1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

OCT - 4 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Directors, Field Operations
Director, Preclearance Operations
Office of Field Operations

FROM: Todd A. Hoffman (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) [redacted]
Executive Director
Admissibility and Passenger Programs

SUBJECT: Updating F-1 Students Processing at ports of entry

This memorandum is to further clarify guidance previously issued on August 10, 2012 titled: Placing an Admission Stamps on Form I-20 A-B and I-20 M-N, on July 6, 2015 titled: SEVIS Number Query Enhancement Activation and on July 21, 2015 titled: SEVIS Number Query Activation at Seaports.

The SEVIS Query functionality is a real time query that provides rapid responses when a F-1or M-1 SEVIS number is queried in the Traveler Primary Arrival Client (TPAC) and the Consolidated Secondary Inspection System (CSIS). This has enhanced Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) ability to identify travelers who may be in violation of the SEVIS program and may be subject to further inspection or adverse action.

To avoid confusion and to maintain consistent student processing, CBP officers are no longer required to open the sealed envelope that foreign students normally present unless the inspecting CBP officer discovers or believes that a violation exist. If a violation exist, the CBP officer must refer the student applicant to secondary for further processing. In cases where the CBP officer has no indication of any type of violation, all other processing requirements for F-1 and M-1 applicants for admission remain the same.

Please ensure that this memorandum and muster are disseminated to all ports of entry within your jurisdiction. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact (b)(6)(b)(7)(C) Director, Enforcement Programs Division (EPD) at (b)(6)(b)(7)(C) or [redacted] (b)(6)(b)(7)(C) [redacted]

Attachment

Weekly Muster

Week of Muster: Immediate

HQ POC: (b)(6)(b)(7)(C)

Subject: Updating F-1 Students Processing at ports of entry

- This memorandum is being issued to clarify the following field guidance:
  - August 10, 2012 titled: Placing an Admission Stamp on Form I-20 A-B and I-20 M-N,
  - July 6, 2015 titled: SEVIS Number Query Enhancement Activation, and
  - July 21, 2015 titled: SEVIS Number Query Activation at Seaports.

- The SEVIS query functionality is a real time query that provides rapid responses when a F-1or M-1 SEVIS number is queried in Traveler Primary Arrival Client (TPAC) or Consolidated Secondary Inspection System (CSIS).

- This has enhanced Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) ability to identify travelers who may be in violation of the SEVIS program and may be subject to further inspection or adverse action.

- To avoid confusion and to maintain consistent student processing, CBP officers are no longer required to open the sealed envelope normally presented by F-1 and M-1 students seeking entry into the United States.

- If any violations are discovered or suspected, the student applicant must be referred to secondary for further processing.

- If no violations are discovered or suspected, all other requirements for F-1 and M-1 applicants for admission remain the same.