



Office of Global Engagement

J-1 SEVIS Fee Requirement

J-1 Exchange Visitor students and scholars are required to pay a onetime fee of \$180 to supplement the administration and maintenance costs of the Student and Exchange Information System (SEVIS).

Exchange Visitors who ARE Required to Pay the SEVIS Fee

- An individual applying for a J-1 visa for initial participation in a program
- An individual in the U.S. applying for a change of status to J-1
- An exchange visitor who is in a U.S. government sponsored program and who is transferring to a non-U.S. government sponsored program.
- An exchange visitor applying for a change of category, i.e. J-1 student to J-1 researcher.
- An exchange visitor applying for reinstatement for a substantive violation.

Exchange Visitors NOT Required to Pay the SEVIS Fee

- J-1s Sponsored by the U.S. Federal Government: No SEVIS fee is due for a J-1 exchange visitor who is coming to the U.S. as a participant in an exchange visitor program sponsored by the U.S. federal government, i.e. Fulbright.
- J-1 Dependents Visas: J-1 dependents (J-2s) are not required to pay a separate SEVIS fee in order to obtain J-2 status or during the time the J-2 remains in that status.

Circumstances Where No New Fee is Required: J-1 students and scholars who have previously paid the SEVIS fee prior to obtaining his or her current status are not required to pay a new SEVIS fee in connection with:

1. **An application for an extension of stay in the current program.**
2. An application to transfer between programs in the same exchange visitor category where no differential fee exists, i.e. transfer between two non-fee-exempt exchange visitor programs or transfer between two fee-exempt exchange visitor programs.
3. A re-application for a J-1 visa following denial of visa application by consular officer, as long as the re-application occurs within 12 months of the original denial notice.
4. A motion to re-open a change of status application which was previously denied for reasons other than failure to pay the SEVIS fee, as long as the motion occurs within 12 months of the original denial notice.

Procedures for Payment of the SEVIS Fee

1. Online submission for the I-901 form (<https://fmjfee.com/>) to DHS using credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or American Express accepted).
2. Mail-in submission of I-901 form to DHS address on form along with the \$180 SEVIS fee paid by check, money order, or foreign draft on a financial institution in the U.S. and payable in U.S. currency.

Another person (friend or family) can make the payment for an exchange visitor by one of the two methods above.

Receipts

Receipts are only available on <https://fmjfee.com/> regardless of how the payment is made. You can print this receipt immediately if you file on the internet and pay by credit or debit card.

It is recommended that a SEVIS fee receipt be used to request any status-related benefit, i.e. application for visa, admissions at U.S. port of entry, application to change status.

Note: DHS will not refund the SEVIS fee if J-1 students and scholars are not granted a visa or choose not to come to the U.S. after their visas are granted.