

Case Western Reserve University J-1 General Information

Exchange Visitors (EVs) are only permitted to engage in activities identified on the DS-2019 visa document. Case Western Reserve University sponsors an Exchange Visitor Program for students, researchers, visiting faculty, short-term scholars, or specialists. The source and the amount of financial support for the Exchange Visitor are listed on the Form DS-2019. Please note that the Code of Federal Regulations (22 CFR, Part 62) specifies that J-1s may not be candidates for tenure track appointments.

Since September 1994, all Exchange Visitors and their visa dependents (J-2) are required under regulations to purchase and maintain health care insurance of at least the following amounts:

- \$50,000 medical benefits per accident or illness;
- \$50,000 medical evacuation;
- \$25,000 repatriation of remains; and
- \$500 maximum deductible for each occurrence.

Exchange Visitors who receive university fringe benefits are automatically covered. Research Scholars and those Exchange visitors who are self-funded or funded by external sources can purchase insurance at any company that cover international visitors/students. (see also, www.garnett-powers.com/case/)

The office of Immigration and HR Services (IHRS) issues DS-2019(s) for all appointees, other than students. Please allow a reasonable period of time before the start date of the EV(s) employment so that IHRS may process your request in a timely manner. Exchange Visitors who come as Visiting Faculty, Researchers, and Short-term Scholars may receive funding from a variety of sources, which are identified on the DS-2019. Please note that any amount identified as a Sponsor obligation must be paid to the appointee, and no reduction of either the amount or the dates of appointment is permitted. Transfer from one Sponsor to another must follow a procedure specified by the U.S. Department of State (DOS). Please contact IHRS for assistance in the event that a J-1 Exchange Visitor will be transferring from another institution to Case Western Reserve University. Exchange Visitors who are sponsored by colleges and universities to participate in teaching, research, or specialist activities have a minimum stay of 21 days and a general maximum stay of 60 months in the United States.

Universities may sponsor graduates of foreign medical schools to participate in teaching and/or research activities as long as patient care is *incidental* to the primary goals of the appointment. Please note that federal law prohibits these graduates of foreign medical schools from principally practicing medicine.

Exchange Visitors cannot generally change the activity that is described on the Form DS-2019. In addition, some, but not all, Exchange Visitors, including J1 students and J-2 dependents are subject to the two year home country physical residence requirement, (212(e)). This means that they may not change their nonimmigrant status while in the U.S., enter the U.S. in certain other nonimmigrant classifications, or becoming an immigrant/permanent resident until 212(e) is satisfied or waived.

J2 Visa dependents of J-1; can accept employment after applying for and receiving an Employment Authorization Document (I-766) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS); employment is not employer specific; J-2s are liable for FICA tax and are *not* eligible for tax treaty benefits.