



DS-160 FAQ

This information specifically pertains to DS-160 questions relating to F-1, J-1, F-2, and J-2 submission of the DS-160. For additional information, please review the information on the State Department website [here](#).

1. Who is my contact at Harvard? What U.S. address should I use?

Please add the advisor's name on the bottom of page one of the I-20 (F-1 Students) or DS- 2019 (J-1 Exchange Visitors). Then, use the following address:

*Harvard International Office 1350 Massachusetts Avenue
Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Campus Center, 864
Cambridge, MA
02138*

Phone: 617-495-2789

Fax: 617-495-4088

2. Where is the code for my field of study located on the F-1 I-20?

For **F-1 Students**, the field of study code is located under the *PROGRAM of STUDY* section of the I-20.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

EDUCATION LEVEL
DOCTORATE

MAJOR 1

Economics, General 45.0601

MAJOR 2

None 00.0000

3. Where is the code for my field of study located on the J-1 DS-2019?

For J-1 Students and Scholars, the field of study code can be found under #4 *Exchange Visitor Category* section of the DS-2019.

4. Exchange Visitor Category:

RESEARCH SCHOLAR

Subject/Field Code:

26.0801

Subject/Field Code Remarks:

HSPH: Genetics and Complex Diseases



4. Exchange Visitor Category: STUDENT MASTERS	
Subject/Field Code: 51.2210	Subject/Field Code Remarks: Master of Public Health in Global Health

4. How do I find the SEVIS number?

For **F-1 Students**, the SEVIS Number is found on the upper left hand corner of the I-20:

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement		I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status OMB NO. 1653-0038
SEVIS ID: N0004705512		
SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME Doe Smith PREFERRED NAME John Doe-Smith COUNTRY OF BIRTH UNITED KINGDOM DATE OF BIRTH 01 JANUARY 1980 FORM ISSUE REASON INITIAL ATTENDANCE - Updated Form I-20 or Name	GIVEN NAME John PASSPORT NAME COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP UNITED KINGDOM ADMISSION NUMBER LEGACY NAME	CLASS F-1 ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE

For **J-1 Students and Scholars**, the SEVIS Number is located in the upper right hand corner of the DS-2019:

U.S. Department of State FOR EXCHANGE VISITOR STATUS (J-NONIMMIGRANT)	OMB APPROVAL NO.1405-0119 EXPIRES: 10/31/2020 ESTIMATED BURDEN TIME: 45 min *See Page 2			
Birth: GERMANY	Citizenship Country Code: GM	Citizenship Country: GERMANY	Gender: MALE	N0027892026 J-1

5. How do I find the Harvard's School Code (for F-1) or Program Number (for J-1)?

For **F-1 Students**, the school code can be found under the School Information section on page 1 of the I-20. The section is entitled "School Code and Approval Date." The code begins with "BOS":

SCHOOL INFORMATION SCHOOL NAME Harvard University Harvard University SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL	SCHOOL ADDRESS c/o Harvard International Office, Cambridge, MA 02138 SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE BOS 123456789
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2. Program Sponsor: **Harvard University**

Program Number:

Program Sponsor section of the DS-2019. The number begins with "P-1-0...":

6. Whom can I receive a personal reference from if I have not been employed in the past?

Many students, particularly undergrads, have asked their school counselor or family friends for personal references.

7. I have heard that I am required to provide social media usernames on my visa application. Is this true? I have not had to do this in the past.

Yes, this represents a newer series of questions on the Form DS-160. Visa applicants must provide information regarding any social media platforms that they have used during the five years preceding their visa application. You are required to provide any usernames or handles used on those platforms including Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Reddit, Twitter, Weibo, YouTube, and more. You can make selections from a pulldown menu.

8. Do my F-2 or J-2 dependents each need to submit their own DS-160?

Yes. Each visa applicant must complete and submit their own DS-160 and pay a visa application fee prior to their visa interviews. If any of your family members are under the age of 16 or physically unable to complete the application, the applicant's parent or guardian may complete and sign the application on his or her behalf.

9. Do I need to complete and submit a new DS-160 if I am renewing a visa?

Yes. You may use information from a previously-submitted DS-160 if the information has not changed, but you will need to complete a new DS-160 and pay a new visa application fee. See question 10 below for information about how to populate information from a previously submitted DS-160.



10a. Some of my information has changed. May I edit the DS-160 after I have submitted it?

10b. I am renewing my visa. May I upload information from a previously submitted DS-160 and edit it accordingly for my new application?

Applicants cannot reopen submitted DS-160 applications. If something in your circumstances changes and requires that DS-160 information to be updated, there are two ways to reuse information from a previously submitted application to create and submit a new/updated DS-160. Please note that you may also use these options if you are renewing your visa; populating the information from a previously submitted application may help you ensure accuracy and consistency among your previous responses:

- The first option is to log into the CEAC system and select [“Retrieve an Application”](#) using the previous application ID number. Next, you will be asked whether you want to go to the confirmation page or create a new application. Select “Create a New Application,” and much of the form will auto-populate with the previously submitted information. Then, you will need to edit and update the information. Once you have made all required edits/updates, submit the new application. This will generate a new confirmation page.
- The second option applies if you saved the [DAT file](#) from the original application to a hard drive or disk. You can access and amend the previous application at any time. You can select [“Upload a Previously Saved Application”](#) on the Getting Started page. Once the changes have been made, save and submit the new application. This will generate a new confirmation page. (Note: permanently saving your application to a hard drive/disk will allow you to access your application after 30 days.)

For either option, if the original DS-160 was used to book the visa appointment and/or pay the MRV fee, **you are [required](#) to present the confirmation pages from the new AND original DS-160 at the interview.** This is because each submission creates a different barcode, and a consular officer uses the application ID/barcode to retrieve the application. We recommend that you print out and carry all pages of the new DS-160 application in the event the officer cannot retrieve/access the new application (for example, should there be a system outage). You should also be prepared to accurately explain to the officer what specific material changes and related issues, resulted in the need for an updated DS-160.