

## Changes in Immigration Policy Post September 11th

<b>Homeland Security Presidential Decision Directive-2</b> October 29, 2001	<b>Enhanced Border Security Reform Act</b> Signed into law May 14, 2002
The Directive calls for a program to end the abuse of the student visa system and prohibit certain international students from receiving education and training in sensitive areas of studies.	This legislation calls for the full implementation of SEVIS, (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System), and outlines temporary procedures to ensure secure borders during the implementation.
To track incoming foreign students the Administration wants to collect the following information: proposed major course of study, status of the individual as a full-time student, classes in which the student enrolls, and source of funding for the student's education.	
To implement the Directive, the Administration has created the Interagency Panel on Advanced Science and Security (IPASS), which is charged with reviewing all specialized visas, including student, postdoctoral, research, and vocational programs visas. IPASS will screen visa applicants for the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous education and training</li> <li>• Country of origin</li> <li>• The specific area of study and whether it is considered a "sensitive area."</li> </ul>	
IPASS will review current visa holders only if they seek to change their course of study	
IPASS's role would be strictly advisory to assist the State Department in making appropriate visa decisions and the panel would take no formal action itself.	

<p>INS will conduct periodic reviews, in consultation with the Department of Education, of all institutions certified to receive nonimmigrant and exchange visitor program students.</p>	<p>The INS must conduct reviews once every two years to determine that institutions are in compliance with their record keeping and reporting requirements. Failure to comply with such requirements would result in suspension of at least one year or termination, at the election of the INS Commissioner or the Secretary of State, of the institution's or exchange program's approval or designation to receive foreign students or exchange visitors.</p>
	<p>Within 30 days after the end of its enrollment period, schools must report the failure of an alien's, whose arrival is expected, to enroll.</p>
	<p>Schools will be required to report the following additional information once SEVIS is implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date and port of entry</li> <li>• Date of enrollment</li> <li>• Degree program, if applicable, and field of study</li> <li>• Date of and reason for termination of enrollment</li> </ul>
	<p>Transitional requirements will take effect 120 days after enactment of the legislation, and will remain in effect until SEVIS is fully operational. These requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A visa may not be issued unless the school has provided to the State Department "electronic evidence of documentation of the alien's acceptance" and the consular officer has reviewed the applicants record.</li> <li>• The State Department must notify the INS of issuance of the visa.</li> <li>• INS must notify the school that an alien accepted by that school has been admitted to the United States.</li> </ul>
	<p>An alien from a country that is a state sponsor of international terrorism is banned from entry, unless it has been determined that the alien does not pose a threat to the safety or national security of the United States.</p>