

Broadcast Message: DHS Publishes Federal Register Notice: Removal of Obsolete Procedures and Requirements Related to F, J and M Nonimmigrants

To: All SEVIS users

Date: Dec. 8, 2022

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General Information

On Dec. 12, 2022, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will publish an [Interim Final Rule](#), Removal of Obsolete Procedures and Requirements Related to F, J and M Nonimmigrants, amending its regulations at 8 CFR 214.1, 214.2, 214.3, 214.4, 214.12, and 214.13 to remove obsolete information, correct typographical errors, update references and citations, and make minor clarifications to regulatory language.

These changes are administrative, not substantive, and are necessary to eliminate confusion, improve clarity and remove obsolete procedures and requirements used before the implementation of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) or during the transition to SEVIS. This rulemaking does not raise existing costs and places no additional burden on F and M students, J exchange visitors, Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified schools or designated programs.

DHS is publishing this regulation as an Interim Final Rule, which becomes effective on Dec. 12, 2022. Stakeholders should refer to the [Federal Register Notice](#) about how to submit comments on the rule; comments must be received on or before 30 days after publication of the notice.

As part of this rule, DHS is making the following changes:

- General wording, style and other changes.
- Revising references.
- Removing references to obsolete and paper-based versions of the Form I-20, “Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status,” and Form I-17, “Approval of School for Attendance by Nonimmigrant Student.”
- Removing references to outdated procedures and instructions to better align with current practices.
- Removing references to original and sample signatures on the Form I-17 to allow greater flexibility to adopt electronic processes.
- Clarifying that references to private elementary and secondary schools are inclusive of private middle schools and parochial schools.
- Revising language to clarify that a psychiatrist or licensed psychologist is qualified to provide documentation to substantiate a student’s illness or medical condition for reduced course load.
- Removing obsolete language.

- Adding clarifying and organizational revisions.

Refer to the Federal Register Notice for additional information about the changes made as part of this rule. For additional questions, contact the SEVP Response Center (SRC) via phone at 703-603-3400 or 1-800-892-4829 or via email at SEVP@ice.dhs.gov. The SRC is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, except for federal holidays.

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