

Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Release 6.36 Final System Changes

Friday, November 17, 2017

Production Release Date: November 19, 2017

The summary of the final system changes to SEVIS Release 6.36.

F/M School Officials

Update to the Students With Requested, Pending, or Approved Optional Practical Training (OPT) List

For this release Students With Requested, Pending, or Approved Optional Practical Training (OPT) list will be updated to include 'Student's Email Address' column. This column will provide school officials information on which student has an email address.

Update to the Active Students Requiring OPT Reporting Alert

The Active Students Requiring OPT Reporting alert will be updated to ~~also~~ include the 18 and 24 month OPT reporting periods.

Authorize to Drop Below Full Course for Students Updates

The instructions have been updated on the Authorize to Drop Below Full Course screen. The following text has been added to the screen:

- All academic or completion of study RCLs should have start and end dates that correspond with the current session start and end dates. When authorizing the RCL, the DSO can backdate the start date if necessary.
- The start date for an RCL for illness or medical conditions should match the date the DSO approved the RCL and have an end date that corresponds to the current session end date.

Modified instructions for the Form I-17, Section 7.1 PDSO Attestation

In section 7.1 PDSO Attestation, of the Form I-17, the verbiage has been modified to provide school officials correct guidance for a petition update, request changes for recertification, and recertification.

Review Form I-17 Petition Updates

The following screens have been modified to align the sections of the Form I-17 to the printed Form I-17 petition so that it is easier to reference the sections on the screen to the printed form:

- View Draft Update
- Review Form I-17 Updates
- View Draft Recertification Application

- Review Form I-17 Recertification

Sponsor Officials

Modification to the U.S. Department of State Annual Report – J-Nonimmigrant Exchange Visitor Program (Form DS-3097)

For this release the U.S. Department of State Annual Report – J-Nonimmigrant Exchange Visitor Program report (Form DS-3097) has been modified to meet the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) updates. The following modifications were made to this report:

- Form expiration date is now 06/30/2020
- Estimated Burden has been updated from 2 hours to 3 hours
- Section ‘3. Record Statuses’ no longer captures data for Initial records
- A new section titled ‘Special Instructions’ has been added above the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Statement. This section contains the following instructions ‘Please submit Annual Reports by e-mail to the Office of Designation. E-mail addresses may be found at <http://j1visa.state.gov/contact>’.
- The email address for the U.S. Department of State Office of Designation has been removed on page 2

Modifications to the U.S. Department of State Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (J-Nonimmigrant) (Form DS-2019)

For this release the U.S. Department of State Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (J-Nonimmigrant) (Form DS-2019) has been modified to meet the OMB updates. The following modifications were made to this form:

- Form expiration date is now 10/31/2020
- Section 6 has been renamed to ‘Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer Attestation’. This section contains information regarding the sponsor official attestation that each prospective exchange visitor is eligible and qualified for, and accepted into the program in which he or she will participate.
- Page 2 section 1, part (e) – Change of Visa Status, has been updated to: ‘Exchange visitors (and their spouses and dependents) are expected to leave the United States upon completion of their program objective. Exchange visitors who are subject to the two-year home-country physical presence requirement are not eligible to change their status while in the United States to any other nonimmigrant category except, if applicable, that of official or employee of a foreign government(A) or an international organization(G) or member of the family or attendant of either of these types of officials or employees.’
- Page 2 section 1, part (f) – Insurance, has been updated to: ‘Exchange visitors are required to have medical insurance in effect of themselves for the duration of their exchange program, and for accompanying spouse and dependents while they are in United States during the exchange visitor's program. Exchange visitors are required to have: (1) medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness; (2) repatriation of remains in the amount of U.S.\$25,000; and (3) expenses associated with

medical evacuation in the amount of U.S. \$50,000. A policy secured to fulfill the insurance requirements shall not have a deductible that exceeds U.S. \$500 per accident or illness, and must meet other standards specified in the Exchange Visitor Program regulations, 22 CFR Part 62.14. For details, consult your program's Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer (see item 7 on page 1 of this form).'

- Page 2, added the following section:
'CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT: INA Section 222 (f) provides that visa issuance and refusal records shall be considered confidential and shall be used only for the formulation, amendment, administration, or enforcement of the immigration, nationality, and other laws of the United States. Certified copies of visa records may be made available to a court which certifies that the information contained in such records is need in a case pending before the court.'
- Page 2, updated the section in the paperwork reduction act statement to 'U.S. Department of State, ECA/EC, Washington, D.C. 20522-0505.'

User Manuals and Online Help

SEVP and the Department of State will update the SEVIS Online Help and User Manuals for school and sponsor officials to reflect the changes implemented with SEVIS Release 6.36.