

SEVIS I-901 Fee Instructions for F-1 Students

Effective September 1, 2004, the Department of Homeland Security implemented regulations requiring a SEVIS fee for students and scholars in the SEVIS system. **Effective June 24, 2019 the I-901 SEVIS fee is \$350 for all the students applying for F-1 visa.** For detailed information, please visit <http://www.ice.gov/sevis>.

FEE MUST BE PAID BEFORE A VISA WILL BE ISSUED!!

Who Must Pay and When:

1. New Applicants for Student Status (F-1)

If you are applying for an F1 student visa for the first time ever, **pay the SEVIS I-901 Fee.** (New students may skip the immediate following paragraphs and go directly to ~~E67~~m fee

a U.S. consulate and for admission at a U.S. port of entry. The instructions along with a completed sample of the Western Union form can be found at the SEVP website – www.ice.gov/sevis.

Record of Payment

There are two records of payment:

- Electronic payment confirmation kept in the SEVIS I-901 fee payment system
- A paper receipt

You will get a paper receipt in the mail for all payments. You can also print a paper receipt immediately if you file via the internet and pay with a credit or debit card or if you pay through Western Union.

Why do I need a receipt?:

The federal law relating to SEVIS, (8 USC §1372 (e)(5), requires that a student present proof of payment before being granted a visa or admission.

The SEVIS I-901 fee payment receipt, along with the electronic record in SEVIS and the I-901 payment system, serve as proof of payment. In most cases, your payment can be verified electronically. However, SEVP recommends that you retain a copy of your receipt. Having the receipt will make it easier to prove you have paid. There are cases where your current SEVIS ID number may be different from the number you paid on. The receipt is also useful when you go to a visa interview or, if you are visa-exempt, apply for F-1 status at the POE. The receipt is also your assurance that your payment and fee information were properly processed and posted.

What do I need to take to the embassy or consulate to prove I paid my SEVIS I-901 fee?

We highly recommend bringing your SEVIS I-901 fee receipt. While the embassy or consulate should be able to electronically verify your payment, having the receipt with you proves that the payment was processed correctly and speeds the verification process.

If you paid the SEVIS I-901 fee using a Form I-20 from a different school than the one you will attend, bring the Form I-20 you used when paying the fee, in addition to the form for the school you will actually be attending. If there is no fee differential, the SEVIS I-901 fee you paid will be accepted.

When do I need a receipt?

Only those who are required to pay the SEVIS I-901 fee will need a receipt. If you are required to pay the fee, you need to do so **before** your visa interview or filing an application for reinstatement, change of status, etc.

Keep your receipts along with other records pertaining to your nonimmigrant status. It will help to have a copy when:

- Applying for subsequent visas while continuing at the same school
- Applying for any work-related benefits
- Entering the United States
- Filing a petition or application with CIS

How long will it take for me to pay the SEVIS I-901 fee and get a receipt?

The length of time it takes to pay the SEVIS I-901 fee and get a receipt depends on how long it takes for:

- You to get your Form I-901 information and payment to SEVP
- SEVP to process the payment
- SEVP to deliver the receipt to the address you provided

Transferring a SEVIS I-901 payment from one SEVIS ID # to another:

What are the basic rules for applying a SEVIS I-