# SEVIS FEE REQUIREMENT FOR F~1 STUDENTS

All F-1 student visa/status applicants are required to pay a one-time \$200 SEVIS fee to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The fee covers the administration and maintenance costs for the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). Please visit <a href="http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/wu">http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/wu</a> instr.htm for complete instructions.

### Who Pays the SEVIS Fee?

- Prospective students with 'initial attendance' I-20's who are applying for an F-1 student visa from outside the U.S.
- Prospective students with 'initial attendance change of status' I-20's who are applying for a change to F-1 status from another visa category from within the U.S.
- 'Out of status' students filing an I-20 for reinstatement from within the U.S.

## When do I pay the SEVIS fee?

The SEVIS fee must be paid after your I-20 is issued but before your visa interview. Be sure to make your SEVIS payment at least 3 business days before applying for your visa. For change of status students, the SEVIS fee receipt must be included with your application packet to USCIS.

## How do I pay the fee?

The fee must be paid to DHS by one of three ways: mail, online or at a Western Union Quick Pay Center. It can be paid by you or by a third party inside or outside the United States. It cannot be paid at the school or embassy. We recommend payment online as it is the quickest was to process SEVIS payments.

#### To Pay Online

- 1. Visit www.fmjfee.com to find Form I-901
- 2. Complete the Form online and supply the necessary credit card information. Be sure to write your name exactly as it appears on your I-20 form.
- 3. Print a copy of the online receipt. Make a copy of your receipt and keep it with your other important documents.

#### To Pay by Western Union Quick Pay – Effective April 15, 2014

- **1.** Fill out the Form I-901 online at <a href="www.fmjfee.com">www.fmjfee.com</a>. A payment coupon will be generated upon completion of the form.
- **2.** Print a copy of the payment coupon and take it to your local Western Union.
- **3.** Fill out the Quick Collect/Quick Pay Form according to the information found at the bottom of the printed coupon. Example below:

Company Name (or Code City): SEVISFEE

Account Number: Coupon Number (ex: 010222013872390)

**Amount:** 200.00\*

\*Please note that the payment amount may differ according to your specific visa type.

4. Present the coupon and your payment to the Western Union Agent for processing.

Payment will be linked to your Form I-901 and your online payment confirmation will be available immediately at <a href="https://www.fmjfee.com">www.fmjfee.com</a>.

### Important Information for Nonimmigrant Students and Exchange Visitors:

- You must complete the Form I-901 online at <a href="www.fmjfee.com">www.fmjfee.com</a> prior to visiting your local Western Union. Completing the form online will generate a unique coupon number that you will need to validate and process your I-901 SEVIS fee payment at Western Union. You cannot submit a payment via Western Union without the coupon number.
- You do not have to print and bring the coupon to Western Union; you only need the unique coupon number in order to submit your payment.
- If a third party is paying your I-901 SEVIS fee on your behalf, you will need to provide them with your coupon number to enter into the Account Number field of the Western Union Quick Pay/Quick Collect Form.

For additional information about the I-901 SEVIS fee payment process, visit <u>Study in the States</u>. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the SEVP Response Center at 703-603-3400 or email fmjfee.sevis@ice.dhs.gov

Please visit <a href="http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/study-">http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/study-</a> exchange/student.html to prepare for your interview with the U.S. Consulate.