



Canadian citizens do not require F-1 or J-1 visas in order to enter the U.S. with F-1 or J-1 status. However, they are subject to the SEVIS fee.

You must show your SEVIS fee receipt, along with your I-20/DS-2019 and passport, in order to be granted admission to the U.S. with F-1 or J-1 status. The SEVIS fee cannot be paid at the land border crossing or at the Canadian airport before you leave for the U.S.

### **Canadian Citizens**

If you are a Canadian citizen, and you are being sponsored for J-1 status, you do NOT require a J-1 visa in your passport (thus no contact with the U.S. embassy!).

You do however require a DS-2019 and you must present it to a DHS officer before entering the U.S.

### **When to Enter the U.S.**

You may enter the country only up to 30 days before the start date indicated on your DS-2019.

### **The SEVIS Fee for J-1 Visitor Status**

The SEVIS fee is a \$100, one-time only fee.

### **Who is required to pay the SEVIS fee?**

- Canadian citizens seeking first-time J-1 status upon their admission to the U.S.
- International students and scholars with current statuses other than J-1 seeking to change their current status to J-1 status from inside the U.S.
- International students and scholars with current J-1 status seeking to change their J-1 category (e.g., from student to scholar).
- International students and scholars with J-1 status seeking reinstatement to J-1 status after substantial status violation.

### **Who is not required to pay the SEVIS fee?**

- Applicants for visas and statuses other than J-1.
- Canadian citizens seeking re-admission to the U.S. with J-1 status during the course of their existing J-1 programs.
- International students and scholars transferring their current J-1 status from one U.S. institution to another.
- Applicants for first-time J-1 visas whose applications for those visas was initially rejected may re-apply within 12 months of the initial denial notice without incurring another SEVIS Fee.
- J-2 dependents.

### **How is the SEVIS fee charged and collected?**

1. Online submission of form I-901 ([www.FMJFee.com](http://www.FMJFee.com)) to DHS with payment of the \$100 SEVIS Fee via Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. You can pay the SEVIS fee online from anywhere in the world.

2. Mail-in submission of form I-901 to DHS address on form along with \$100 SEVIS fee paid by check, money order, Western Union, or foreign draft drawn on a financial institution in the U.S. and payable in U.S. currency. Mail-in form I-901 is sent to a DHS office in the U.S. This is the least efficient method of paying the SEVIS fee.

Someone other than you (a friend, family member) can pay the SEVIS fee for you by using one of the two methods just described. ISO cannot pay the SEVIS fee for you.