

Academic Training & J Visa Employment

October 9, 2009

Employment in J Student Status

- Two Kinds:
 - Academic Training (related to course of study)
 - Other employment
 - Related to Academic Funding
 - On-campus Work
 - Off-campus Economic Necessity

Academic Training

- Work, training, or experience related to a student's field of study.
 - May involve sequential or simultaneous activities.
 - Either paid or unpaid
 - With several employers, U.S. or foreign, provided the application and approval procedures are followed for each employer and activity, and the time limits not exceeded.

Eligibility Requirements for Academic Training

- Must be in U.S. primarily to study rather than engage in academic training.
- Must be done with a specific employer or training site, and be directly related to major listed on DS-2019.
- Must be in good academic standing.
- Must receive written approval in advance from International Student & Scholar Services.

Academic Training Time Limitations

- Degree Programs

- _ The total training period may not exceed the period of full course of study.

- Up to 18 months (whether done before or after completion of studies.)

- Exception:

- _ To the extent necessary for the exchange visitor to satisfy the mandatory requirements of degree.

- Up to 36 months for Postdoctoral Training

- (18 months, plus up to an additional 18 months)

Nondegree Program

- May not exceed the time spent in the program of study.
- For students in a prescribed course of study in a nondegree program, their total stay is limited to 24 months, including all study and authorized academic training.

Part-time Academic Training

- All academic training is counted as full time, even if employment is on a part-time basis.

Procedures for Granting Academic Training

- Job Offer Letter
- Letter of Recommendation from Student's academic dean or advisor
- Bring the above 2 items to ISSSO to request authorization:
 - Letter of authorization from the International Student and Scholar Services Office.
 - New DS-2019 form

On-Campus J-1 Student Employment

- Employment pursuant to terms of scholarship, fellowship, or assistantship
 - Employment on the school's premises
- (All on-campus employment must be authorized by the International Student and Scholar Services Office.)

J-1 Employment Off Campus

- Occurs in necessary because of serious, urgent, and unforeseen economic circumstances that arose since acquiring exchange visitor status.
- Must be authorized in writing by the International Student and Scholar Services Office.

J-1 Professors and Research Scholars

- Permitted to work as described on the Form DS-2019 and may accept additional employment as authorized by the sponsor in accordance with the regulations.

J-1 Professors and Research Scholars

- Unrelated employment not allowed
- Occasional lectures or consultations allowed if approved by sponsor, and be approved in advance in writing by the International Student and Scholar Services Office.

Employment of J-2 Dependents

- Are permitted to apply for an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) from USCIS.
- Eligible to apply so long as the employment is not for the purpose of supporting the J-1.

ISSSO Web Site

Please see our web site for additional information.

www.issso.uh.edu