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Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)

SEVP Developments Presentation

**The Association of Boarding Schools
(TABS) Conference**

Baltimore, Maryland

December 5, 2008



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

Agenda

- **Statistics**
- **Policy Updates**
- **School Certification Update**
- **SEVIS II**
- **Outreach Updates**
- **Question and Answer Session**



Current Trends

As of October 14, 2008

- SEVP-Certified Schools 9,555
- DoS Designated Sponsors 1,435
- Active Participants 1,057,557
 - 753,889 Active F & M Students
 - 745,223 (F-1)
 - 8,666 (M-1)
 - 176,839 Active Exchange Visitors (J)
 - 126,829 Active Dependents (F, M & J)



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Policy Update



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SEVP Fee Rule

- Published September 26th. Effective October 27, 2008
- New fees for students, exchange visitors and schools
- Recertification to begin early 2009
- Provides resources for:
 - Liaisons to Academic Institutions
 - Additional Compliance Enforcement Unit (CEU) Full-Time Employees
 - SEVIS II developments
 - Recertification



SEVP Fees

Fee changes effective as of October 27, 2008	Previous Fee:	New Fee:
Nonimmigrant Students	\$100	\$200
Most Exchange Visitors	\$100	\$180
Au Pair, Camp Counselors, Summer Work/Travel Program	\$35	\$35
Government-Sponsored Exchange Visitors	\$0	\$0
School Certification	\$230	\$1,700
School Site Visit	\$350	\$655
Recertification of SEVP-Certified Schools	\$0	\$0
Petitions for Change in Ownership of SEVP-Certified Schools	\$230	\$1,700
Additional Campus Site Visit	\$350	\$655



Recertification Requirements

- Continued ability to meet eligibility requirements, the “bona fides”
- Regularly met the school reporting and record keeping requirements (updates – petition updates)
- Regularly met the student reporting requirements-validations studies
- Upon review of other data sources (validation studies, data fix requests, other corrections) the school record does not suggest an anomaly

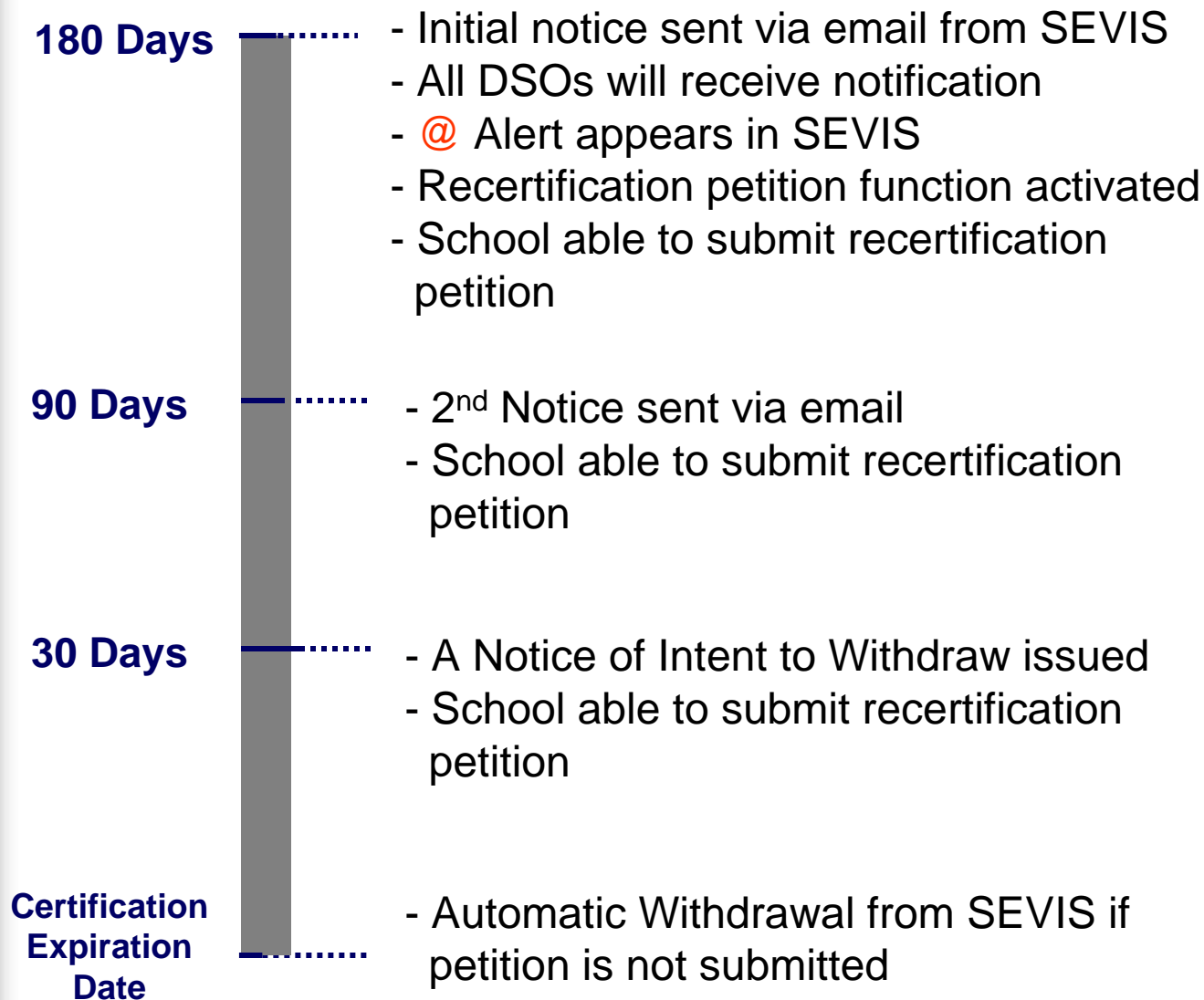


Recertification Requirements (cont.)

- Schools receive 180, 90, and 30-day SEVIS notice
- Approximately 400 schools selected monthly
- School may start the process once it receives the 180-day notice
- School must submit a “complete package” for adjudication
- Performance evaluated using “scorecard”
- Multi-modal communications plan was created to compensate for lack of liaisons during first stage -- early 2009



Recertification Timeline



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The Process

What is a Complete Package?

- Electronic submission of Form I-17 in SEVIS
- Signed Form I-17 and all supporting evidence mailed/faxed* to SEVP
- Any applicable fee requirements paid
 - Change of ownership -\$1700
 - Change of location - \$655
 - Campus addition -\$655 per
- All supporting evidence submitted to SEVP at one time
- The *complete package* must be received by SEVP prior to the Certification Expiration Date



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Withdrawals

- Incomplete package = *Automatic Withdrawal*
 - Considered petition abandonment
 - No appeal rights
- If the following is completed prior to the CED, the school may reapply without submitting a new initial petition in SEVIS:
 - Initial petition fee is paid - \$1700
 - *A complete package* is submitted
- *Voluntary Withdrawal*
 - May be requested at any time
 - The president, owner, head of the school, or PDSO must send SEVP a request for withdrawal on official school letterhead



SEVP Recertification Scorecard

B	D	E	G	H
SEVP Recertification Scorecard (DRAFT)				
Applicant Name				
<i>Criterion</i>		<i>Rating</i>		
Section 1. Complete Appropriate Type				
A. Accredited		Yes		
B. Licensed (Local, State, Federal)		No		
1. Financial Statements		No		
2. Facilities		No		
3. Teacher Qualifications		No		
4. Attendance and Grading Policies		No		
5. Course Catalogs		No		
C. Non-Accredited		No		
1. Financial Statements		No		
2. Facilities		No		
3. Teacher Qualifications		No		
4. Attendance and Grading Policies		No		
5. Course Catalogs		No		
6. 3 Letters from Employer (M) or Higher Education		No		
7. State/Local Approval to Operate as a School		No		
		Yes		
		Proceed		
Section 2. Ownership				
Ownership Change Reported in 60 Days?		Yes		
		Proceed		
Section 3. School Reporting				
Completed Updates?		Yes		
Correct I-20 Issuance - Programs?		Yes		
Correct I-20 Issuance - Visas?		Yes		
Section 4. Student Reporting				
Students have physical location address that is different from school physical address?		Yes		
Student name accurate?		Yes		
Student birth date accurate?		Yes		
Total Score		Decision		
Stoplight Ratio		PASS	-	-
Date	July 16, 2008			
Name	Joan D. Adjudicator			
	<i>Signature</i>			

**Bona Fides:
Hard Fail**

**Ownership:
Hard Fail**

**School
Reporting:
Soft Pass**

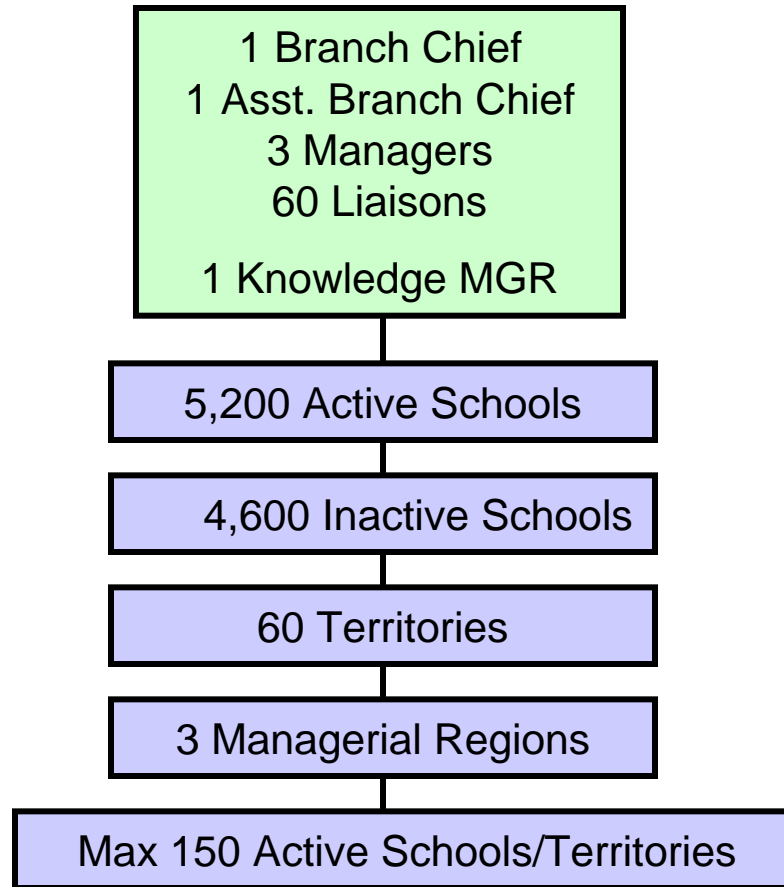
**Student
Reporting:
Soft Pass**

Liaisons

- **Liaison Responsibilities**
 - Provide proactive support to schools as Subject Matter Experts on 8 CFR and SEVIS functionality
 - First stop for schools Q & A, Recertification process, SEVIS I and II training
 - Assist in resolving systemic issues in coordination with all locally concerned parties
 - Provide step-by-step guidance on all SEVIS reporting issues
 - Conduct personalized DSO training sessions

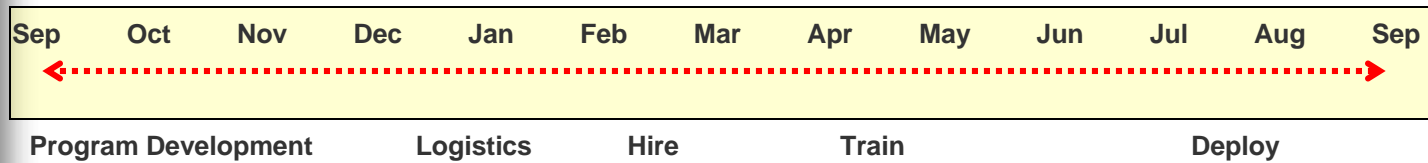


Liaisons



2008

2009



Reporting Reminders

- **Master the Form I-20 basics**
 - Name
 - U.S. Address
 - Birth Date
 - Student Reporting Fact Sheet:
<http://www.ice.gov/sevis/factsheet/061605dsoreporting.htm>
 - Policy Guidance on Eliminating Data Discrepancies:
http://www.ice.gov/sevis/faqs/data_integrity.htm



Reporting Reminders

- Avoiding I-515A
 - Prevent having to handle I-515A reporting!
Teach students to hand carry appropriate documents for entry into the U.S.
 - Passport/Visa
 - Signed I-20
 - Fee payment receipt
 - I-515A Tool Kit:
<http://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/I515A%20tool%20kit.pdf>
 - Fact Sheet on what to expect at a port of entry:
http://www.ice.gov/sevis/factsheet/100104ent_stdnt_fs.htm



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School Certification Update



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Petition Updates

- I-17 is a living document that requires constant review and update
- Part of a school's reporting requirements
 - Once you submit the I-17 update, you will receive a request for the required documentation
 - Changes of location and campus additions require a site visit prior to adjudication
 - You will receive a request for payment for a site visit fee
- Change of ownership requires a non-refundable file fee



Update Reminder

- Remember to update the list of DSOs in SEVIS
 - Required by regulation – 8 CFR 214.3(l)(2)
 - Security concerns associated with former DSOs having access to SEVIS
 - Will help with recertification
- Remember to review the contact information in SEVIS (e-mails, phone numbers)
 - Used to contact you



Petition Updates

- When done in a timely manner they prepare a school for recertification
- See the job aid available at:

http://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/i17_process.pdf

- Best Management Practice: Review your I-17 information concurrent with each registration cycle or sooner



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SEVIS II Update



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SEVIS II

Update

SEVIS II

- Currently under development
- Divided into 10 products and packaged into three modules
- Prior to release, the entire system will be tested and certified
- SEVIS II will retain all functions of SEVIS with better interface
- Flexible searching and reporting
- Field level validation to minimize errors
- Context sensitive help on every screen
- Much easier to update



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SEVIS II
Update

Customer Service Accounts

- USCIS leading DHS towards Customer Service Accounts for anyone doing business with Immigration Line of Business
 - One person, One record
 - No need to keep providing DHS the same information
 - Maintain history
- SEVIS II will pilot Account Set-up
 - USCIS system will not be available at SEVIS II start-up



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SEVIS II

Update

I-17 Migration

- Information will migrate to extent possible
- Schools will have to:
 - Validate some fields
 - Add data to new fields
- Forms will have context sensitive help
- Extensive outreach effort
- Not considered an update or adjudication



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Outreach Efforts

- Our standard method of keeping in touch is through our website:

www.ice.gov/sevis

- Quarterly newsletter/e-letter posted on website
- Web-based training for DSOs
- Frequently asked questions and fact sheets
- I-17 petition information



Contact Information

- **General questions:**
 - Email sevis.source@dhs.gov
or call 1.800.561.5294 and press “0”
- **School certification questions:**
 - Email schoolcert.SEVIS@dhs.gov
 - or call 703.603.3400
 - or fax at 703.603.3597 or 703.603.3598
- **Technical questions:**
 - Call the SEVIS HelpDesk at 1.800.892.4829
between 8 AM and 8 PM, EST
 - or email SEVIShelpdesk@eds.com
 - Urgent, technical issues: Email Toolbox.SEVIS@dhs.gov
- **I-901 fee questions:**
 - Check the web or email SEVP at fmjfee.SEVIS@dhs.gov
 - or call the hotline at 314.418.8833 (Country code 001)



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New Location

New Location

Effective November 8th

**2450 Crystal Drive
Century Center, Tower 1
9th floor
Arlington, VA 22202**



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