



## IMMIGRATION INFORMATION FOR J-1 VISA HOLDERS

### J-1 Exchange Students in Local States

A J-1 exchange is admitted to the United States for the duration of the exchange as indicated on Form DS-2019.

1. Exchange activities must be in accordance with the individual's exchange as described on the DS-2019.
2. Exchange students may not request transfer and extension requests.
3. Does not accept employment without authorization.
4. Exchange students must have adequate health insurance that meets the minimum requirements required by the Department of State.
5. Reports any change of address to the ISSO within ten days of the move.

Exchange students must file DS-2019 with the ISSO within 30 days of the start date of the exchange. However, if the exchange student has already filed the DS-2019 with the ISSO at that date, then the departure date must be within 30 days of the start date of the exchange.

# J-2 Visa Holders: A Spouse's Guide to the U.S.

## Maintaining status

A J-2 visa holder in the United States is the dependent of a J-1 visa holder. The J-2 dependent may remain in the U.S. while the J-1 visa holder is in the U.S. The J-2 dependent must also maintain health insurance coverage which meets the Department of State requirements. Further, the J-2 visa holder may not engage in any employment before obtaining authorization.

## J-2 Travel

He/she may leave and enter the United States by leaving Form DS-2019 endorsed by the International Student and Scholar Office. See "Travel Abroad and Re-entry into the United States" section for complete information. The J-2 visa holder must also be in the U.S. at the time of the J-1 visa holder's departure.

## J-2 Employment

A J-2 visa holder may apply for this benefit the J-2 visa holder must submit the following documents to the Immigration Service regional office in Vermont.

1. A letter from the employer stating that the J-2 visa holder's employment will not be used to support the J-1 visa holder, but will be used to help fund the cultural exchange of the J-2 visa holder(s) while in the U.S. The letter should include a list of the family (not including the J-1 visa holder) and their current status in the U.S.
  2. A copy of I-94.
  3. A copy of the passport information page
  4. A copy of the J-2 visa
  5. Form I-765
  6. A copy of all DS-2019s.
  7. Copies of documents which show the financial information required in letter (4) above.
  8. Two passport-sized photographs of the J-2 visa holder (2x2 inches) - I-765.
- 2 visa holder.

Note: The International Student and Scholar Office staff members are available to assist the J-2 visa holder in assembling the required material for an employment authorization application.