

Quinnipiac University

Department of Cultural and Global Engagement

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J-1 Visa Information

What is the J-1 Visa (Exchange Visitor) Program?

The Exchange Visitor Program fosters global understanding through educational and cultural exchanges. All exchange visitors are expected to return to their home country upon completion of their program in order to share their exchange experiences. This information has been obtained from www.state.gov. For more information about J visas, please visit <http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/study-exchange/exchange.html>.

Information

Students in degree programs must be enrolled full-time for the duration of the program.

Exchange visitors beginning new programs may not enter the United States more than 30 days before their program start date, which is indicated on the DS-2019 Form.

Program participants and their dependents are required to have medical insurance coverage with the following minimum benefits in effect during the period of time they are in the sponsor's program:

- 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
- Deductibles not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness

If you would like assistance obtaining the appropriate medical insurance, please contact international.student@quinnipiac.edu.

How to Apply for a J-1 Visa

- 1) **Obtain your DS-2019 Form (Certificate of Eligibility)** sent to you by Quinnipiac University.
- 2) **Pay the I-901 Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Fee online at <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.jsp>.** For more information about the I-901 Fee, please visit <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/>. Once you pay the fee, print the receipt showing payment of the \$180 visa application fee
- 3) **Apply for an Exchange Visitor J-1 Visa at the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate** in your country of residence <http://www.usembassy.gov/>. On the webpage for your nearest U.S. embassy or consulate, visit “visa information” for instruction about how to make a visa interview appointment, pay the application processing fee, etc.

If you are married and/or have children you wish to bring to the United States with you, please contact international.student@quinnipiac.edu.

- 4) **Gather the following remaining documents:**
 - a. Passport valid for travel to the United States
 - b. Completed Online Form DS-160, nonimmigrant visa application
 - c. 2x2 inch photograph, meeting format requirements
<http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/general/photos.html>
 - d. Other supporting documents – check the specific embassy or consulate website

How long does it take to obtain a J-1 Visa?

The wait time for an interview and processing for a J-1 Visa varies from country to country and is based on your individual circumstances. Learn more about interview wait and processing times by visiting <http://www.travel.state.gov/content/visas/english.html> and view Visa Wait Times. We encourage you to apply as soon as possible.