<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Presentation Overview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LIFE CYCLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>THE LATEST NEWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>NOTIFICATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>DON’T FORGET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>FACTS + FIGURES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>HELPFUL RESOURCES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LIFE CYCLE
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LIFE CYCLE (F-1/M-1)

1. Apply to a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-Certified School
   Student applies and is accepted to an SEVP-certified school.

2. Receive a Form I-20, “Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status”
   A student’s Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) record is created and the student is then issued a Form I-20 by the designated school official (DSO) at the SEVP-certified school they have chosen to attend.

3. Pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee
   Student must pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee at FMJFee.com.

4. Apply for Student Visa
   Student brings their Form I-20 and other required documents to apply for a student visa from the U.S. Department of State.

5. Arrive in the United States
   Student arrives no more than 30 days before their program start date and presents their Form I-20 and valid student visa to U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the port of entry.

6. Maintain Status During Program Study
   Student must take a full course of study, not work without prior authorization and speak with their DSO if they cannot finish classes before their program end date, or have any other concerns about maintaining lawful status.

7. Explore Post-Graduation Opportunities
   A student has the option to transfer schools, change education levels (e.g., undergraduate to graduate), or if eligible, apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) opportunities.

8. Depart the United States
   An F-1 student has 60 days to depart the United States after completion of their program of study or OPT. An M-1 student has 30 days after completion of their program of study to depart.

Work Requirements (F-1 Students Only)
An F-1 student may work only when authorized, including:
- On campus
- Off campus, if financially needed and with authorization from USCIS
- Curricular practical training integral to their program of study
- OPT-related to the student’s major and with authorization by USCIS.

For more information, visit StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Students

Last updated JUNE 2022
Technical Corrections IFR

Overview

• DHS is amending its regulations related to international students and SEVP-certified schools to:
  – Remove obsolete information
  – Correct typographical errors
  – Update references and citations
  – Make minor clarifications to regulatory language

• These changes are administrative, not substantive
  – Changes are necessary to eliminate confusion, improve clarity, and remove obsolete procedures and requirements

Stakeholders can submit comments on the rule until 30 days after publication of the notice. Refer to the Federal Register Notice for additional details about how to submit comments.
Technical Corrections IFR

*Overview of Changes and Updates*

- General wording, style, and other changes
- Revising references
- Removing references to obsolete and paper-based versions of the Form I-20 and Form I-17
- Removing references to outdated procedures and instructions to better align with current practices
- Removing references to original and sample signatures on the Form I-17 to allow greater flexibility to adopt electronic processes
Technical Corrections IFR

*Overview of Changes and Updates, Continued*

- Clarifying that references to private elementary and secondary schools are inclusive of private middle schools and parochial schools
- Revising language to clarify that a psychiatrist or licensed psychologist is qualified to provide documentation to substantiate a student’s illness or medical condition for reduced course load
- Removing obsolete language
- Adding clarifying and organizational revisions
NOTIFICATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP
DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List

Review 2022 List Updates

- List contains the STEM fields of study designated by DHS for the purpose of the 24-month STEM OPT extension
- In January 2022, DHS announced the addition of 22 CIP codes to the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List
  - To update the list, DHS reviewed 97 CIP code nominations submitted by the public
- Refer to the Federal Register notice for more information

Access the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List at ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools
CIP Code Nomination Process

Annual Nomination Deadline is August 1

• Submit CIP code nominations for the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List via email to SEVP@ice.dhs.gov with:
  – The subject line “Attention: STEM CIP Code Nomination”
  – The title and six-digit code of the CIP code being nominated
  – The name, email address and telephone number of the nominator
  – A description of how the field of study under this CIP code engages students in research, innovation, or development of new technologies using engineering, mathematics, computer science, or natural sciences (including physical, biological, and agricultural sciences)

For more information about how to submit CIP code nominations, refer to ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools
CIP Code Nomination Process

Tips for Submitting Nominations

✓ Review the current DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List before submitting a nomination
  – Ensure that the CIP code is not already on the list
  – CIP codes already on the list do not need to be nominated again

✓ Follow the CIP code nomination process instructions at ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools
  ✓ Instructions are located under the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List and CIP Code Nomination Process tab in the Resources section

✓ Clearly indicate CIP code nominations
  – Statements or inquiries about CIP codes will not be considered

✓ Submit multiple CIP code nominations in one email
The 2022 nomination cycle closed on Aug. 1, 2022
- Any nominations submitted after Aug. 1, 2022, will be considered in the next annual review cycle
  - Next annual review cycle will conclude on Aug. 1, 2023

SEVP is currently reviewing nominations received by the deadline

Future changes to the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List will be announced via:
- Federal Register Notice
- Broadcast Messages
- Study in the States blog posts and social media
Reminder for DSOs

Get Ready for SEVIS Annual Verification

- Annual verification begins on Dec. 2, 2022
  - Schools must complete verification by March 2, 2023

- PDSOs must annually verify that DSOs who have access to SEVIS:
  - Are still employed by the organization
  - Continue to be the selected PDSO or DSO
  - Require continued access to SEVIS

Detailed instructions are available on the SEVIS Help Hub
StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/SEVIS-Help-Hub/School-Records/PDSODSO-Annual-Verification
Updated Evidence Guides and Checklists

Access These Updated Resources Today

• Updated resources include:
  – General resources:
    • Evidence Guidelines
    • Recertification Checklist
  – Initial petition evidence checklists
  – Flight school resources
  – Petition updates for accredited and non-accredited schools

• Removed the following resources:
  – Recertification Evidence Checklist for Non-Accredited Schools
    • Refer to the Recertification Checklist instead

Access all Evidence Guides and Checklists at
ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools
DHS Issues Special Student Relief

**F-1 Students Experiencing Severe Economic Hardship**

- SSR is the suspension of certain regulatory requirements by the DHS secretary for F-1 students from parts of the world experiencing emergent circumstances.

- SSR allows eligible F-1 students to:
  - Obtain employment authorization for on-campus and off-campus employment.
  - Work an increased number of hours during the school term.
  - If necessary, reduce their course load while continuing to maintain F-1 status.

DHS has issued 13 SSR notices since 2021
Includes recent SSR redesignations and extensions for certain countries.
DHS Issues Special Student Relief

Countries Redesignated as Eligible for SSR

Venezuela
Extended thru March 10, 2024

Syria
Extended thru April 1, 2024

Burma (Myanmar)
Extended thru May 25, 2024

Yemen
Extended thru September 3, 2024

Haiti
Extended thru August 3, 2024

Refer to the corresponding Federal Register Notice for additional details about SSR eligibility and frequently asked questions
DHS Issues Special Student Relief

Countries Currently Eligible for SSR

Somalia
Hong Kong
South Sudan
Sudan
Ukraine
Afghanistan
Cameroon
Ethiopia

Refer to the corresponding Federal Register Notice for additional details about SSR eligibility and frequently asked questions.
Submitting a Correction Request

**DSO Best Practices**

- DSOs can use the Correct Request option in SEVIS to request changes to student records, including:
  - Program dates
  - Student status
  - Changes to termination status

- The SEVIS Help Desk can adjudicate a correction request quicker if it meets specific criteria
  - DSOs may only request expedited processing once per correction request

Visit the [Correction Requests Overview](#) page on the SEVIS Help Hub for more information
Submitting a Correction Request

**Expedited Processing Eligibility**

- A correction request is eligible for expedited processing if it meets one of the following criteria:
  - Student or dependent has a Form I-515A due within 30 days
  - There is a USCIS Service Center RFE for:
    - Employment
    - Change of status
    - M-1 extension requests
  - Student or dependent arrives in the United States within 30 days
  - USCIS may deny needed benefit dates
  - Student or dependent needs a visa to travel to United States
  - Student or dependent cannot obtain a driver's license
  - Student cannot obtain a Social Security card
Guidance for the Form I-20

Use of Electronic Signatures and Transmission

• Guidance permits school officials to electronically sign all signature fields on the Form I-20 using:
  – Software programs or applications
  – Electronically reproduced copies of a signature

• School officials can also electronically send the Form I-20 to initial and continuing students and their dependents via:
  – Scanning and emailing the Form I-20
  – Transmitting the Form I-20 via a secure platform

Read the full guidance at ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools in the Policy section under the Resources header
Field Representative Unit Updates

Current Field Representative Vacancies

- 52 field representatives currently deployed nationwide
- Vacancies remain in:
  - Milwaukee, WI
  - Norfolk, VA
  - Orlando, FL
  - Phoenix, AZ
  - Seattle, WA
  - Miami, FL
  - Columbia, SC
  - Atlanta, GA
DON’T FORGET...
I-901 SEVIS Fee

*Best Practices and Avoiding Scams*

- Prospective students must pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee at [FMJFee.com](https://www.fmjfee.com) – This is the only federal website certified to collect I-901 SEVIS Fee payments

- **Avoid chargebacks and fraudulent activity**
  - Happens when students turn to third party “agents” to pay their fee
    - Some agents will use stolen credit card information to pay the fee
  - Students should notify their DSO if they suspect that they are victims of fraud
    - DSOs should report details to SEVP

Visit Study in the States for a [video guide](https://www.studyinthesates.org) of the I-901 SEVIS Fee payment process
Fraud Advisory

Watch Out For Scammers Using SEVP and HSI Phone Numbers

DON'T FORGET

BEWARE

Individuals are impersonating government representatives and using SRC and HSI phone numbers to contact students:

703-603-3400
757-441-6533

Fraudulent callers are inquiring about student immigration information, such as their Alien Registration Number
Fraud Advisory

Watch Out For Scammers Using SEVP and HSI Phone Numbers

- SEVP rarely contacts students via phone or email unprompted
  - Calls from SEVP display the 202 area code on the caller ID
- Generally, SEVP only reaches out to students following an inquiry initiated by the student
  - In these situations, SEVP will leave a voicemail advising the student to contact the SRC's 1-800 number

SEVP never asks for payment or takes payment over phone or email
Resources to Avoid Scams

**Study in the States**
Information on scams targeting international students and schools

**Blog Posts**
Resources for Students:
Read these Tips to Avoid Scams
Protect Yourself from Common Scams

Resources for School Officials:
Beware of Scams Targeting Students

**Government Partners**
Resources about avoiding immigration-related scams

**ICE Office of Public Engagement**
Public Safety Alert: Beware of ICE Imposters

**USCIS**
Scams, Fraud and Misconduct: Avoid Scams
Record Keeping Reminders

DSO Contact Information

- Keep DSO contact information, including telephone numbers and email addresses, up to date in SEVIS
  - Applies to DSOs who work in remote or hybrid settings away from their regular office
  - Review contact information on a regular basis and report changes within 21 days of the change
  - Ensure that school officials have regular access to their telephone number listed in SEVIS

DON’T FORGET

Additional information about updating school official contact information is available on the Form I-17 Petition Update – Manage School Officials page in the SEVIS Help Hub.
Record Keeping Reminders

*Student Transfers*

- For student record transfers, DSOs at transfer-out schools must take action in SEVIS to transfer out student SEVIS records
  - DSOs cannot refuse to transfer SEVIS records for financial or business reasons
  - SEVIS records are government property and cannot be held by the transfer out school following a request to transfer

For additional information about the transfer process, including the steps DSOs need to take to transfer out student records, refer to the [Transfers](#) page in the [SEVIS Help Hub](#)
Student and School Data

At a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active students (F-1 and M-1)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F and M</td>
<td>1,115,677</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools and programs</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certified schools (F &amp; M)</td>
<td>7,234</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

44,736 approved PDSOs and DSOs in SEVIS

Data as of March 2023

International students contributed $33.8B to the U.S. economy during the 2021-22 academic year

Source: NAFSA International Student Economic Value Tool
# Top 10 Countries Sending Students to the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th># of Active Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>276,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>259,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>47,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>31,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>29,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>24,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>21,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>20,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>18,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>16,975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data as of March 2023
The Continuing Impact of COVID-19

- In 2021, U.S. schools saw a **1.2 percent decrease** in new international student enrollment.
- The number of international students enrolled at K-12 schools decreased **16 percent**.
- The Western region saw a **7.5 percent decrease** in international student records, the largest of any region.
  - The other three regions saw an increase in international students.
- There was a **13.6 percent decrease** in students on pre- and post-completion OPT.

Data from the 2021 SEVIS by the Numbers report.
SEVP Data Resource

**SEVIS Data Mapping Tool**

- Interactive map showcasing SEVIS data
  - Now updated bi-monthly
- Access a breakdown of SEVIS data:
  - Country of citizenship
  - Gender ratios
  - Level of education
  - STEM

Visit the SEVIS Data Mapping Tool on Study in the States
[StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/SEVIS-Data-Mapping-Tool](http://StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/SEVIS-Data-Mapping-Tool)
SEVP Data Resource

SEVIS by the Numbers

• Annual report that showcases SEVIS data
  – Offers snapshot of information about SEVP-certified schools and international students
  – Available on the What’s New page at ICE.gov/SEVP
    • Located under the SEVIS by the Numbers header

• This year’s report:
  – Offers a snapshot of information about SEVP-certified schools and international students
  – Highlights international student trends
  – Looks at COVID-19’s impact on international student enrollment

SEVP will release the next SEVIS by the Numbers report in 2023
New and Enhanced SSR Resources

*Now Available on ICE.gov/SEVP*

- **F-1 Special Student Relief Fact Sheet**
  - Answers frequently asked questions related to SSR

- **Enhanced SSR table on the What’s New Page**
  - Lists all countries currently designated for SSR

Access these pages from SEVP’s website at [ICE.gov/SEVP](http://ICE.gov/SEVP)
Resource Library Updates

Life Cycle Graphics

- Updated student and school life cycle infographics are now available
  - International Student Life Cycle
  - Public Grade 9-12 Student Life Cycle
  - Private K-12 Student Life Cycle
  - SEVP School Certification Life Cycle
  - Ciclo de un Estudiante Internacional

- Download and print these resources in color or grayscale

Access these resources and others at StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Resource-Library
Resource Library Updates

New Emergency Preparedness Infographic

Emergency Resources: PREPARE AND STAY SAFE

Students and school officials can use these resources to prepare for and respond to an emergency event.

Prepare

PLAN AHEAD WITH READY.GOV
Every September, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security marks National Preparedness Month. Visit Ready.gov for preparedness resources for any type of emergency.

DSOs: PREPARE YOUR STUDENTS IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES
Designated school officials (DSOs) play an important role in helping F and M students prepare for and respond to emergencies. DSOs can prepare students by taking steps such as reminding students to sign up for campus’ alert systems, creating and testing a communications plan for students and helping students maintain F and M status in emergency events. Read more tips.

Access this resource at StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Resource-Library
New USCIS STEM Resources

• USCIS published additional web resources for noncitizens in STEM fields

• New resources include:
  – Options for Noncitizen STEM Professionals
  – Nonimmigrant Pathways for STEM Employment
  – Immigrant Pathways for STEM Employment

New Nonimmigrant Pathways for STEM Employment page at USCIS.gov
Sign up for GovDelivery

Subscribe to Receive the Latest Program News and Updates

- SEVP distributes program updates via GovDelivery
  - SEVP Spotlight newsletter
  - Program updates and important information
  - Breaking program news

- Subscribe to receive SEVP’s GovDelivery updates at ICE.gov/SEVP
  - Enter email in the Stay Connected box on right side of page

REMEMBER:
Sign up to receive updates from SEVP’s government partners
Connect with Study in the States

*Social Media*

**TWITTER**
@StudyinStates

**LINKEDIN**
Linkedin.com/Company/Student-and-Exchange-Visitor-Program

**FACEBOOK**
Facebook.com/StudyintheStates
Engage with SEVP

Stay Connected

KEY NEWS AND CONTENT

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Blog
Publication
Available through GovDelivery
SEVP Spotlight

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 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 is available at
StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Contact-Us

Field Representative Name

John.M.Jones@ice.dhs.gov  571-867-8389
Andrew.M.Janusz@ice.dhs.gov  571-329-5509