

Hosting a Foreign Scholar

The J Visa

Purpose of the J Visa

- To aid in educational and cultural exchange
 - Go home and tell them how wonderful we are
 - Not cheap labor
 - Not a career launcher
- Knowing how the government sees it helps us understand the rules

Common Categories at UT

- Research Scholar/Professor
 - Up to 5 years
 - Restricted ability to return after program ends
- Short Term Scholar
 - 6 month maximum
 - Enhanced ability to return
- Intern
 - Current or recently graduated student

Paths

- Request comes to CIE (Sometimes via HR)
- CIE enters data into SEVIS
- CIE notifies department for pick-up
- Department ships documents to J visitor
- Visitor arranges for visa application
- **Visitor arrives**

Extensions and Transfers

- Extensions are possible
 - Up to the time limit in the current category
 - Financial support
 - Must be continuing same work not a new project
- Transfers are possible
 - Subject to time limits
 - Subject to “purpose of the current program”
 - Letters of explanation

Visiting Home and Elsewhere

- Going to conferences in the US and abroad
 - Very appropriate
 - Less than 30 days out of country
 - Returning to continue original program
- Visiting home
 - Less than 30 days
- Out of country option
 - More than 30 days
 - Absence must be part of program

Ready, Set, Go

- Deciding to use the J visa and getting **ready**
 - What do you need to think about and be prepared to do
- Getting **set** up for arrival
 - Tasks and procedures
- The visit comes to an end and the visitor **goes** home
 - Tasks and procedures.

Ready

- Is the J appropriate
 - Temporary position
 - No candidates for a tenure track
 - Any chance this person may be in line for a position
- How long will the program last
 - Will there be an on-going relationship
 - Future visits
- Funding
 - UT or some other government or institutional source?
 - If UT position, has HR been involved?
 - Personal funds? Not Usually!!!
- What support are you willing and able to give
 - Salary, insurance, help with housing, banking, transportation, etc.

Ready

- How soon do they need to be here
 - Visa application and security clearances
 - Are delays okay
- Host professor must actually host the visitor
 - Guidance, supervision, planning, etc.
- Determining language ability

Setting Up

- Get them into IRIS
 - Volcard, salary, library
- Airport pickup
- Housing both temporary and long term
- Insurance (ours, theirs and evacuation)
- Household items
- Transportation temporary and long term

CIE Responsibilities

- Validating in SEVIS
 - Time sensitive
 - Physically report to CIE
 - Rolling check-in
- Weekly Orientations
 - Immigration regulations
 - Health care and insurance
 - Taxes
 - Cultural opportunities

Going Home

- Notifying CIE
 - Crucial **if** departing more than 30 days prior to end date on DS-2019

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More information can be found on our website:

<http://international.utk.edu/iss/immigration-information/j1-scholar/for-depts-2/>

For specific questions, please contact [Dave Lawson](#)
at the Center For International Education.