

SEVP Conference Bulletin

Year-End Reminders for School Officials

As the school year winds down for institutions across the United States with a traditional academic calendar, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) would like to remind designated school officials (DSOs) of the following:

- **Report student changes in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS):** If a student transfers schools or changes their student status, you must update the student's information in SEVIS.
- **Communicate important information to departing students:** Remind F-1 students they must depart the United States within 60 days of their program or optional practical training end date. Additionally, M-1 students must depart the United States within 30 days of their program or practical training end date.
- **Remember annual vacation regulations:** F-1 students are eligible to take an annual vacation after completing one academic year of their program, while M-1 students are **not** eligible for annual vacation.
- **Sign your F-1 student's Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status," if he or she departs the country for an annual vacation:** The student will need a Form I-20 with a DSO's signature to re-enter the United States.

Check out the latest edition of the [SEVP Spotlight](#) and [Study in the States](#) for additional end of school year best practices and reminders for DSOs.

Contact Us

If you are interested in SEVP participating in your event, email your request to SEVPOutreach@ice.dhs.gov. Did you recently attend an SEVP conference or join in an online webinar? SEVP wants your feedback! Take the [Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey](#) on Study in the States to provide feedback on our outreach events.

SEVP Response Center

703-603-3400 | SEVP@ice.dhs.gov
800-892-4829 | SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

New Rules Permit More DSOs and Offer Study for Dependents

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security recently issued new regulations to improve the management of international student programs and to increase opportunities for spouses and children of international students to study in the United States. These new regulations go into effect May 29.

Previously, SEVP-certified schools could only nominate a maximum of 10 DSOs per instructional site. Within the new regulations, SEVP-certified schools have greater flexibility to nominate an appropriate number of school officials based on the school's specific needs.

Additionally, the regulations permit F-2 and M-2 dependents of international students to enroll in SEVP-certified programs while in the United States, as long as their coursework does not equate to full-time status.

F-2 and M-2 dependents can participate in full-time vocational or recreational studies to pursue hobbies. However, if an F-2 or M-2 dependent wants to enroll in a full-time course of academic study, he or she must apply for and obtain approval to change their nonimmigrant classification to F-1, M-1 or J-1.

You can read the final rule in the [April 29 issue](#) of the Federal Register. For additional information about the rule, read our [blog](#) on [Study in the States](#).



Be sure to follow SEVP on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for the latest news affecting the international education community!



For more information on SEVP Conferences and Outreach initiatives, or to view the latest seasonal conference presentation, please visit the [Conferences and Outreach](#) page on Study in the States.