



## OVERVIEW

- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has implemented the collection of the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) fee. The rule sets the SEVIS fee for students at \$180 and scholars at \$200. The purpose of this Congressional mandated fee is to cover the costs for the continued operation of SEVIS. The SEVIS fee is a U.S. Government fee paid to DHS. It is not a University fee and provides no funds or services to the University.
- The new SEVIS fee is generally a one-time fee and payment of the fee is required only under certain circumstances. In general, the new fee will NOT affect students and visiting scholars who are continuing in their *CURRENT* F or J programs at UCI.
- The fee must be processed at least 3 business days before the consular interview. At this time, fees are not payable at the embassy or consulate.



## WHO IS REQUIRED TO PAY THE SEVIS FEE?

- Students and visiting scholars applying for a new F or J visa to begin a NEW program and for whom the Form I-20 or Form DS-2019 for the new program was issued on or after September 01, 2004.
- Students and visiting scholars exempt from visa requirements (such as Canadians) applying for entry the U.S. in F or J status in order to begin a NEW program and for whom the Form I-20 or Form DS-2019 for the new program was issued on or after September 01, 2004.
- F-1 and J-1 students and scholars who have been absent from the U.S. for more than 5 months.
- Students and visiting scholars who file an application for a change of status to F-1 or J-1 with a Form I-20 or Form DS-2019 that was issued on or after September 01, 2004.
- J-1 students and visiting scholars who apply for a change of program category within the U.S. on or after September 01, 2004.
- Students who file an application for reinstatement to F-1 or J-1 status on or after September 01, 2004 and who have been out of status for a period of time that exceeds the normal deadlines for applying for reinstatement.

Visiting scholars applying for reinstatement to J status after a substantive violation of status (or after having been out of program status for longer than 120 days but less than 270 days during the course of his/her program) and the application for reinstatement is filed on or after September 01, 2004.