

## 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>.

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### **Who Must Pay and When:**

**B W U :**

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 the How to Pay section.)

**W F U U : U U U U U**

If you have not previously paid the SEVIS I-901 fee, pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.

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Reapplying for a visa within twelve months of the date of initial denial  
From a country for which an F-1 visa is not required and you are reapplying for status as a student at the POE within 12 months of the date of initial denial  
Filing a motion to reopen a denied change of status application for a change of status to F-1

4. **U : I U**

If you are a continuing student, who has maintained status and has not completed your program of study, do not pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.  
If you are a continuing student, who has maintained status and is transferring or changing program levels, do not pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.  
If you are a student who has been out of status for less than five months, do not pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.  
If you are a student who has been out of status for more than five months, pay the SEVIS I-901 Fee before you file for reinstatement.

5. **U : U I U**

If you are a continuing student who has been out of the United States for less than five months and maintained your status prior to leaving the United States, do not pay the SEVIS I-901 fee.  
If you are a continuing student who has been out of the United States for more than five months, maintained your status prior to leaving the United

States, and have been participating in authorized study abroad, do not pay

manually reviewed. SEVP will attempt to fill in missing or hard-to-read information. This could cause a short delay in processing your form or could result in the form being returned to you for correction. When using a paper form, please print clearly. Your SEVIS ID number, last name (surname or family name) and date of birth are critical data elements. These are needed to match the information on your Form I-20.

### *Payment Options*

1. You can pay your fee by credit or debit card if you are submitting your form online. If you pay by credit or debit card, you should print out a so that you do not have to wait to receive a receipt through the mail. See the section on the website on credit and debit cards for more information about the cards SEVP will accept.
2. You can also pay by international money order or check drawn on a financial institution in the United States and payable in United States currency. Checks are accepted subject to collection. If the bank on which it is drawn does not honor the check, you will be charged a \$30 fee:  
If you fill in the Form I-901 online and choose the option to pay by check or money order, you will be able to print a payment coupon. There is a control number on the top of the coupon. Write the control number, your name and your SEVIS ID number on your check or money order and attach the coupon.  
If you use a paper Form I-901, write your SEVIS ID number and name on your check or money order and attach the form before sending it in.
3. You can pay the fee locally by the Western Union Quick Pay™ service. This will allow Western Union to collect the fee, in local currency, along with the needed Form I-901 and electronically transmit the payment and date to SEVP. The properly completed Western Union receipt serves as immediate proof-of-payment for a visa interview at 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](#).

### *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?:**

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The SEVIS I-901 fee payment receipt, along with the electronic record in SEVIS and the I-

