



OACRAO Fall Conference

October 2023

Presentation Overview

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2	FORM I-20 OVERVIEW
3	RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING OVERVIEW
4	HELPFUL RESOURCES





FORM I-17 OVERVIEW





What is the Form I-17?

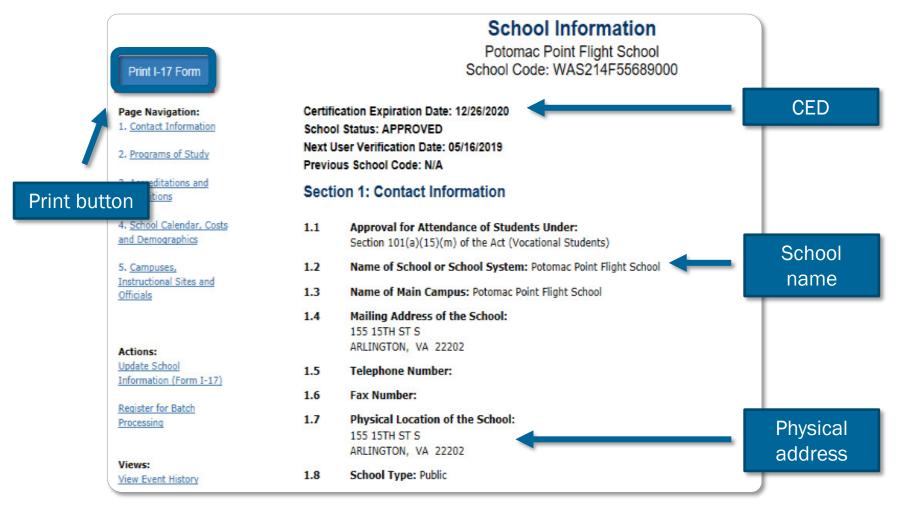
- Petition for Approval of School for Attendance by Nonimmigrant Student
- Necessary for SEVP certification to enroll F and M students
- Reflects a school's current operating status
 - Locations and contact information
 - Courses of study offered
 - Accreditation
 - International student population
 - PDSO and DSO information





Sample Form I-17

SEVIS View







Sample Form I-17

Paper View

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

OMB No. 1653-0038

Petition for Approval of School for Attendance by Nonimmigrant Student

ULB HHW214F12342000

Section 1: Contact Information

1.1 Approval for Attendance of Students Under:

Section 101(a)(15)(f) of the Act (academic and language students)
Section 101(a)(15)(m) of the Act (vocational students)

- 1.2 Name of School or School System: ULB
- 1.3 Name of Main Campus: ULB Main
- 1.4 Mailing Address of the School:

123 Sunny Lane Utopia, HI 96813

- 1.5 Telephone Number: left blank
- 1.6 Fax Number: left blank
- 1.7 Physical Location of the school:

123 Sunny Lane Utopia, HI 96813

- 1.8 School Type: Private, for profit
- 1.9 Private School Owner: LaShonda Bennett
- 1.10 Owner's Address:

123 Sunny Lane Utopia,HI 96813

Section 2: Program of Study

2.1 This School is Engaged in:

Higher Education (issuing one or more of the following degrees: Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's, PhD.)

Other: Certificates

This school does confer recognized Associates, Bachelor's, Master's, Doctor's, Professional, or Divinity degrees.

It's credits are recognized by and transferable to institutions of study which confer degrees.

Form I-17 (Rev 09/30/2016)

Page 1 of 4

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Form I-17 Continuation Page

2.2 Areas of Study:

Liberal Arts

Vocational Or Technical Training

Other: Certificates

2.3 Degrees Available from this School:

Associate of Arts (AA) Bachelor of Arts (BA) Bachelor of Business Admini Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Bachelor of Science in Education (BEd/BSEd)

Bachelor of Science/Scientiae Baccalaureus (BS, SB)

Bachelor of Business Administration (BB/BBA) Post-Secondary Non-Degree Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Post-Secondary Certificate

2.4 Courses of Study and Time Necessary to Complete each:

Certificates - 12 mos; Diplomas - 18 mos; BA - 48 months; BS - 48 months, BBA - 36-48 months

Section 3: Accreditations and Recognitions

- 3.1 Date School Was Established: 10/22/2015
- 3.2 Department of Education Recognized Accrediting Agencies:

None

3.3 SEVP Identified Accrediting Agencies:

None

3.4 State Recognitions:

Non

3.5 Optional Comments:

left blank

3.6 FAA Certification:

Vone

Section 4: School Calendar, Costs, and Demographics

4.1 This School's Sessions are based on:

Quarters

Form I-17 (Rev 09/30/2016)





School Fees

Fee	Amount	Due When
Form I-17 filing	\$3000	– Submitting petition for initial certification
Change of ownership	\$3000	Submitting petition for change of ownership
Site visit	\$655	 Submitting petition for initial certification Adding new instructional site Changing physical location for an existing instructional site
Recertification	\$1250	Submitting petition for recertification

School officials must pay all fees on Pay.gov





PDSOs AND DSOs

PDSO and DSO Responsibilities

At a Glance

- PDSO responsibilities
 - Main point of contact for SEVP
 - Update DSO information in SEVIS
 - File for recertification
- DSO responsibilities
 - Assist F and M students with record updates in SEVIS

For more information, view the <u>PDSO and DSO role comparison</u> on the <u>SEVIS Help Hub</u>





Common Questions for DSOs

- Working or training in the United States
- Applying for student benefits
 - Driver's license
 - SSN
- Changing a major, program or degree level
- Changing an education level
- Transferring to another SEVP-certified school
- Taking a break
- Travelling outside of the United States





Special Considerations

New Programs of Study

- SEVP must approve new programs of study prior to enrollment of F or M students
- Adding programs of study requires information on:
 - Types of education the school offers
 - Areas of study
 - Degrees available
 - Time needed to complete the program of study
- Evidence requirements for adding programs of study depend on school type and accreditation status
 - View requirements on the <u>Schools</u> page at <u>ICE.gov/SEVP</u> under the Petition Updates tab





Special Considerations

Pathway Programs

- SEVP policy guidance S7.2 Pathway Programs for Reasons of English Proficiency published in October 2016
 - Focuses on English language training components
 - Guidance required that schools comply with guidance standards by Oct. 28, 2017
- Fact sheet with information for DSOs
 - Explains how to input pathway program information into the Form I-17
- Form I-17 updates to add a pathway program are treated like any other petition update





FORM I-20 OVERVIEW





Overview

Reminders for Form I-20 Issuance

Students:

- Must meet all qualifications for program of study
- Purpose must be to engage in learning and a full course of study

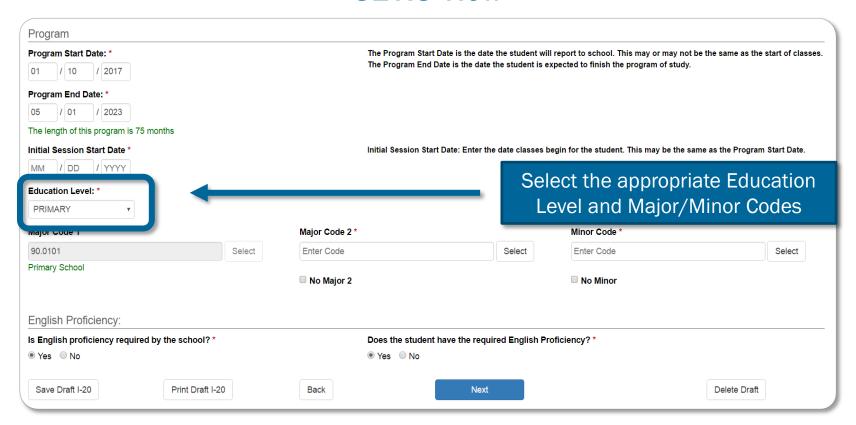
DS0s:

- Only issue Forms I-20 for programs of study on the Form I-17
- Provide Forms I-20 directly to prospective or continuing students
- Third parties cannot issue Forms I-20





SEVIS View



Remember to select the education level that students are pursuing; not their current education level





Key Terminology

Program Start Date

- Date by which students are expected to report to the school
- May be up to 30 days before the Initial Session Start Date
- May be the date of required orientation or other school activities prior to the start of classes

Initial Session Start Date

- Date the students' first session will begin
- Cannot be more than 30 days from the Program Start Date
- Registration and SEVIS alerts tied to this date





Key Terminology

Program End Date

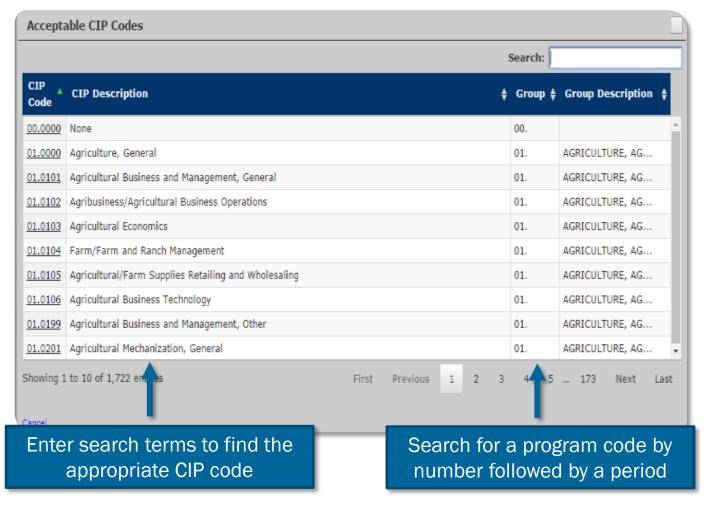
- Date that students should complete the program
 - Based on the amount of time it typically takes students to complete a program of study
- Date should not include:
 - Grace period
 - Future employment authorizations





CIP Code Search

SEVIS View







Major Codes

- Input education level prior to entering a major code
 - Use the level that students are enrolling at the school
- Major Code 1
 - Enter primary major CIP code or use search tool
- Major Code 2
 - Enter the secondary major CIP code
 - Select the "No Major 2" checkbox, if not applicable
- Minor Code
 - Enter the minor CIP code
 - Select the "No Minor" checkbox, if not applicable



REMEMBER:

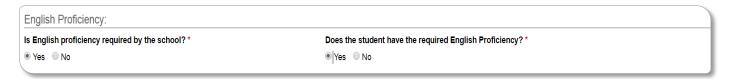
Post-secondary schools have a set list of approved CIP codes





English Proficiency

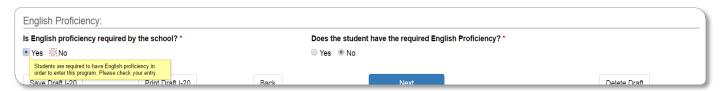
Scenario 1: Students meet proficiency requirement



Scenario 2: School does not require English proficiency



Scenario 3: Improper use of English proficiency field







RECORD KEEPING & REPORTING OVERVIEW





Regulatory Requirements

8 CFR 214.3(g)

- Schools agree to adhere to federal record keeping and reporting requirements as part of the initial SEVP certification process
 - SEVP reviews keeping and reporting during recertification
- Federal regulation requires that DSOs:
 - Keep student and school records up to date
 - Student SEVIS records
 - Form I-17
 - Report certain changes to SEVP within 21 days



REMEMBER:

Access SEVP's governing regulations at ICE.gov/SEVIS/Schools





Regulatory Requirements

What DSOs Need to Know

- Schools may have specific policies for record keeping and reporting
 - Policies should be in accordance with 8 CFR 214.3(g)
- Schools may keep additional information not required for entry in SEVIS in their record keeping system
 - Such as student transcripts, school acceptance letter, etc.





Regulatory Requirements

Compliance

- Failure to adhere to federal record keeping and reporting requirements may result in:
 - Issuance of an RAP
 - Issuance of an NOIW
 - Withdrawal of school's SEVP certification
- Section 8 CFR 214.1(h)
 - FERPA and/or its implementing regulations do not excuse or prevent an SEVP-certified school from complying with a §214.3(g)(1) records request without a subpoena





Student Records

Overview

- Student SEVIS records are living documents
 - Maintained by students and DSOs while students are studying in the United States and during subsequent training opportunities
- Schools are required to retain student records
 - Must retain student records for three years after the student is no longer pursuing a full-course of study at the school or the end of any period of post completion-OPT





Prospective Students

Record Keeping — Initial Documents

- Before issuing Forms I-20, DSOs should collect and retain copies of:
 - Written application
 - Proof of acceptance to the school
 - Student's transcripts
 - Proof of student's financial ability to pay
 - Other supporting documents that school reviewed as part of determining the student's enrollment
- SEVP may request these documents to perform certain actions on student records





Prospective Students

Record Keeping — Initial Documents

- Recommended that DSOs retain copies of the following:
 - Passport
 - F-1 or M-1 visa
 - Form I-94
 - Copy of the signed Form I-20

Documents help:

- Ensure correct entry of information into SEVIS
- Verify that students received the correct visa for the issued
 Form I-20
- Verify that students entered the United States in correct status





Student and School Records

Keep Records Safe and Accessible

- ✓ Store records accordingly:
 - Paper records: Store in a locked file cabinet or office
 - Electronic records: Use appropriate software
- ✓ Ensure DSOs have access to records
 - Must be able to electronically provide records upon DHS request





HELPFUL RESOURCES





Study in the States

SEVIS Help Hub



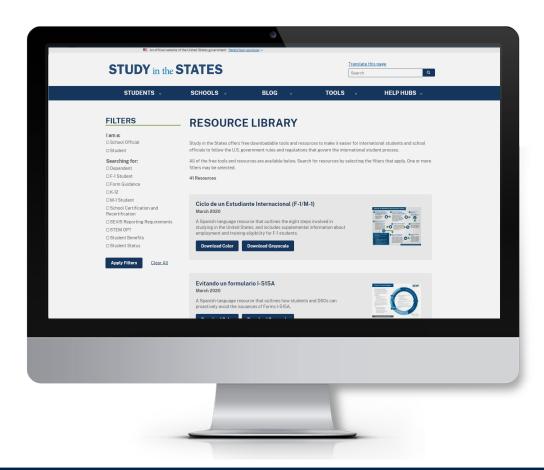
StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/SEVIS-Help-Hub





Study in the States

Resource Library



StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Resource-Library





Resource Library

Record Keeping Requirements One Pager

Record Keeping Requirements

Designated school officials (DSOs) are required to keep records containing specific information and documents for each F-1 and M-1 student they enroll. DSOs must have access to each student's records should a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) official request the records. (8 CFR 214.3 (G)).

DSOs must keep copies of the following records in the student's file:

- Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status."
- Passport ID page.
- Student's address.
- Academic transcripts.
- Proof of student's financial ability.
- · Student's application to the school.

- Student's acceptance letter.
- · Proof of language proficiency, if applicable.
- Employment Authorization Document and Form I-797, "Notice of Action," if applicable.
- Certificate of graduation or diploma, if applicable.
- Termination date and reason, if applicable.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

In addition, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) recommends keeping these records on file:

Photocopy of the student's F-1 or M-1 visa.

Located in the Study in the States Resource Library





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AND CONTENT

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Publication

Available through GovDelivery

SEVP Spotlight



ENGAGE THROUGH CONFERENCES

Fill out the SEVP Event Request Form













SEVP Contact Information



PHONE

703-603-3400

800-892-4829



EMAIL

Case-specific questions SEVP@ice.dhs.gov

Technical issues SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, except federal holidays

Additional contact information is available at StudyintheStates.dhs.gov/Contact-Us

Field Representative Name

Adam.Harold@ice.dhs.gov

202-486-1040



