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Student and Exchange Visitor Program

SEVP Developments

**NAFSA Region II Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico
October 29, 2009**



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Agenda

- **Current Trends**
- **Policy Update**
- **Liaison Update**
- **School Certification Update**
- **SEVIS II Update**
- **Outreach Update**
- **Question and Answer Session**



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Current Trends



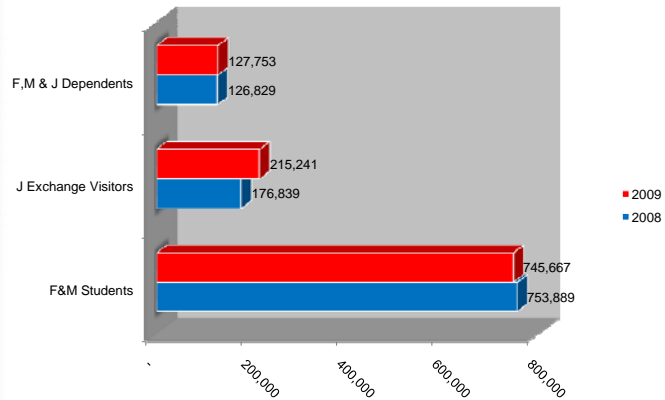
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Current Trends

Current Trends

Students, EVs and Dependents

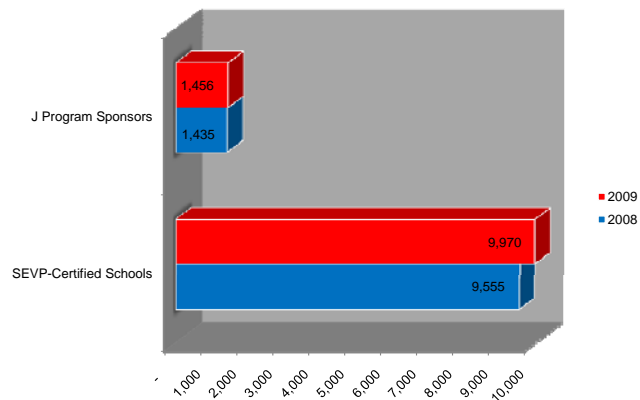


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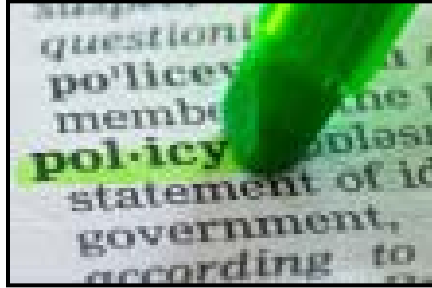
Current Trends

Schools and Sponsors



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Policy Update



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Policy
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DMV – Reminders

- A student must have an Active SEVIS record prior to applying for a driver's license
- A transfer student must wait until his/her record is Active at the new school before applying to the DMV
- A student should only apply for a license in the state in which he/she is attending school, unless the student is on OPT
- Any questions? Please contact SEVP at sevis.source@dhs.gov. Subject line: ATTN: DMV



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DMV – SEVP Accomplishments

- Posted DMV Fact Sheet on the SEVP Web site July 2009; updated regularly
- Disseminated DMV Fact Sheet to DMV offices in all 50 states and the District of Columbia
- Established a dedicated SEVP representative to address all DMV-related cases
- Resolved more than 70+ cases per week since initiative's launch



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DMV – Future Goals

- Receive updates to state identification requirements and policies affecting F/M/J nonimmigrants, their spouses and dependents
- Update DMV Fact Sheet with this information
- Facilitate relationships between DMV offices and schools



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Policy Update



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MAVNI: Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest

- **Allows certain non-citizens who:**
 - Hold critical skills such as physicians and nurses; or
 - Are experts in certain languages with associated cultural backgrounds; and
 - Have been legally present in the United States for at least two years (including F and M students and their dependents) to join the U.S. Army and immediately apply for U.S. citizenship
- **Army recruitment for MAVNI was occurring only in Los Angeles and New York**
- **Expanded to Atlanta, Chicago and Dallas in September**
- **USCIS Nebraska Service Center processes the naturalization applications**

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MAVNI: Student Status and SEVIS Reporting

- **Encourage recruits to maintain status as long as possible**
- **Terminate SEVIS record (if the student has not completed a program) within 30 days of the session start date in which the student cannot enroll, or within 21 days of the date in the middle of a term upon which he/she can no longer maintain student status**
- **If a dependent, terminate in SEVIS for reason of "Other"**
- **If the student has notified a DSO of his/her enlistment and departure, the termination reason should be "Authorized Early Withdrawal." If not, the termination reason should be "Otherwise Failing to Maintain Status"**
- **In the Remarks section of the Form I-20, you may state:**
"Student/dependent has maintained status up to the present time. Is being Terminated because of MAVNI enlistment in the U.S. Army; Date (on which he or she must report, if known)."

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MAVNI Issues

- There is a period of lapsed status between the termination of the SEVIS record and the filing of the Form N-400, Application for Naturalization
- Although enforcement against MAVNI enlistees or their dependents is unlikely during this period, recruits are advised to address concerns about their (and their dependents') status to:

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Regulations

Current

- **OPT Final Rule**
 - Final ICE review
 - Will incorporate significant comments regarding CIP codes and pre/post completion
- **8CFR 214.1-4**
 - Pending ICE review
 - Comprehensive rewrite
 - Complements SEVIS II flexibility

Near Term

- **F/M-3 Border Commute Rule**

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Liaison Update



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Liaison
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Liaisons

Responsibilities:

- Provide proactive support to schools as Subject Matter Experts on 8 CFR and SEVIS functionality
- First resource for schools' Q & As, the Recertification process, and 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



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School Certification Update



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Recertification Requirements

- Continued ability to meet eligibility requirements – the “bona fides”
- Regularly meets the school reporting and record keeping requirements (student record updates – petition updates)
- Regularly meets the student reporting requirements – validation studies
- Review of other data sources (validation studies, data fix requests, other corrections); an anomaly may be the way the information is presented



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Recertification Requirements

- **U.S. Department of Education meeting**
 - Institute of Education and Sciences
 - National Center for Education Statistics
 - Keyholder
 - Web site containing compiled data for the prior year
- **Future meetings**
 - Use the data for recertification
 - Format of a Form I-17 template
 - Recertification will still be based on bona fides
 - Provide Certification Expiration Date upon certification

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Petition Updates

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

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School Certification Update



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Petition Updates

- **Remember to update the list of DSOs in SEVIS**
 - Required by regulation
 - Alleviates concerns with former DSOs retaining access to SEVIS
 - Helps with recertification
- **Remember to review the contact information in SEVIS (e-mails, phone numbers)**
 - Used to contact you
- **See the job aid available on the SEVP Web site at:**
http://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/i17_process.pdf

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School Certification Update



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Petition Updates (March – August 2009)

March	181
April	159
May	161
June	172
July	206
August	213

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SEVIS II Update

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SEVIS II
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SEVIS II Overview

SEVIS II Basics

- **Currently under development**
- **Modular development**
 - 12 total products
- **Two releases**
 - Release One: Initial Operating Capability (IOC): account setup, I-17 migration
 - Release Two: Full Operating Capability (FOC): SEVIS II becomes system of record
- **Concurrent requirements, design, development and testing**
- **Entire system tested and certified prior to release**

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SEVIS II Overview

System Capabilities

- **Supports the concept of "one person – one record"**
- **Retains all functions of SEVIS with better interface**
- **Provides flexible searching and reporting**
- **Includes field-level validation to minimize errors**
- **Contains context sensitive help on every screen**
- **Designed for continuous improvement and updates**

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SEVIS II Overview

New Functionality

- **Enhanced status information**
- **Students and dependents can access their records**
- **Paperless for immigration purposes**
 - Admissibility indicator
 - Electronic signatures
 - Domestic I-20 for non-immigration purposes
- **Mass updates for schools**
- **Robust reporting capabilities**

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SEVIS II Overview

User Interface Features

- **The SEVIS II user interface will leverage up-to-date technologies to enhance the user experience and improve data integrity**
- **Features include:**
 - Using pop-up calendars for data entry
 - Pre-populated fields
 - Address verification
 - Enhanced search tool
 - More intuitive navigation
 - More navigation options

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SEVIS II Schedule Update

- **Original Deployment – September 2009**
- **New Deployment**
 - IOC: Spring 2010
 - FOC: Fall 2010

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IOC

- Both systems will run side-by-side
- SEVIS I will continue to be the system of record until FOC
- SEVIS II will have account setup and will be where you provide information to the Form I-17 that is not contained in SEVIS I



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FOC

- Final migration of information from SEVIS I to SEVIS II
- SEVIS II becomes the system of record
- SEVIS I is retired
 - All information from SEVIS I remains available



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Outreach Update



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SEVP Response Center (SRC)

- **Components of the SRC:**
 - Consistent, timely and accurate customer service
 - Dedicated full-time representatives who have a general understanding of SEVP operations and the school certification process
- **Hours of operation:**
 - Monday through Friday (excluding Federal holidays)
 - 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST
 - (703) 603-3400



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SRC Performance Metrics

- **SRC began operations on January 26, 2009**
 - Average of 60 calls per day
 - Approximately 81% of issues resolved on first call
 - Approximately 11% of calls transferred internally for resolution
 - Approximately 27% of calls received to date have been “non-SRC” calls, subsequently referred to outside organizations



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SEVP HelpDesk Remedy 2008 Closure Statistics

- **107,690 SEVIS Remedy tickets resolved**



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Outreach Efforts

Our standard method of keeping in touch is through our Web site:

www.ice.gov/sevis

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

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Outreach Efforts

SEVIS II Yahoo group

- **Specifically created for school officials to provide input for SEVIS II**

- Join at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sevisii>
- Yahoo e-mail address is not required
- Free
- Membership must be approved
- Include your name, school, and role in your request
- Includes e-mail list and a Web site with ability to post files, photographs, poll questions and more

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Contact Information

- **General questions:**

- Call the SEVP Response Center at (703) 603-3400
- 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST, M-F
- E-mail sevis.source@dhs.gov

- **School certification questions:**

- E-mail schoolcert.SEVIS@dhs.gov
- Call (703) 603-3591
- Fax (703) 603-3598

- **Technical questions:**

- Call the SEVIS HelpDesk at (800) 892-4829
- 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST
- E-mail SEVIShelpdesk@eds.com
- Urgent technical issues: E-mail Toolbox.SEVIS@dhs.gov

- **I-901 fee questions:**

- Check the Web or e-mail SEVP at fmifee.SEVIS@dhs.gov
- Call the hotline at (314) 418-8833 (Country code 001)



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