### 1901 SEVIS FEE

# Nonimmigrant Students and Exchange Students (F and M Visas)

International students and exchange visitors are subject to a congressionally mandated fee to cover the costs of the Student and Exchange Visitors Program (SEVP). These fees will be used to administer and maintain the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), and support compliance activities.

The payment of fees will be recorded and tracked in SEVIS, the automated system for collecting, maintaining, and managing information about nonimmigrant students and exchange visitors in the United States.

#### Fee Charges

For F-1 Students	\$200
For Spouses and Dependent Children (F-2, M-2) of	None
students	

#### When do prospective students pay the SEVIS fee?

- Applicants who require a visa to enter the U.S. <u>must pay the SEVIS fee before going</u> to the U.S. embassy or consulate for their visa interviews.
- Applicants who are citizens of Canada, Bermuda, Bahamas, and residents of certain other islands wishing to apply for F-1 or M-1 at a Port of Entry (POE) into the U.S. must pay the SEVIS fee before appearing at the POE.
- Nonimmigrants currently in the U.S. who apply for student visitor status must pay the fee prior to filing their change of status application.

## How is the fee paid?

- Through the Internet at <a href="www.FMJfee.com">www.FMJfee.com</a> by using a credit or debit card and completing the online Form I-901; or
- Through the mail by submitting a completed Form I-901 and a check or money order drawn on a U.S. bank and payable in U.S. currency; or
- By a third party such as a school or sponsor.

## When must the fee be paid?

The fee must be paid to ensure that the payment can be deposited and recorded in SEVIS prior to the scheduled visa interview. The interviewing consular officer will confirm that the fee has been paid by accessing SEVIS. To allow adequate processing time the fee must be paid:

• At least three (3) business days prior to the visa interview date for electronic submissions.

• For regular mail submissions, at least 15 business days should be allowed before the scheduled visa interview.

## How will the payment be verified?

The payment will be recorded in the SEVIS system. It is recommended that the paper I-797 or the internet-generated receipt be brought to the visa interview.

- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will issue an official paper receipt (I-797) for every payment received.
- Individuals who are paying by mail may request Express delivery service for the I-797 receipt at an additional cost of \$30.
- Individuals who file electronically will be able to print an electronic receipt immediately at the time of payment.

When must continuing students (F-1 or M-1 nonimmigrants who have begun but not finished a program) pay the SEVIS fee?

Continuing students must pay the SEVIS fee before:

- Filing an application for reinstatement when they have been out of status for more than five months; or
- When filing an application for a change of status.