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Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)

SEVP Developments Presentation

**University Consortium of
Intensive English Programs (UCIEP)**

Bandera, Texas

February 6, 2009



U.S. Immigration
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Enforcement

Agenda

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



Current Trends

As of January 5, 2009

- **SEVP-Certified Schools** **9,609**
- **DoS Designated Sponsors** **1,434**
- **Active Participants** **1,046,468**
 - 722,272 Active F & M Students
 - 179,408 Active Exchange Visitors (J)
 - 144,788 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: The notification phase has been delayed. No notices will be sent in until a new start date has been determined.
- 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

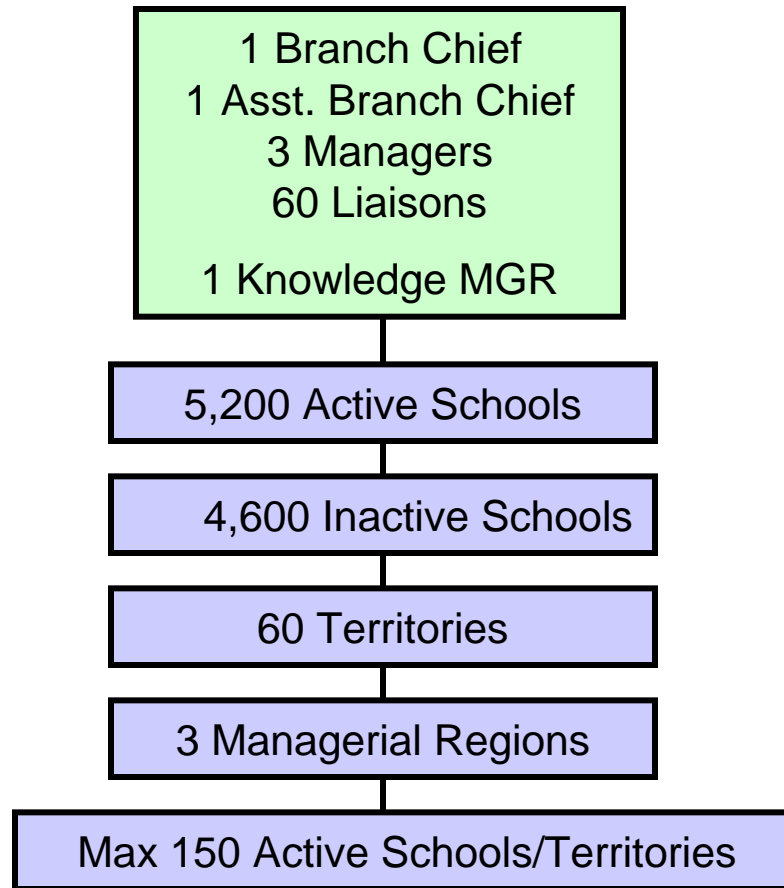


Liaisons

- **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

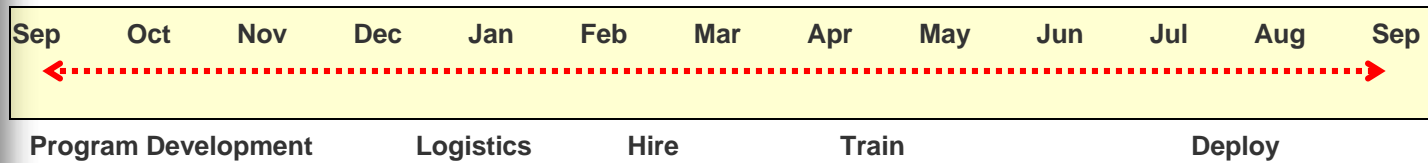


Liaisons



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



Reporting Reminders

- OPT
 - 12-Month Post-Completion OPT reporting:
 - Interruptions to employment
 - Students must report to their DSO within 10 days if there are changes to their:
 - Legal name
 - Residential or mailing address



Reporting Reminders

- STEM
 - Students must report to their DSO within 10 days if there are changes to their:
 - Legal name
 - Residential or mailing address
 - Employer address
 - Employment status



Reporting Reminders

- STEM (cont.)
 - Students must send the DSO a validation report every six months including while on STEM extension of OPT:
 - Full legal name
 - SEVIS identification number (if requested by the school)
 - Current mailing and residential address
 - Name and address of the current employer
 - Date the student began working for the current employer



Upcoming Policy Guidance

- OPT Fact Sheet for Employers
- Fact Sheet for DMVs
- Fee Fact Sheet
- Guidance for DSOs on the OPT Extension
- Recertification Guidance



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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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SEVIS II

Update

Admissibility Indicator

- Admissibility Indicator (New functionality)
 - Leave of Absence
 - Allows students to remain in F-1 status
 - Must be outside the US
 - For up to five months
 - Study outside the US
 - Student remains in F-1 status
 - Must be outside the US
 - Can return based on session dates or when DSO designates



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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:**
 - Call the SEVP Response Center at (703) 603-3400 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., EST, M-F
 - or email sevis.source@dhs.gov
- **School certification questions:**
 - Email schoolcert.SEVIS@dhs.gov
 - or call (703) 603-3591
 - or fax at (703) 603-3598
- **Technical questions:**
 - Call the SEVIS HelpDesk at (800) 892-4829 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., 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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