THE I-901 SEVIS FEE

As of September 1, 2004, unless exempted, F-1 and J-1 students and J-1 exchange visitors receiving an initial SEVIS Form I-20 or DS-2019 with an issuance date of September 1, 2004 or later will be required to pay the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) SEVIS Fee of $200 USD for F-1 students and $180 for J-1 visa applicants.

What does this mean for you? It depends on your situation…

If you are a continuing F-1 or J-1 student or J-1 scholar, you will not need to pay the federal SEVIS fee, as long as you maintain your current status.

You will need to pay the fee if you change your visa status or if you fail to maintain your status and must apply for reinstatement.

If you are a Canadian citizen who is currently a part-time student, you will receive a notation on your I-20 each term to designate that you are a continuing student and are thus not subject to the SEVIS fee.

Paying the SEVIS Fee:

The fee can be paid to DHS either through a mail-in procedure or via the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (a division of DHS) website https://www.fmjfee.com/index.html. The fee must be paid after you have received your I-20 or DS-2019 and before your visa appointment. The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement website (http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/) also has helpful information about the federal SEVIS fee.

As of May 1, 2005 you can verify online if your SEVIS fee payment was received and when the official receipt for the payment was issued. This capability is available for payments made on the Internet, by check or money order, by Western Union, and by bulk filing. Verification can be made by visiting the SEVIS fee website https://www.fmjfee.com/index.html

Please note:

The Wayne State Institutional $50 SEVIS fee is mandatory and is assessed each term. The fee is charged to all students and scholars in F-1 or J-1 status.

Individuals with F-1 status will be charged automatically through their Wayne State University account. Individuals with J-1 status will be required to pay at the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) or via Wayne State’s CashNET (https://commerce.cashnet.com/WSUOISSSA).