Handling a Form I-515A

If you receive a Form I-515A, “Notice to Student or Exchange Visitor,” it is very important that you send your response to SEVP within 30 days. If you do not, it will negatively affect your F-1/M-1 status and you may be required to depart the United States.

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer just issued you a Form I-515A. Now what do you do?

The CBP officer who issues you a Form I-515A may tell you what documents, signatures, or information are missing or incomplete. The form is a checklist that describes exactly what is missing or incomplete, and tells you what you must do.

You must submit this paperwork before the "admit until" date on your Form I-94.

SEVP will process your documents and return them to a DSO at your school. If your submission is correct, SEVP will return your documents with a letter of approval and the Form I-94, “Arrival/Departure Record,” will have an extended departure date. Then you can get the documents from your DSO for you to keep safely.

For more detailed information, visit studyinthestates.dhs.gov/515a.

Mail documentation to the following address:
Student and Exchange Visitor Program DHS/ICE
ATTN: SEVIS/Form I-515A Processing Team
500 12th Street SW STOP 5600
Washington, D.C. 20536-5600

You have 30 days from the date of entry into the United States to submit your correct paperwork to the SEVP Form I-515A processing team.

If you receive a Form I-515A, the first thing you should do is alert your DSO. Your DSO will work with you to make sure everything is in order. Collect the necessary paperwork and send the original documents by mail.