I-901 SEVIS FEE REQUIREMENT: F-1 and J-1 Students

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requires a fee of $350 for all new F-1 applicants and $220 for all new J-1 applicants. The I-901 SEVIS fee is used to cover the costs of operating the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) and ensuring compliance to its requirements by individuals, schools, and exchange visitor program sponsors.

Who must pay the fee?
All individuals who are applying to become students or exchange visitors must pay the SEVIS fee before their visa appointment or, for Canadians, before requesting entry into the United States in F-1 or J-1 status.

Non-immigrants already in the United States in another immigration status who want to change to F-1 or J-1 status need to pay the fee before applying to USCIS for a change of status.

Payment must be made through the USCIS website www.fmjfee.com. It cannot be paid at the consulate or at the port of entry. The I-901 SEVIS fee is in addition to any other application fees.

Exemptions from the SEVIS I-901 fee
The fee is paid only once per SEVIS ID. Current F-1 students and J-1 exchange visitors who are in-status and continuing their studies or transferring their SEVIS Record to another institution do not need to pay the fee again.

J-1 exchange visitors whose DS-2019s are issued by the U.S. government are exempt.

F-2 and J-2 dependents do not pay the fee.

I-901 SEVIS Fee Resources
I-901 SEVIS Fee Frequently Asked Questions: https://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/faq
Paying the I-901 SEVIS Fee: https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/paying-the-i-901-sevis-fee

Helpful Links
Student & Exchange Visitor Visa Overview: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study.html

Visa Appointment Locations & Wait Times: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html

Visa Photo Requirements: http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports/photos/photos.html

Study in the States: https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/

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