

(Quoted statement comes directly from SEVIS information bulletin:  
[http://www.ice.gov/sevis/becoming\\_nonimmigrant\\_student\\_52007.htm](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/becoming_nonimmigrant_student_52007.htm) )

“Nonimmigrants who wish to study in the United States should not enter the country as B-2 tourist, but as an F, M, or J student.

Nonimmigrants who wish to enter the United States to visit schools or take entrance examinations as prospective students may enter on a B-2 visa, but should inform the CBP officer at the POE of their intent. The CBP officer will add the notation *Prospective Student* to the Form I-94. Later, the nonimmigrant [may apply for a change of status](#) with USCIS, if he or she is accepted by a SEVP-certified school or a DOS designated sponsor school. Nonimmigrants changing status from a B-2 to an F-1 or M-1 nonimmigrant student cannot start school until the change of status is approved.”

CBP= Custom and Border Protection

POE= Point of entry

May apply for a change of status= Form I-539