Broadcast Message: SEVIS Notice—SEVIS Release 6.80

To: All SEVIS Users

Date: Oct. 21, 2024

Number: 2410-06

General Information

The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) will deploy Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Release 6.80 on Friday, Oct. 25, 2024.

SEVIS Release 6.80 release contains the following updates:

- **All SEVIS users:** Password requirement changes that simplify password management, including:
  - Passwords must contain a minimum of 12 characters and a maximum of 64.
  - Any alphabetical, numerical, or special characters may be used; and spaces are also acceptable.
  - Passwords are case sensitive.
  - Passwords will no longer expire.
- **F and M school official real time interface (RTI) users:** On the Terminate Student page, School Withdrawn will be removed from the Termination Reason drop-down list.
- **F and M school official Batch users:** Recommendation and Student Remarks will be required fields on the Add Off-Campus Employment page.
- **F and M school official RTI and Batch users:** On the Authorize Drop Below Full Course page:
  - Special Student Relief Employment will be added as an authorization reason to the drop-down list.
  - Remarks will be a required field.
  - Guidance on how to utilize this authorization will be provided at a later date.
- **J program sponsor RTI users only:**
  - The Academic Training History page will show the category at the time the Academic Training was added.
  - Update the downloadable reports for programs to:
    - Include the Program Number in the file name.

- ▪ Remove the quotes in the export.
  - o Submission of the following will require either a U.S. telephone number or a foreign telephone number for all sponsors with a program number that begins with P (e.g., P-1-12345):
    - ▪ Correct SEVIS Status
    - ▪ Reinstatement
    - ▪ Reinstatement – Update SEVIS Status
- **J program sponsor RTI and Batch users:**
  - o Submission of the following will require either a U.S. telephone number or a foreign telephone number for all sponsors with a program number that begins with P (e.g., P-1-12345):
    - ▪ Correct Minor or Technical Infraction
    - ▪ Update Biographical Information in Active status
    - ▪ Validation
  - o Ability to update the following fields when the exchange visitor in is Initial status with visa information on the record:
    - ▪ Email Address
    - ▪ U.S. Telephone Number
    - ▪ Physical Address
    - ▪ Mailing Address
    - ▪ Position
    - ▪ Subject/Field Code and Remarks
    - ▪ EV ID
    - ▪ EV Remarks
    - ▪ Foreign Address (RTI only)
    - ▪ Foreign Telephone (RTI only)
  - o Remarks required when terminating a J-2 spouse/dependent.
  - o Only the following Positions will be available for exchange visitors in the Teacher category:
    - ▪ 222 – Secondary School Teacher or Staff
    - ▪ 231 – Elementary Principal, Teacher or Staff
    - ▪ 242 – Special School, Institute, or Vocational Teacher or Staff
  - o Update the Termination reason VIOLATING EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM REGULATIONS to VIOLATING EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM REGULATIONS (22 CFR Part 62).

- Email address required when validating exchange visitors in G-3, G-4, G-5, G-6, and G-7 programs.
- **J program sponsor Batch users only:**
  - Remarks required when terminating an exchange visitor.
  - J-2 Forms will print when reprinting J-1 Forms.
  - Select a Reason of Travel when reprinting a DS-2019, "Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (J-Nonimmigrant)."

Information about the release is available in the [SEVIS Release 6.80 Planning Guide](#), located on the [SEVIS Enhancements](#) page in the SEVIS Help Hub.

The SEVIS Production environment and SEVIS Batching will NOT be available from Friday, Oct. 25, 2024, at 8 p.m. EDT to Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024, at 12 a.m. EDT.

For questions about this release, please 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. EDT, except for federal holidays.

FOR BATCH USERS ONLY

IMPORTANT: SEVIS Batch users whose Batching software is not functional by the time of the SEVIS 6.80 release must use the SEVIS RTI environment [SEVIS - Login Page](#) to process any of the SEVIS actions included in this release until their Batching software is updated.

SEVIS Batch file processing will be unavailable until the scheduled upgrade is complete. Please refrain from uploading files in the Production environment during the outage. Files uploaded during the outage will generate an error and users will have to reupload those files once the Production environment is available.

Disclaimer

The broadcast message is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule or a final action by SEVP. It is not intended to, does not, and may not be relied upon to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any party in any administrative, civil, or criminal matter.