## The Office of International Students

The Graduate School and University Center

The City University of New York

## **SEVIS Fee Procedures**

## For "Initial Attendance" F-1 Status International Students

The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) charges a \$200 SEVIS Fee for F-1 status students to use the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

Before you can use your Form I-20 marked "**Initial Attendance**" in item #3, either to apply for a visa, or to enter the United States, you must pay the **SEVIS Fee**.

The **SEVIS Fee** may be paid either by mail or on-line over the internet. The procedure is as follows:

- 1. **Obtain the fee payment Form I-901.** 
  - a. Access Form I-901 at www.fmjfee.com and complete it on the internet, or
  - b. Print out the Form I-901 that is available at www.fmjfee.com, and send it in by mail
- 2. Complete Form I-901, answering all questions.
  - a. You must first receive a Form I-20 in order to complete the Form I-901.
  - b. For F-1 students, the Graduate Center School Code is NYC214F00812006.
  - c. Your **SEVIS Number** is in the upper right corner of your I-20, beginning with **N**.
- 3. **Pay the \$200 SEVIS Fee.** Choose the method of payment:

[RECOMMENDED]

- a) By credit card over the internet (the easiest and quickest way)
  - i) Follow the on-line instructions at www.fmifee.com.
  - ii) Print out the payment screen to verify your payment.
  - iii) Take the **payment verification printout** with you to your visa interview, and for presentation when you enter the US.
- b) **By personal check**, money order, or foreign draft drawn on a US bank (this takes the longest time)

You must print your name on the check and make the check payable to: I-901 Student/Exchange Visitor Processing Fee.

i) Mail the Form I-901 and the check to to:

I-901 Student/Exchange Visitor Processing Fee P.O. Box 970020, St. Louis, MO 63197-0020.

- ii) You will receive a receipt at the address you give on Form I-901.
- iii) Take the receipt with you to your visa application interview..
- c) By Western Union Quick Pay™ Service (but only where available)
  - i) This service is available in any country where there is a Western Union office that offers its Quick Pay™ service. Contact the Western Union office nearest you.
  - ii) Instructions and a sample form are available on the SEVP website: www.ice.gov/graphics/sevis/i901/index.htm
- 4. All SEVIS Fee payments must be confirmed (by internet receipt) or received (by mail) at least three US government working days before your visa application interview.

## NOTE: Keep the Receipt of Payment. You will need it for later proof of payment.

- 5. Citizens of **Canada** only:
  - a) No visa or visa application is required of Canadian citizens.
  - b) Pay the **SEVIS Fee** as in #3 above and carry the receipt with you.
  - c) Present the **SEVIS Fee** payment receipt at a US Port of Entry.
- 6. Visa applications in **China** or **India**:
  - a) There is a "Pilot Project" for paying the **SEVIS Fee** for visa applications made in China or India.
  - b) The **SEVIS Fee** may be paid at the US Consulate at the time of the visa application.
- 7. Additional details on SEVIS and the **SEVIS Fee**, are available on the SEVIS web site at: www.ice.gov/graphics/enforce/imm/sevis/index.htm