

SEVIS Release 6.16 Final System Changes

April 17, 2014

Production Release Date: April 18, 2014

The following summarizes the final system changes to the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) with Release 6.16.

All Users

Improved Search Capability

While searching for nonimmigrants by SEVIS ID the 'N' and any leading zeros will now be optional when entering the SEVIS ID. In addition, the 'N' in the SEVIS ID can also be entered as a lower case 'n'. For example, SEVIS ID N0001234567 can now be entered as 1234567 or n0001234567 in the search by SEVIS ID field.

F/M School Officials

Accreditation and Recognition Conversion Project for the Form I-17

The Accreditation and Recognition Conversion Project will allow schools to replace the fixed text fields with more accurate and complete information on accreditations and recognition information. This will help the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) to continually review and verify certification eligibility.

The conversion will affect only two existing fields: 10 (The school operates under the following federal, state, local, or other authorization) and 11 (The school has been approved by the following national regional or state accrediting association or agency) on the Form I-17.

These fields will be replaced by completely new fields designed to collect more accurate information on your institution's individual accreditations, licenses and recognitions. The new fields will allow you to list each accrediting agency separately and provide the effective dates of the accreditation, recognition or license.

A Principal Designated School Official (PDSO) or Designated School Official (DSO) may enter and save the data for the Form I-17 conversion project. However, only the PDSO will be able to attest to the Accreditation, Recognition, and FAA information entered on behalf of their institution and submit the changes. PDSOs will submit the changes by entering their SEVIS application password and clicking submit on the conversion page.

Schools will have **90** days to complete the Conversion Project. Below is a high level summary of the Conversion Process flow:

SEVP – Certified School with No Pending Updates

- Conversion Period Begins
- PDSO or DSO enters the updates to fields 10 and 11 on the conversion page in SEVIS
- PSDO submits the updates on the conversion page
- Form I-17 remains unlocked and the changes are immediately accepted without SEVP adjudication

SEVP – Certified School with Pending Updates

- Conversion Period Begins
- SEVIS strips the pending values in fields 10 and 11 on the Form I-17
- PDSO is notified to complete the conversion process

- PDSO or DSO enters the updates to fields 10 and 11 on the conversion page in SEVIS
- PSDO submits the updates on the conversion page
- Form I-17 will be locked if other updates to the Form I-17 are pending and the changes to fields 10 and 11 are immediately accepted without SEVP adjudication

Please note that conversions for a school with a pending recertification will be treated like a school with no pending updates.

Example of the Form I-17 – New fields 10 and 11 with sample data

10.* Accreditations and Recognitions ●

Enter a choice for each option. **None** is acceptable. Depending on your responses, **Not Required** may be an option. This means your school may have these types of recognitions but you can choose **Not Required** instead of listing all of them. See Help for more details.

Department of Education Recognized Accrediting Agencies None

SEVP Identified Accrediting Agencies None

State Recognitions

<input type="button" value="Edit"/>	01/01/2013 - 01/01/2015	Alaska: Board of Education & Early Development
<input type="button" value="Edit"/>	-	Alaska: Board of Barbers and Hairdressers

Licenses and Other Recognitions None Not Required

Optional Accreditation Comments

Add any optional comments here.

11. * FAA Certification: ●

You must choose one of the options below. If you choose Part 141/Part 142, you can enter an FAA Certification Number for either Part 141, Part 142, or for both.

Note: The FAA number must be 8 characters and cannot include any special characters or spaces.

	FAA Certification Number	Effective Date: mm/dd/yyyy	Expiration Date: mm/dd/yyyy
<input type="radio"/> Part 141	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="radio"/> Part 142	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="radio"/> None			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Required			

When entering information for field 10, clicking on the Add Selection button will open a modal window to enter information regarding the Department of Education Recognized Accrediting Agencies, SEVP Identified Accrediting Agencies, State Recognitions, and Licenses and Other Recognitions and their corresponding effective dates.

Example of the Add Selection – State Recognition modal window for field 10

State Recognitions

If your school is recognized by a state agency not on this list, you may choose "None" and list the agency under "Licenses and Other Recognitions".

State Recognition:

***Effective Date:** / / MM/DD/YYYY

***Expiration Date:** / / MM/DD/YYYY

N/A

[Cancel](#)

For more information on the conversion process including a job aid, the conversion worksheet, and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs), visit the Study in the States website:

<http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/webinars>

Improved List Functionality

This release will provide the ability for the PDSO/DSO to return back to all student lists, alert lists, and the search results page from a particular record that they have accessed. The addition of the navigation link provided at the top of the screen allows the user to either return to an Alert List, Student Listing, or Student Search results page without re-navigating to the Main Page or re-conducting a search. A preview of the SEVIS Real Time Interface (RTI) Student Information screen with the new return to list link, 'Return to **Student Listing**' is shown below in red; please note the location of the link on the screen.

The screenshot shows the SEVIS Student & Exchange Visitor Information System interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the SEVIS logo and the text 'Student & Exchange Visitor Information System'. Below this, there are several menu items: 'Main | Listing of Schools | Listing of Programs | Help | Tutorial | Logout' and 'Message Board | Change Password'. A red-bordered link labeled 'Return to Student Listing' is highlighted in the center of the page. To the right, there is a 'Student Information' section with two buttons: 'Reprint I-20' and 'Print Draft I-20'. The bottom of the page features 'Actions' with links for 'Authorize To Drop Below Full Course' and 'Change Education'.

Columns Added to the Student Search Results

The Date of Birth and Date of Last Event columns will be added to the Student Search Results screen. The Date of Birth column will be displayed after the Family Name and First Name columns and the Date of Last Event column will replace the Last Status Change Date column. The addition of these columns to the Student Search Results screen will provide additional information to assist in determining if the returned records are for the same individual. Search results will be sortable by these two columns in either ascending or descending order.

J Sponsor Officials

Improved List Functionality

This release will provide the ability for the Responsible Officer (RO)/Alternative Responsible Officer (ARO) to return back to the Exchange Visitor lists and search results page from a particular record that they have previously accessed. The addition of the navigation link provided at the top of the screen allows the user to either return to an Alert List, Exchange Visitor listing, or Search Results page without the need to re-navigate or conduct a new search. A preview of the SEVIS RTI Exchange Visitor Information screen with the new return to list link, '*Return to All Exchange Visitors and Dependents*' is shown below in red; please note the location of the link on the screen.



User Manuals, Online Help, and Tutorials

SEVIS Online Help and User Manuals for school and program sponsor officials will be updated as necessary to reflect the changes implemented with SEVIS Release 6.16.