

# SEVIS Technical and Policy Teleconference

NAFSA Summary

**September 23, 2009**

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### 1. Automatic cap gap extensions and OPT modifications

We continue to receive inquires about OPT being modified by automatic cap gap extensions in SEVIS. We are developing a list of common scenarios, to assist in identifying solutions.

**NAFSA summary of government response:** There will be a CLAIMS update in October, 2009, which SEVP and USCIS hope will address some of these issues. In the meantime, P/DSOs should continue to call the SEVIS Help Desk for record corrections.

### 2. Procedure when a student must leave U.S. while I-515A is pending

In the [April 10, 2009 SEVIS Liaison Call](#), we were instructed that if a student or exchange visitor will leave the United States *before* the 30-day period of I-515A admission expires, he or she should fax the following to SEVP at 703-603-3597: A copy of the I-20; A copy of the Form I-515A; A copy of Form I-94; A copy of airline ticket or other confirmation of departure itinerary.

- What procedure should be followed if a student has timely filed the I-515A, but the I-515A is still pending *beyond* the 30-day period and the student must depart the United States while the I-515A is pending?

**NAFSA summary of government response:** The P/DSO should issue the student an updated I-20 or DS-2019 for departure and reentry. The P/DSO should inform SEVP per the procedure listed above and SEVP will check with CBP to note date of departure.

The SEVIS status of every student and EV determines how quickly the I-515A is processed. If active, it is done immediately, and returned within 15 days during peak times (July to October), and 5-10 days during non-peak times. If the record status is initial, terminated or cancelled, the I-515A cannot be processed and the school is notified of the issues. Once the school updates or corrects the record, the I-515A will be processed. [NAFSA note: this question was not adequately addressed, and may require additional follow-up with SEVP.]

### 3. New CIP Codes in 2010: Impact on SEVIS, STEM OPT extensions, J skills list?

IPEDS Keyholders and Coordinators will be required to use [CIP 2010](#) beginning with the 2010-11 data collection year. SEVIS and the J skills list currently use CIP 2000 codes.

- Will CIP 2010 be incorporated into SEVIS I, SEVIS II, and the skills list when CIP 2010 becomes the code system required for other federal purposes such as IPEDS?
- Can SEVP, USCIS, and DOS take into account how the differences between CIP 2000 and CIP 2010 codes might impact benefits such as STEM OPT extensions and application of 212(e)? For example, Materials Science: CIP 2000 code = 14.3101: CIP 2010 code = 40.1001.

**NAFSA summary of government response:** There is no planned update for the CIP codes in SEVIS I. SEVP is currently cross walking the current codes with the new list. If necessary, the CIP codes will be updated in SEVIS I. SEVP is working with the Department of Education on this issue.

SEVIS II will use 2010 CIP codes. SEVP is performing a migration impact analysis to determine the impact of the 2010 CIP codes. They can request SEVIS I updates if necessary. SEVP recognizes that institutions use CIP codes for a variety of reports and they are working on a clean transition that will work for the majority of institutions.