DS-2019 Extension Request for a J-1 Scholar

What is a DS-2019 extension?

An extension is permission for additional time for a J-1 Exchange Visitor (EV) to complete their original program objective. The length of the extension is based on a recommendation of the host department and the maximum duration allowed by the EV’s J-1 visa category. The EV must initiate a request for an extension of their program, which must be done before the end date as listed on the DS-2019.

How to apply for an extension of an Exchange Visitor Program?

To request an extension, you must submit a DS-2019 Extension e-form through iStart. Please click the iStart link found at https://isss.utah.edu/. Then select the LOGIN button to access the + J-1 Scholar Services dropdown menu. For more information on iStart, please review the iStart Instruction Guide found on our website under Forms and Publications, then J-1 Scholar.

The following information must be provided and/or uploaded to an e-form:

- **Extension Recommendation Letter.** The recommendation must be printed on official University Letterhead, signed by a department administrator, and included the following:
  - The new research/teaching program end date.
  - Very brief statement on your progress towards your program objective.
  - Confirmation of your funding, if you are funded by the University.
  - Confirmation of health insurance coverage, if health insurance is part of your benefit package.

- If subject to the 212(e) home residency requirement, confirmation on the e-form of whether or not you have received or requested a waiver of that requirement. If you have questions about 212(e), please make an appointment with an ISSS Scholar advisor for additional information.

- **Proof of funding.** If you are funded by the University, your host academic department can confirm the funding on the extension recommendation letter. If you are not funded by the University, you must provide proof, such as government funding, scholarships, grants, or your own personal funds. Proof of minimum funding in the amount of $1,700 per month for each EV and $500 per month for each dependent is required for the entire duration of the extension.

- Completed and signed insurance compliance form retrieved from https://isss.utah.edu/forms-publications/J1-scholar.php to confirm that you understand the insurance requirements set by the U.S. Department of State.

- **Contact Information** of your supervisor, primary investigator (PI), or department chair.
Important considerations, insurance requirements, and program length:

- Once an extension is approved, a new DS-2019 is issued reflecting the new program end date.
- Your application is not considered complete until ISSS has all required and completed documents.
- Processing time is up to 2 weeks after both your complete submission.

Please Note: An extension of your DS-2019 is NOT an extension of your visa. Although a valid visa is not required to legally remain in the U.S., it is required to re-enter the US after a departure.

Maximum Program Length:
Extensions can be requested for any length of time up to the J-1 Visa category maximum duration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short Term Scholar</td>
<td>6 Months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Intern</td>
<td>1 Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>1 Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Scholar</td>
<td>5 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>5 Years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Insurance Requirements:
Federal Regulations require that all Exchange Visitors in J immigration status maintain health insurance for the duration of their Exchange Visitor Program. If your host department at the University of Utah does not provide health insurance, it is your responsibility to purchase and provide proof of health insurance for the duration of your program that meets the minimum requirements set by the Department of State for you and all of your dependents. If you need additional information on health insurance, please e-mail International Scholars at internationalscholars@utah.edu or make an appointment with an advisor.

Minimum health insurance requirements for J-1 Exchange Visitors are as follows:

- $100,000 per sickness/illness
- $100,000 per accident/injury
- $50,000 for medical evacuation
- $25,000 for repatriation
- Maximum $500 deductible

Health insurance must meet the above requirements.