



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

SEVP

STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

**ACCET Annual
Conference**

Oct. 27, 2015

Presentation Overview

- Policy updates
- Pathway programs overview
- Branch campuses
- Compliance overview and best practices
- Student transfer process review
- When does a nonimmigrant student need an F-1 visa
- What's new in school certification
- News from the Field Representative Unit (FRU)
- Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) resources for Intensive English Programs (IEPs)

Upcoming Draft Policy Guidance

- Student employment – practical training, including:
 - F-1 Optional Practical Training
 - F-1 Curricular Practical Training
 - M-1 Practical Training
 - F-1 and M-1 Record Keeping and Reporting
 - H-1B Cap-gap
- Pathway Programs

Upcoming Interim Final Policy Guidance

- F-1 Student Absence
- F-1 Annual Vacation and School Breaks
- M-1 Student Absence and School Breaks
- Definition of the Academic Year
- Border Commuter Address Requirements
- F-1 Five Month Guidance
- Designated School Official (DSO) Staffing of Instructional Sites
- Engaged in Instruction
- Change of Ownership

Pathway Programs Overview

- Draft policy guidance review
 - Three draft guidance documents:
 - Pathway programs
 - English proficiency
 - Conditional admission
 - Received 100 stakeholder comments
- Next steps
 - Currently reviewing stakeholder comments and developing additional guidance on the subject
 - Register to receive alerts when SEVP posts draft guidance on the SEVP Guidance for Comment page on Study in the States

Branch Campuses

- Branch campus overview
 - Focus on SEVP-certification for new instructional sites
- Branch campus situations and certification requirements
 - How to handle situations for non-SEVP-certified English as a Second Language (ESL) programs and SEVP-certified ESL programs
- Feedback needed
 - We want your observations on branch campuses, including any specifics or nuances you observe
 - Your input will help SEVP develop guidance on the subject
 - Send observations to SEVPCommunications@ice.dhs.gov

Compliance and Enforcement

- Compliance responsibilities
 - **SEVP has the responsibility and authority to:**
 - Administratively enforce federal rules and regulations
 - Provide assistance to law enforcement agencies
 - Issue remedial action plans
 - Withdraw schools
- Compliance regulations for schools
 - **8 CFR 214.3 and 214.4 contain regulations for SEVP-certified schools**
 - **Areas of noncompliance**
- Administrative enforcement vs. criminal enforcement

Compliance Best Practices

- Record keeping best practices
 - Keep student records up-to-date
 - Ensure accurate reporting of student information
 - Ensure timely reporting
 - Do not share Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) passwords
- Out-of-Cycle Reviews and Requests for Evidence (RFE)
 - Respond to SEVP as soon as possible
 - Submit response electronically
 - Respond to SEVP by the date indicated

Student Transfer Process Review

- Transfer process overview
 - How DSOs can transfer a student's SEVIS record
- Transfer situations
 - Initial student transfer
 - Transferring a student's SEVIS record
- Resources
 - Transfer FAQ on [ICE.gov/SEVIS/F1-Transfers](https://ice.dhs.gov/SEVIS/F1-Transfers)
 - Homeland Security Investigations Tip Line
 - Phone: 866-347-2423

When Does a Nonimmigrant Student Need an F-1 Visa?

- Nonimmigrant students that want to enroll in a full course of ESL-related study must apply for and receive an F-1 nonimmigrant student visa
 - **Must apply for a change of status with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services prior to beginning a full course of study**

What's New in School Certification

- Petition updates and recertification processing times
 - **Form I-17 updates**
 - Currently processing updates from the March/April 2015 time period
 - Average time frame for adjudication is at least 60 days
 - **Recertification**
 - Average time frame for adjudication is at least six months
- Tips and best practices
 - **Keep your Form I-17 up-to-date**
 - **Keep important dates in mind**
 - **Check your email address in SEVIS**
 - **Know who to contact**

Updates from the Field Representative Unit

- Updates from the field
 - First, second and third classes of field representatives deployed
 - Fourth and final class to deploy by end of 2015
- What to expect during a school visit
 - **Goals for a visit include:**
 - Learn about the school and its international student population
 - Note any trends the school has experienced or observed
 - Establish a working relationship with school officials
 - Answer questions concerning federal regulations or other general topics

SEVP Webinar Series

InFocus and Ask the Experts

- InFocus: Nov. 10, 2015, 1 – 2 p.m. EST
 - Hear the latest program news and information directly from SEVP
 - Access the webinar through the Study in the States Conferences page
- Ask the Experts: Coming Soon
 - Learn about topics in international education
 - Participate in a live question and answer session with SEVP subject matter experts

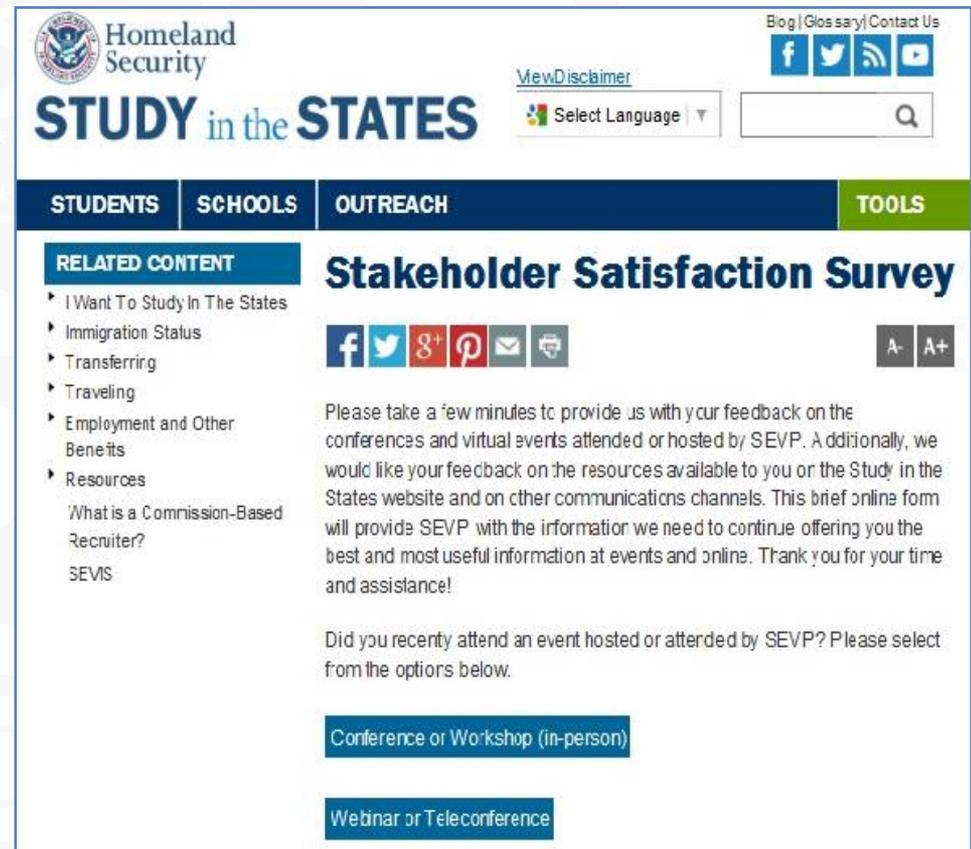
Resources for IEPs

- SEVP field representatives
 - Provide insight on the nonimmigrant student process
- ICE.gov/SEVP
 - SEVP guidance and regulations
 - Student Transfer FAQ
- Study in the States
 - SEVP guidance for comment
 - Blog
 - Coming soon: ESL-specific resource pages
- Social media
 - Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn

SEVP Values Your Feedback

StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Survey

- Take our Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey today
- Your opportunity to provide feedback on this conference presentation
- Comments reviewed throughout the year



The screenshot shows the 'STUDY in the STATES' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Homeland Security' and 'U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY' logos, a 'View Disclaimer' link, a 'Select Language' dropdown, and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, RSS, and YouTube. Below the navigation bar is a menu with 'STUDENTS', 'SCHOOLS', 'OUTREACH', and 'TOOLS' (highlighted in green). The main content area features a 'RELATED CONTENT' sidebar with links to 'I Want To Study In The States', 'Immigration Status', 'Transferring', 'Traveling', 'Employment and Other Benefits', and 'Resources'. The main content area is titled 'Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey' and includes social media sharing icons, a text paragraph explaining the survey's purpose, and a question: 'Did you recently attend an event hosted or attended by SEVP? Please select from the options below.' Two buttons are visible: 'Conference or Workshop (in-person)' and 'Webinar or Teleconference'.

SEVP Contact Information

- Please contact the SEVP Response Center by:
 - **Phone:**
 - 703-603-3400, or
 - 800-892-4829
 - **Email:**
 - For case-specific questions, email SEVP@ice.dhs.gov
 - For technical issues, email SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov
 - **Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, except holidays**
- Additional contact information:
 - StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Contact-Us