Broadcast Message: Notice of Final Fee Rule Publication

To: All SEVIS Users Date: May 23, 2019 Re: Final Fee Rule Number: 1905-02

General Information

This message is to inform you that the final rule to adjust Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) fees was published to the <u>Federal Register</u> on May 23, 2019, and will take effect at 12 a.m. EDT on June 24, 2019.

As a reminder, on July 17, 2018, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) proposed to adjust fees charged to international students, exchange visitors and SEVP-certified schools. The fees are an estimate of the current and projected costs of funding needed to continue enhancing SEVP's ability to achieve the program's priorities—supporting national security and preventing immigration fraud.

Fee Increases

DHS will implement an increase in the following fees:

- The I-901 SEVIS Fee for F and M international students will increase from \$200 to \$350.
- DHS will maintain the \$35 I-901 SEVIS Fee for J exchange visitors in the au pair, camp counselor, and summer work or travel program participant categories, but increase the full I-901 SEVIS Fee for other J exchange visitors from \$180 to \$220.
- The SEVP school certification petition fee for initial certification will increase from \$1,700 to \$3,000.

New Fees

DHS will introduce the following new fees:

- A \$1,250 fee for SEVP-certified schools filing a petition for recertification.
- A \$675 fee when schools file the Form I-290B, "Notice of Appeal or Motion."
- DHS will maintain the \$655 fee for a site visit for a petitioning school and its additional schools or campuses during initial certification and will also charge this fee when a SEVP-certified school changes its physical location or adds a new physical location or campus to its Form I-17, "Petition for Approval of School for Attendance by Nonimmigrant Student."

Next Steps

The new fee structure will be implemented at 12 a.m. EDT on June 24, 2019, after which time all schools and students will be required to pay the new and increased fees.

Students

Regulation requires all prospective F, M and J students to pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee before the Department of State issues a visa. Students and exchange visitors who pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee prior to the fee implementation date, but before they obtain a visa or

enter the United States, will not need to pay the difference between the new fee and the old fee. Students will continue to pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee on FMJfee.com.

Schools

Schools will continue to pay all fees related to the Form I-17 at Pay.gov, and will pay the new Form I-290B, "Notice of Appeal or Motion," fee at Pay.gov. Should a school submit a complete initial certification or recertification petition, petition update or Form I-290B and it is not filed or adjudicated before the fee implementation date, the school will **not** be required to pay the new or increased fee retroactively while in submitted status. If SEVP cancels a school's submission on or after the date the new fees are implemented because the original petition was incomplete, the school will be required to pay the new fees when resubmitting their petition.

Comments

To comment on this Broadcast Message, please email SEVP@ice.dhs.gov with "Broadcast Message 1905-02 Comment" entered in the subject line.

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