

J-1 exchange visitor visa overview

- Used for temporary visiting researchers (paid or unpaid) and faculty (non-tenured track)
- Generally requires a minimum of a Master's degree or Bachelor's and significant work experience (not for Research Assistants and Technicians)
- Maximum of 5 years
- Can be part time or full time
- Sponsoring faculty member must complete visiting scholar information sheet and form attesting to scholar's English proficiency
- Researcher must demonstrate financial certification of a minimum of \$2000 per month-if grant/salary is less must show difference in personal funds.
- Dependents come on J-2 visas and can study and apply for work permission
- **Processed by the OISS-no additional costs-two week processing time**
- OISS sends immigration form DS2019 to researcher who applies for J-1 visa at US consulate (scholars from certain countries in certain fields may have delays for "administrative processing"/security clearance)

H-1b visa overview

- For “Specialty Occupation”-bachelor’s degree or equivalent required
- Do NOT have to prove that no US worker qualified for job
- Usually only done if scholar is currently on H-1, has no J-1 visa time remaining, or if subject to “two year home residency requirement” and department is willing to pay immigration fees
- Can be part-time or full time
- Maximum of 6 years-initial 3years then 3 year extension
- Must meet prevailing wage as determined by the Department of Labor-determined by job title
- **NOT processed by the OISS-processed by Kevin McNamara, immigration attorney** (researchers through HR, faculty through Provost office)
- Department must pay immigration fees for researchers/post docs-\$825
- Department or scholar can pay lawyer fees-approximately \$1800
- Can pay an additional \$1,225 for premium processing (15 calendar days)
- H-4s can study but can not work unless H-1 is part of labor certification (green card) process

For More Information Contact:

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