SEVIS (I-901) Fee Information for New F-1 and J-1 Visa Applicants

1. The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requires new F-1 and J-1 visa applicants to pay a **one-time fee** called the “SEVIS” or “I-901” fee. F-1 applicants pay a fee of $200 and J-1 applicants pay a fee of $180 to assist in covering the costs of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

2. F-1 and J-1 visa applicants **MUST** pay the fee at least three business days prior to applying for a visa or applying for admission at a U.S. port-of-entry for Canadians who are exempt from the visa application process. The fee also must be paid prior to submission of a change of status application to the U.S. government.

3. Dependents of F-1 and J-1 applicants (F-2 or J-2 visa applicants) are not obliged to pay the fee.

4. The fee can be paid by the applicant online, via mail, or via Western Union from inside or outside the United States.

5. **Credit Card Payment (Recommended):**

   The fastest way to pay the SEVIS fee and get a receipt is to pay by credit card. You, a family member, or a friend may pay the SEVIS fee online. If someone pays for you, the individual will need to have certain information (see below).

   For credit card payments you need the credit card security code—a 3 or 4 digit number printed after your credit card number on the front or the back of your card.

   To pay online with a credit card, go to [www.FMJfee.com](http://www.FMJfee.com).

   Here are a few tips:
   - Select “Proceed to I-901 Form & Payment.”
   - Scroll to the bottom of the page. Select “I-20” or “DS-2019” and “OK.”
   - Fill in your names and date of birth.
   - **SEVIS ID#:** Fill in the SEVIS ID# (the 10-digit number in the upper right corner of your I-20 or DS-2019, above the barcode — **N00_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _**) and select “Enter.”
   - **School code:** The form requires MSU’s school code from your I-20: **SPM214F00215000**
   - Check that all information is correct before completing your transaction.
   - If you have trouble using a non-U.S. credit card, it may be best to ask a friend or relative in the U.S. to pay the fee on your behalf.

6. **To Pay by Check or Money Order:**
   - Obtain a Form I-901 “Fee Remittance for Certain F, J, and M Non-Immigrants”
   - Download the form at [www.FMJfee.com](http://www.FMJfee.com)
   - Complete the Form I-901. Be sure to write your name exactly as it appears on your I-20 or DS-2019 form.
   - Payment has to be the exact amount of the fee due
   - Send a payment coupon or paper Form I-901 with payment
   - Write your name and SEVIS ID number on the check or money order
   - Make out the check to I-901 Student/Exchange Visitor Processing Fee
   - If you are using a coupon printed from the Internet, find the control number on top of the coupon and write it on your check or money order
   - Attach your check or money order to your coupon or paper Form I-901 and mail to address on Form I-901

7. **Paying by Western Union Quick Pay:** Western Union Quick Pay is an option in some countries. Please visit [http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/wu_instr.htm](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/wu_instr.htm) for information.

Questions? Visit I-901 fee frequently asked questions at [http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/faq.htm](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/faq.htm)