

SEVIS Fee Information for J-1 Student Exchange Visitors

What is the I-901 SEVIS fee?

Regulation requires J-1 visa applicants to pay a one-time fee of US \$180 to cover the costs of the [Student Exchange and Visitor Information System \(SEVIS\)](#) program.

This fee is different from the visa application fee, and is paid separately.

What about my dependents?

J-2 dependents do not have to pay the I-901 SEVIS fee.

Can I pay the I-901 SEVIS fee at a university, consulate or port of entry?

No. The SEVIS fee can only be processed by the [Department of Homeland Security \(DHS\)](#).

When do I pay the I-901 SEVIS fee?

The fee must be paid before your visa applicant interview at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Allow at least three business days for the payment to be received and verified.

How do I pay the I-901 SEVIS fee?

The fee can be paid [online](#), by [Western Union](#), or by [mail](#), and must be accompanied by the [Form I-901](#). It can be paid by you or by a third party, inside or outside the U.S. Watch the [I-901 SEVIS Fee Payment Tutorial](#) to learn about each step of the payment process.

Why do I need a receipt?

The I-901 SEVIS fee payment receipt, along with the electronic record in SEVIS, serve as proof of payment.

Print a receipt after you have completed your I-901 payment.

What if I'm a Canadian citizen and don't need a US visa?

Students exempt from the visa requirement (e.g., Canadian citizens) must pay the I-901 SEVIS fee before entering the U.S. Canadian citizens are required to have a valid passport to study in the U.S. and should be prepared to present the DS-2019, documentation of financial support, and a SEVIS receipt at the U. S. port of entry.

Confirm visa requirements with your local [U.S. consular office](#).

[I-901 SEVIS Fee Frequently Asked Questions](#)