

SEVIS

Student and Exchange Visitor Information System

“To allow a student to act, without first receiving approval from the Designated School Official (DSO), undermines the most basic concept of SEVIS.”

Federal Register, Vol. 67, No. 238, December 11, 2002



What is SEVIS? Tracking.0E



Background Legislation

- **September 1996.** The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act directs the Attorney General to develop an electronic system to collect and report information about international students and scholars.
- **October 2001.** USA-PATRIOT Act mandates full participation and compliance in SEVIS by January 30, 2003.
- **2001-2002.** More than 20 new laws and regulations are passed which affect international students and scholars.
- **Less than 2%** of the individuals who enter the U.S. each year are students.



SEVIS Enrollment Schedule

- *January 21, 2003.* IU is approved as a SEVIS institution.
- *February 15, 2003.* Every *new* I-20 or DS-2019 must be a SEVIS document (bar code). The student must be entered to SEVIS.
- *August 1, 2003.* INS will not accept an old I-20 or DS-2019 for entrance into the US. All active students must be in SEVIS.



SEVIS I-20

VOID

U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student
Status - For Academic and Language Students (OMB NO. 1115-0051)

Page 1

Please read Instructions on Page 2

This page must be completed and signed in the U.S. by a designated school official.

1. Person's Name (Surname):
Polishan
 First (given) Name: Middle Name:
 Country of birth: MALL Date of birth (month/day/year): 10/28/1984
 Country of citizenship: MALL Admission number:

2. School (School name):
 Indiana University
 Center for English Language Training
 School Official to be notified of student's arrival in U.S. (Name and Title):
 Marlin Howard
 Director, Intensive Language Program
 School address (include zip code):
 Indiana University - Bloomington
 Memorial Hall 325
 Bloomington, IN 47405
 School code (include 3-digit suffix, if any) and approval date:
 CH214F010201 approved on: 01/21/2003

For Immigration Official Use		SEVIS Student's Copy H0000119425
Visa issue post	Date Visa issued	
Releasated, extension granted to:		

3. This certificate is issued to the student named above for:
 Initial attendance at this school.

4. Level of education the student is pursuing or will pursue in the United States:
 LANGUAGE TRAINING

5. The student named above has been accepted for a full course of study at this school, majoring in Second Language Learning (SLL).
 The student is expected to report to the school no later than 02/28/2003 and complete studies not later than 06/28/2004. The normal length of study is 19 months.

6. English proficiency:
 English proficiency is not required because: Student will study full-time English

7. This school estimates the student's average costs for an academic term of 8 (up to 12) months to be:

a. Tuition and fees	\$	8,800.00
b. Living expenses	\$	11,800.00
c. Expenses of dependents (if any)	\$	0.00
d. Other (specify):	\$	0.00
Total	\$	16,800.00

10. School Certification: I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above in items 1 through 9 was completed before I signed this form and is true and correct; I executed this form in the United States after review and evaluation in the United States by me or other officials of the school of the student's application, transcripts, or other records of courses taken and proof of financial responsibility, which were received at the school prior to the execution of this form; the school has determined that the above named student's qualifications meet all standards for admission to the school; the student will be required to pursue a full course of study as defined by 8 CFR 214.2(b)(6); I am a designated official of the above named school and am authorized to issue this form.
 Marlin Howard
 Director, Intensive Language Program

8. This school has information showing the following as the student's means of support, estimated for an academic term of 8 months (Use the same number of months given in item 7).

a. Student's personal funds	\$	0.00
b. Funds from this school	\$	0.00
Specify type:		
c. Funds from another source	\$	16,800.00
Specify type: <u>Family funds</u>		
d. On-campus employment	\$	0.00
Total	\$	16,800.00

9. Remarks: Guaranteed by: [Signature]
Student will be required to have medical, trip/repatriation, and repatriation insurance

Name of School Official: Marlin Howard Title: Director, Intensive Language Program Date issued: 01/21/2003 Place issued (city and state): Bloomington, IN

11. Student Certification: I have read and agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay as specified on page 2. I certify that all information provided on this form refers specifically to me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I seek to enter or remain in the United States temporarily, and solely for the purpose of pursuing a full course of study at the school named on page 1 of this form. I also authorize the named school to release any information from my records which is needed by the INS pursuant to 8 CFR 214.3(g) to determine my nonimmigrant status.

Name of Student: _____ Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Name of parent or guardian: _____ Signature of parent or guardian: _____ Address (city): _____ (State or Province): _____ (Country): _____ (Date): _____

Regulatory Issues

SEVIS goes beyond the law with Zero Tolerance Policy:

- Little or no opportunity to reinstate students who go out of status.
- Obsessive concern with prior approval and full-time status.
- Exceptions narrowed with harsh time limits and absolute minimum enrollment requirements.
- Many more events to report.



New Reporting Requirements

- Change in legal name or address (AR-11)
- Failure to enroll (working on thesis)
- Dropping below a full course of study without *prior* DSO authorization
- Any other failure to maintain status (unauthorized employment, for example)
- Disciplinary action taken by the school against the student as a result of the student being convicted of a crime
- Student's graduation prior to the expected end date
- Start date of student's next session



Full Course of Study Requirement

- **Undergraduate Students**
 - **12 credit hours** Fall and Spring Semesters.
- **Graduate Students**
 - **8 credit hours** Fall and Spring Semesters.
 - with Assistantship: **6 credit hours** Fall and Spring Semesters.
 - **enrolled in G901 or equivalent.**
- Summer is the normal vacation period, unless Summer is the student's first semester of study.



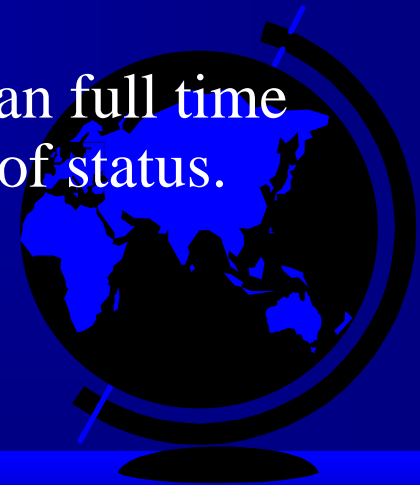
Exceptions to Full Course of Study

- **Academic** -- defined solely as initial difficulties with English language, American teaching methods, or improper course placement. Student must be enrolled for at least ½ the normal full-time load (for example, 6 credit hours for an undergraduate student). Only one semester of under-enrollment based on academic reason permitted per program level.
- **Medical** – must be certified by *doctor of medicine, osteopathy, or licensed psychologist*. A total of 12 months of under-enrollment based on medical reason permitted per program level.
- **Final Semester** – student is only required to enroll in courses required for graduation during final semester.
- **Thesis/Dissertation** – students who have completed required course work and working full-time on thesis or dissertation are not required to enroll full-time, but must be enrolled for G901 or at least 1 credit hour of thesis/dissertation research credit.



Duration of Status

- F-1 who completes a course of study or Optional Practical Training has a 60-day grace period to depart the U.S., transfer, or begin a new program. J-1 has 30 days.
- F-1 or J-1 who does a complete withdraw from classes after obtaining DSO approval to do so, has 15 days to depart the U.S.
- F-1 or J-1 who withdraws and reduces to less than full time without prior DSO approval is immediately out of status.



Dependents

- F-2 and J-2 dependents must have their own SEVIS I-20 or DS-2019.
- F-2 dependents, except children attending K-12, are not allowed to attend classes full time and may take courses for “avocational or recreational” purposes only.
- F-2 status holders who were enrolled as full-time students prior to January 1, 2003, must apply to change their status to F-1 on or before March 11, 2003, if they intend to continue full-time study.



Reminders & Suggestions

Students

- Consider taking 15 credit hours per semester as undergraduate students. This will enable you to drop a difficult course, if necessary, and still maintain status for immigration purposes.
- Do not drop below a full course of study unless you have *prior* approval from International Services. We will not be able to make exceptions for students who neglect to obtain prior approval.
- Dissertation and Thesis Students. Enroll in something every semester.
- International Services will *not* prevent you from dropping below a full course of study—our goal is to ensure that you know the legal consequences. International Services will do everything possible to help you maintain a legal stay, but ultimately, your decisions will control your status.



Reminders & Suggestions

Scholars

- Immigration and Naturalization Services will notify OIS when scholar enters the U.S. Upon receipt of this notification, we will inform the host department.
- New J-1 scholars must report to International Services within 30 days of the start date noted on Form DS-2019.
- International Services must be informed when a J-1 scholar completes program participation at IU.
- Outside talks, consulting, honoraria, must be approved by International Services prior to such activity.
- International Services will do everything possible to help scholars maintain a legal stay, but ultimately, their decisions control their status. The consequences for poor decisions are severe.



Admissions Concerns

- First I-20 or DS-2019 wins! Once student obtains visa, SEVIS records at other schools are terminated.
- Transition Problems
 - No batch SEVIS
 - Multiple Entry. PeopleSoft, ISEAS, SEVIS
- Transfer process more complicated. Added monitoring and mailing.



Technology Concerns

- Data exchange among
 - SEVIS computer at INS. Batch and Real-Time Interface.
 - Legacy Student System at IU.
 - PeopleSoft System at IU.
 - Immigration Management Software .
- Compliance Reports. Enrollment and Work Requirements.
- Proactive Early Warning Systems.



OIS Concerns

- How can we police and advocate at the same time?
- Are we driving students to study in other countries?
- Are we sending messages of intolerance instead of tolerance?
- Do we hate our work?



What We're Doing

- Intercampus SEVIS Implementation Team.
- Cooperation with the registrar, UITS, and others, in the development of proactive systems.
- Development of communication systems. We will:
 1. Send important announcements and updates to IU e-mail accounts and to IUSEVIS-L.
 2. Conduct a series of information sessions now that final regulations are available. Departments, students, and scholars.
 3. Manage student sign-up and up-to-date information concerning the new regulations on our website:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~intlcent> Click on **SEVIS**.



SEVIS Presentations and Distribution List

To schedule a SEVIS presentation, or be added to IUSEVIS-L, please send an e-mail to:

Lynn Schoch

Associate Director, International Services

Lschoch@indiana.edu



For more information

- ✓ www.indiana.edu/~intlcent Click on SEVIS
- ✓ Check your IU email account.
- ✓ Meetings - Sign up in iOffice
 - ✓ F Students: 14 February, 2-4pm, Woodburn 101
 - ✓ F Students: 19 February, 7-9pm, Business 219
 - ✓ F Students: 20 February, 7-9pm, Woodburn 101
 - ✓ J Students: 21 February, 2-4pm, Woodburn 101
 - ✓ F Students: 25 February, 6-8pm, Business 223





Questions & Discussion