# Paying your I-901 SEVIS Fee

Regulation requires all prospective F and M students to pay the I-901 Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Fee before the Department of State issues you a visa. To pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee, visit <u>FMJfee.com</u> to access the SEVIS Form I-901. Watch the <u>I-901 SEVIS Fee payment tutorial</u> to learn about each step of the payment process.

# Who needs to pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee?

- All prospective F and M students from countries where a visa to travel to the United States is mandatory.
- All prospective F and M students from visa waiver countries (before seeking admission at a U.S. port of entry).
- Any nonimmigrant in the United States applying for a change of nonimmigrant status to F-1 or M-1 status (before applying for a change of nonimmigrant status).
- An F or M student applying for reinstatement of student status because of a violation of status (before applying with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services).
- An F or M student who has been absent from the United States for more than five months and wishes to re-enter the United States to return for further study in the same course of study (before re-entry into the United States).
  - There is an exception for students who have been working toward completion of a course of study for a <u>Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified school</u> in authorized overseas study. Contact your designated school official (DSO) if you believe this applies to you.
  - A dependent of an F-1, M-1 or J-1 student who will be applying for an F-2, M-2 or J-2 visa does not have to pay an I-901 SEVIS Fee.

## How do I pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee?

- A prospective F or M student with a country of citizenship or country of birth of Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria or Gambia must pay by money order, Western Union Quick Pay or certified check drawn from a U.S. bank. All other prospective F or M students also have the option to make a credit card payment on <a href="FMJfee.com">FMJfee.com</a>.
- SEVP will accept third party payments, meaning someone else can pay your I-901 SEVIS Fee using the same method of payment. For students who cannot pay the fee by credit card, third party payers are also restricted from paying the fee by credit card.

- Visit <u>SEVP's website for instructions on how to complete the Western Union Quick Pay/Quick</u> Collect form.
- You can access the <u>PDF version of the SEVIS Form I-901 on SEVP's website</u>. Print and mail in your paper SEVIS Form I-901 with your check or money order, according to the instructions on the form.
- For detailed instructions or for assistance on how to make an I-901 SEVIS Fee payment, call the SEVP Response Center at 703-603-3400.

#### Do I need a receipt?

Yes. In order to get your student visa, you must present proof of your I-901 SEVIS Fee payment at your visa interview.

- The printed confirmation will serve as proof of payment for the I-901 SEVIS Fee.
- Print a receipt of payment after you have completed your I-901 payment on FMJfee.com.
- If you would like to request corrections to your I-901 SEVIS Fee receipt because you have noticed misspellings, would like to go to a different school, or would like to transfer your payment to a new SEVIS record, you must first e-mail a detailed request to <a href="mailto:FMJfee.sevis@ice.dhs.gov">FMJfee.sevis@ice.dhs.gov</a>.

#### Other information

Because of the high volume of fee transfer and change requests, please e-mail your request a minimum of two weeks before your visa interview to ensure enough time to complete the changes. You can check the status of your request by logging into <a href="FMJfee.com">FMJfee.com</a> to review the status of your correction and print your I-901 SEVIS Fee receipt. Within two weeks, if your requested changes are not complete, please contact the SEVP Response Center at 703-603-3400. Contact your DSO if you are applying to do the following:

- Extend your student status.
- Transfer to another school.
- Receive authorization for optional practical training.

For more information, see the <u>SEVIS I-901 Fee Frequently Asked Questions page</u> on SEVP's website.

#### SEE NEXT PAGE FOR IMPORTANT REMINDERS

### **Important reminders re: the I-901 Fee:**

- Regulation requires all prospective F and M students to pay the I-901 SEVIS Fee before the U.S. Department of State issues them a visa to study in the United States.
- The I-901 SEVIS Fee is different from the fees for visa services issued by the Department of State.
- F and M students must pay their I-901 SEVIS Fee in order to study in the United States, to remain compliant and to maintain their student status.
- F and M students must print their I-901 SEVIS Fee payment receipt to present as proof of payment at their visa interview and to enter the United States at a U.S. port of entry. Showing an email notification alone will not be sufficient.
- The SEVIS ID on the payment confirmation receipt must always match the SEVIS ID on the student's most current Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status," unless the F or M student is considered a border commuter student. If the SEVIS ID is different, please email FMJfee.sevis@ice.dhs.gov to confirm if a new I-901 Fee payment is required.