

Instructions for Filing Form DS-2019 for Visiting Scholar

The DS-2019 is the “certificate of eligibility” for J-1 status. All Exchange Visitors must have this document in order to receive a J-1 visa. J-1 Visiting Scholars are issued the DS-2019 by the Office of Global Engagement at the sponsoring academic department's request. Processing time in OGE is a minimum of 14 business days.

When requesting a DS-2019 for a scholar, please include the following:

- Completed Application for Form-2019
- Clear copy of the applicant and all dependents' passport picture pages
- Copy of the Invitation Letter
- Copy of the scholar's resume or CV
- Evidence of funding e.g. scholarship award letter
- English test scores, if applicable

Email all documents to oge@stockton.edu, with subject matter “Request for Form DS-2019”. Please ensure that all requested documents are submitted at the time of application.

Funding:

J-1's may receive funding from multiple sources, including Stockton University, the visitor's home government, NGO's, personal sources, and private organizations. J-1's are permitted to be Stockton University employees, but **cannot** be in tenure-track positions, as it conflicts with their non-immigrant visa status.

Suggested funding levels on an annual basis are as follows:

- J-1 scholar \$48,000/year (\$4,000/month)
- J-2 spouse \$9,000/year
- J-2 child (under 21) \$4,500/year/child

Funding requirements are based on the average costs of housing, utilities, meals, personal expenses, spending allowances, childcare and other expenses associated with exchange program activities.

This minimum total funding amount may be met through a combination of funding sources.

Health Insurance

Program participants and their dependents are required to have medical insurance coverage with the following minimum benefits [22 CFR 62.14].

- Medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness
- Repatriation of remains in the amount of \$25,000
- Expenses associated with the medical evacuation of the exchange visitor to his or her home country in the amount of \$50,000
- A deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.

An insurance policy secured to meet the benefits requirements must be underwritten by an insurance corporation with an:

- *A.M. Best rating of "A-" or above*
- *Insurance Solvency International, Ltd. (ISI) rating of "A-I" or above*
- *Standard and Poor's Claims Paying Ability rating of "A-" or above, or*
- *Weiss Research, Inc. rating of B+ or above.*

Cultural Immersion Program

The J-1 exchange visitor visa was created with the primary purpose of enabling cultural exchange between the United States and other nations, thereby “building mutual understanding between Americans and people of other countries.” Cross-cultural exchange activities are an essential part of the University’s J-1 exchange visitor program and of our continued ability to sponsor exchange visitors across campus. To comply with the federal regulatory requirements of the exchange visitor program, all sponsoring Faculty/Departments must have plans in place to offer cross-cultural exchange opportunities to J-1 exchange visitors and their J-2 dependents. Examples of such activities:

- Attending local seasonal festivities, such as fairs and celebrations
- Visiting historic or otherwise important sites (e.g. Washington D.C., Monticello, etc.)
- Attending theater, ballet, or seasonal area activities
- Participating in Thanksgiving, Christmas, or other important U.S. holidays
- Volunteering in the community, participating in the everyday life of the U.S. population