

December 20, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

On November 1, 2021, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) published SEVP Policy Guidance: Use of Electronic Signatures and Transmission for the Form I-20. In Broadcast Message 2111-02 (<https://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/I20-guidance.pdf>), SEVP provided detailed guidance regarding the issuance of electronic signatures on Form I-20. This document confirms the following criteria for electronic signatures and transmission of Form I-20:

- Designated School Officials (DSOs) may sign Form I-20 using electronic signatures produced with software programs or applications, or they may sign Form I-20 using a digitally reproduced copy of a signature.
- DSOs may transmit Forms I-20 via email or using a secure platform.
- Upon receipt of the Form I-20, students should print a copy to present at a visa interview and/or U.S. port of entry.

In the Frequently Asked Questions document on the Immigration and Customs Enforcement website (<https://www.ice.gov/coronavirus>), SEVP provided the following additional clarification regarding the electronic Form I-20:

- Forms I-20 issued electronically or with electronic signatures will remain valid, and the use of electronic signatures and transmission will be permitted during and beyond the COVID-19 emergency.
- An electronic or digital travel signature will be valid for the same duration as an ink signature (12 months for F students and six months for M students).
- SEVP coordinated with the Department of State, the Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Social Security Administration regarding the policy to allow electronic issuance and signing of Forms I-20.

Binghamton University's Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) has issued electronic Forms I-20 to students in accordance with the guidance provided SEVP. Thank you in advance for your assistance to our Binghamton University students.

Sincerely,



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