Issue	Status
<p>The default sort for Alerts and Lists is by SEVIS ID and not alphabetical by name.</p>	<p>Users can change the sort order by clicking the arrow in the Name column.</p>



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SEVIS RELEASE 6.27

RESOURCES FOR F/M SEVIS



Release 6.27 Webinars

Topic	Date
Create F/M Certificates of Eligibility (COE) (Form I-20) Webinar	April 1, 2016
SEVIS Registration for F/M Students Webinar	May 20, 2016
SEVIS 6.27 Pre-Release Webinar	June 10, 2016

Note: For all SEVIS webinars, see SEVIS Help Hub on Study in the States:

<https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/learn-more/webinars>



Release Demonstrations

- Create Initial Form I-20
- Student Information Page
- Registration
- Mass Registration

Note: Available on the Study in the States' SEVIS Help Hub with links in *SEVIS Demonstrations* page at <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/learn-more/sevis-demonstrations>

Release Topical Resources

- Create Certificate Of Eligibility (Form I-20)
- Change Educational Level
- Reinstatement
- Update Program Information
- Update Financial Information
- Update Personal Information
- Registration (Revision)
- Mass Registration
- Mass Actions Page
- Listing Of Schools Page (Revision)
- Downloads Page (Revision)
- Form I-20 Mass Reprint
- Student Information Page
- Manage Initial Program and Session Dates
- Alerts and Student Lists
- Travel, Passport, Visa Information

Note: Links available in the *SEVIS Release 6.27 Planning Guide* on the Study in the States' SEVIS Help Hub at

<https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/learn-more/sevis-enhancements/sevis-release-627-planning-guide>



Important Things to Remember



Mandatory Contact Information

When adding student's contact information, enter the student's email address, and not the school's or the DSOs' email address.



Alerts and Lists

Alerts and lists are not reports, but lists of information.



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REPORTING RELEASE ISSUES



To Report Release Issues

- Send email to
SEVISTechnicalFeedback@ice.dhs.gov

Note: If this is a Batch issue, also send email to
SEVIS.Batch@ice.dhs.gov

- Include in email:
 - Detailed description of actions taking place when incident occurred – the more specific the better
 - Name of browser used during issue
 - Screenshots of issue



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FUTURE WEBINARS



Future SEVIS Webinars

Date	Topic
August 12, 2016	Form I-17 Webinar
September 16, 2016	SEVIS 6.29 Pre-Release Webinar
September 16, 2016	SEVIS Correction Requests Webinar
October 14, 2016	SEVIS 6.29 Post-Release Webinar
December 2, 2016	SEVIS 6.30 Pre-Release Webinar

Note: New Form I-17 will be released in Fall 2016. Changes are being made to the Form I-17, but DSOs do not have to change anything that is already in SEVIS. Exception: If making a change to the Form I-17, private schools must indicate if they are for-profit or non-profit.



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SEVIS RESOURCES



Study in the States Website URLs

- SEVIS Help Hub
 - <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub>
- SEVIS Enhancements Page
 - <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/learn-more/sevis-enhancements>
- SEVIS Webinars Page
 - <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-help-hub/learn-more/webinars>
- SEVP Stakeholder Webinars Page
 - <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/webinars>



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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