

INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM SEVIS FEE PAYMENTS FOR NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

What is the SEVIS fee?

This SEVIS fee is required of all international students who come to the United States to attend colleges, universities, and language training programs. It is paid one time for each single educational program in which an F-1 student participates.

SEVIS fee payments are used by the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to fund the Student and Exchange Visitor Program. This program makes it possible for international students and exchange visitors to attend schools in the United States.

Who must pay the SEVIS fee and when?

You will need to pay the SEVIS fee if you were issued a Form I-20 AND one of the following conditions applies:

1. You are seeking an F-1 visa from a United States embassy or consulate for first-time attendance in a language training program. In this case, the SEVIS fee must be paid BEFORE visa issuance.
2. You have been absent from the United States for a period of more than 5 months (not working on your studies during this time with the prior approval of your school), and will re-enter the U.S. for a new program of study using a new F-1 Visa and a new Form I-20. In this case, the SEVIS fee must be paid BEFORE re-entry to the U.S.

The accompanying spouse and dependents (F-2 visa holders) of the F-1 visa holder are not required to pay the SEVIS fee.

How much is the SEVIS fee and how do I pay it?

The SEVIS fee is \$200. This fee is separate from and in addition to the visa application fee. The SEVIS fee must be paid by the Internet, by mail, or by Western Union. It cannot be paid at a U.S. embassy or consulate and it cannot be paid at port-of-entry.

The fee can be paid by one of three means:

1. Electronically, by completing a form I-901 through the Internet at www.FMJfee.com and using a Visa®, MasterCard®, or American Express® credit card.
2. By mail, by submitting Form I-901, (<http://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/I-901.pdf>) fee remittance for Certain F, J, and M Nonimmigrants, together with a check or money order drawn on a U.S. bank and payable in U.S. currency. Sources for such checks and money orders include banks chartered or operated in the U.S., foreign subsidiaries of U.S. banks, or foreign banks that have an arrangement with a U.S. bank to issue a check, money order, or foreign draft that is drawn on a U.S. bank.
3. By Western Union, by printing out instructions at: http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/wu_instr.htm and taking the instructions to a local participating Western Union Agent location (<http://www.payment-solutions.com/agent.asp>) and completing a Western Union Blue Form (requested from the Western Union Agent location).

A third party, such as a friend or family member, can pay the fee on your behalf through the same means described above.