

Broadcast Message: New SEVP Guidance: Electronic Transmission and Signatures of the Form I-983

To: All SEVIS Users

Date: Sept. 18, 2023

Number: 2309-03

General Information

The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) updated the Form I-983, “[Training Plan for STEM OPT Students](#),” to remove language requiring wet signatures. Students and employers may continue to physically sign the Form I-983 or input their own electronic signature. SEVP accepts electronic signatures in the following formats:

- **Electronic signatures using software programs or applications.** Students and employers may sign all signature fields on the Form I-983 using electronic signatures produced with software programs or applications.
- **Electronically reproduced copies of a signature.** Students and employers may sign all signature fields on the Form I-983 using digitally reproduced copies of a signature. A digitally reproduced copy may be a scanned image of a physical signature.

Additionally, students may send an electronic version of their completed or updated Form I-983 to their designated school official (DSO) via email or through a secure platform that students can access with individual account credentials. This may include a school portal or other secure site.

DSOs are encouraged to upload the Form I-983 when updating the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) with an event that requires a new or revised Form I-983, but this is optional. For instructions on uploading the Form I-983, see the [F-1 STEM Optional Practical Training \(OPT\) Extension page](#) in the [SEVIS Help Hub](#).

Additional Resources

For more information about the Form I-983, visit these resources in the STEM OPT Hub on Study in the States:

- [Form I-983 Overview](#).
- [Students and the Form I-983](#).
- [DSOs and the Form I-983](#).

Stakeholders with case-specific questions can contact the SEVP Response Center (SRC) via phone at 703-603-3400 or 1-800892-4829 or via email at SEVP@ice.dhs.gov. The SRC is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, except for federal holidays.

Disclaimer

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