

Final SEVIS Release 5.1 System Changes

As of November 29, 2005

Production Release Date: December 6, 2005

The following summarizes the changes for SEVIS Release 5.1.

All Users

Security Warning Banner Privacy Statement

- The *SEVIS Login* screen will be modified to include an updated privacy act statement.

F/M Schools

Search for Student Dependent Records

- Principal Designated School Officials (PDSOs) and Designated School Officials (DSOs) will have the ability to search for dependent records on the *Student Search* screen. The user will select **Dependents** in the **Search For** field to return a list of dependents that meet the search criteria. To view the dependent, the user will click the appropriate link in the **Family Name** column to view the *Student Information* screen, scroll to the bottom of the *Student Information* screen and click the dependent's SEVIS ID to view the *Dependent Information* screen.

Remarks Display on Dependent Information Page

- Remarks entered by the school user during the **Add Dependent**, **Update Dependent**, and **Cancel Dependent** actions will display in the **Remarks** field of the *Dependent Information* screen. These remarks will also print in the **Remarks** field of the dependent Form I-20.

Modify Alert "Student Out of Status"

- The title will be changed to "Students Terminated Due to Change of Status Denied."
- The alert will be corrected to only include students in terminated status with a termination reason of Change of Status (COS) Denied. These students will only appear on the alert for 30 days.

Display of Change of Status Requests

- For students changing TO F-1 or M-1 visa type, the PDSO and DSO will be able to view the COS request on the *Student Information* screen when the request is in Pending, Approved, Denied, and Withdrawn status.
- For students changing FROM F-1 or M-1 visa type, the PDSO and DSO will only be able to view the COS request on the *Student Information* screen once it has been approved.

Prevent update of Interface and POE User Entered Data

- The Batch interface will be modified to prevent school users from updating arrival and travel document data received from the Arrival/Departure Information System (ADIS) interface, the Non-Immigrant Visa (NIV) interface, and/or data input by a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Port of Entry (POE) user. This Batch interface update will mirror the current SEVIS RTI functionality.

Allow Transfer of Transfer-In Record

- The system will be enhanced to allow the PDSO to transfer a Transfer-In record in Initial status. This functionality will allow the PDSO to correct records that were transferred in error and have passed the transfer release date.

NOTE: The PDSO will only be able to correct the transfer if the student is in Initial status. This option will be listed under the **Corrections** menu on the *Student Information* screen.

Allow Corrections to Student Records

- The system will be enhanced to allow the PDSO to correct a student's status as follows:
 - Change from Canceled status to Initial status for 15 days after the record was canceled.
 - Change from Active status to Initial status for 15 days after the record was changed to Active status providing there are no requests on the record except for change of status.
- The system will be enhanced to allow the PDSO to correct an F-1 student's program end date by allowing an additional 15 days after the current program end date to record an extension. The new program end date may not exceed 1 year beyond the current program end date.
- The system will allow a PDSO or DSO to correct a student's record from Canceled or Completed status to Terminated status.
- These options will be listed under the **Corrections** menu on the *Student Information* screen.

Changes to Nightly Maintenance Jobs

- Initial status student records with a Pending COS request to change to F-1 or M-1 or with an issue reason of "Initial Attendance – Change of Status Requested" will be canceled 60 days after the student's program start date.
- Initial status student records with an Approved COS will be terminated 60 days after the student's program start date or benefit start date, whichever is later, for the Termination Reason "No Show – System Termination."

Three New Alerts for PDSOs and DSOs

- Students Within 45 days of Termination: A list of students who will be terminated within the next 45 days.
- Students Within 45 days of Cancellation: A list of students who will be canceled within the next 45 days.
- Students Past Program Start Date Awaiting Change of Status: A list of students who are in Initial status, past their program start date and have either a pending COS request or an issue reason of "Initial Attendance – Change of Status Requested."

Change Pay.Gov URL

- The pay.gov link will be abbreviated to <https://www.pay.gov>. Additionally, the URL will direct the user to the pay.gov home page instead of the *DHS SEVIS School Certification Payment* screen.

User Manuals for School Users of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System

NOTE: Updated user manuals will be posted to the SEVIS section of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) website: <http://www.ice.gov/graphics/sevis/schools/sevis.htm>.

The referenced sections will be updated to reflect the planned changes:

- Volume I Form I-17
 - Section 2.5.3, Submit a Recertification Application
 - Section 2.6, Electronic Submission of Payment
- Volume II Form I-20
 - Section 2.4.4, How to Retrieve Student and Dependent Records
 - Section 2.4.4.2, Search for Student Dependent Records
 - Section 2.4.5.6, Corrections Menu
 - Section 2.4.5.6.1, Extend Program
 - Section 2.4.5.6.2, Return to Initial Status
 - Section 2.4.5.6.3, Terminate Student
 - Section 2.4.5.6.4, Transfer Out
 - Section 2.5, Alerts

J Program Sponsors

30-Day Correction Period for SEVIS Status

- If the exchange visitor's (EV's) SEVIS status changed to Active, Invalid, or No Show within the past 30 days, the **Correct SEVIS Status** option will be available on the *Exchange Visitor Information* screen to change the EV's status from:
 - Active to Initial
 - Invalid to Initial
 - Invalid to Active
 - No Show to Active

The EV's SEVIS status will change immediately when using this function. Also, if the EV's and dependent's status changed to Active, Invalid, or No Show on the same date, the dependent's status will also change to the same SEVIS status as the EV. For example, the EV and dependent's SEVIS status changed to Invalid on the same date and the **Correct SEVIS Status** option is used to change the EV's status to Active, the dependent's SEVIS status will change to Active at the same time.

30-Day Correction Period for SEVIS Status for Dependent

- The **Correct SEVIS Status** option on the *Exchange Visitor Information* screen will be available to change the dependent's status to the same status as the EV if the dependent's status meets the following criteria:
 - Is currently Invalid, No Show, or Terminated
 - Changed to Invalid, No Show, or Terminated within the past 30 days
 - Does not match the status of the EV

The dependent's SEVIS status will change immediately when using this function.

Reinstatement - Update SEVIS Status Request

- The **Reinstatement – Update SEVIS Status** option will be available on the *Exchange Visitor Information* screen to submit a request to the Department of State (DoS) to change an EV's SEVIS status from:
 - Active to Initial
 - Invalid to Initial
 - Invalid to Active
 - No Show to Active

This option will only be available if it is more than 30 days and less than 271 days since the SEVIS status of the EV changed to Active, Invalid, or No Show.

- The **Reinstatement – Update SEVIS Status** option will also be available on the *Exchange Visitor Information* screen to submit a request to DoS to change an EV's SEVIS status from Terminated to Active. This option will immediately become available when the EV's SEVIS status is changed to Terminated. The option will remain available for up to 270 days following the date the EV's status changed to Terminated. A change in the status of a SEVIS record from Terminated to Active will always require the approval of DoS and therefore, must be processed as a "Reinstatement - Update SEVIS Status" request.

NOTE: If the status of the dependent's SEVIS record changed at the same time as the EV's status, approval of the Reinstatement – Update SEVIS Status request will also affect the dependent's status. For example, if the EV's and dependent's SEVIS status changed to No Show on the same date, approval of the Reinstatement - Update SEVIS Status request will change both the EV's and dependent's SEVIS status to Active.

Reinstatement - Update SEVIS Status Request for Dependent

- A request may be submitted to DoS to change the SEVIS status of a dependent whose status changed to Invalid, No Show, or Terminated separately from the EV's status. For example, the EV's SEVIS status is Active and the dependent's status is No Show.

The **Reinstatement - Update SEVIS Status** option will only be available on the *Dependent Information* screen for a dependent if it is more than 30 days and less than 271 days since the status of the dependent changed to Invalid, No Show, or Terminated.

Additional Enhancements for Exchange Visitor Programs

- The annual report will be corrected to accurately reflect the program's activity.
- The expiration date on the Form DS-2019 will be updated to reflect the new expiration date of 4-30-2008.
- Transfer of an EV will not decrease the allotment of Forms DS-2019 for the transfer-in program.
- The RO/ARO will no longer be able to update the program end date when performing a Correct Minor or Technical Infraction for an Active EV. Should the sponsor wish to extend the EV's program, the RO/ARO will be required to submit either a routine extension or an extension beyond maximum duration request, as appropriate.
- When DoS approves a reinstatement request for an EV, the SEVIS status of the dependents will change to Active along with the status of the EV.

User Manuals for Exchange Visitor Program Sponsor Users (RO/ARO) of SEVIS

NOTE: Updated user manuals will be posted to the SEVIS section of the Department of State (DoS) website: <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/jexchanges/about/sevis.htm>

The referenced sections will be updated to reflect the changes:

- Volume I Forms DS-3036 and DS-3037
 - Section 2.1, Complete the Designation Application (Form DS-3036)
- Volume II Form DS-2019
 - Section 2.10, SEVIS Correction Processes
 - Section 2.10.1, 30-Day Correction Period for SEVIS Status
 - Section 2.10.2, 30-Day Correction Period for SEVIS Status for Dependent
 - Section 2.10.3, Reinstatement – Update SEVIS Status Request
 - Section 2.10.4, Reinstatement – Update SEVIS Status Request for Dependent