Request for Dependent DS-2019

This Form is for J-1 visa students who wish to invite their dependants (spouse or unmarried child under 21 years old) to join them in the United States. Each J-2 dependent needs a dependent DS-2019. In order to receive a dependent DS-2019, please submit all the documentation listed below to the International Student Services (ISS).

- J-1 Student’s original DS-2019
- Copy of the dependent’s valid passport name page
- Completed Request Form for DS-2019 available at http://www.utsa.edu/intprograms/OIPWeb/immigrationAdvising.html
- Proof of financial support
  Total support must be at least $5,000 per year for the spouse and $3,000 per year for each child on a 9-month basis ($555.55/month for spouse; $333.33/month per child).

The J-1 student must apply on the dependent’s behalf to obtain the dependent DS-2019. Upon receipt of all the necessary documents, ISS will issue a dependent DS-2019 for each dependent and a new DS-2019 for the student. Each dependent should sign his or her own dependent DS-2019, except in the case of unmarried children under age 14. The dependent will use the DS-2019 to apply for a J-2 visa.

INSURANCE FOR DEPENDENTS

All exchange visitors (both J-1 principals and J-2 dependents) are required to have medical, evacuation and repatriation coverage in effect for the duration of their arrival in and departure from U.S. Evidence of insurance coverage must be presented to ISS upon arrival. Evidence of insurance coverage must include:

1. Medical benefits of at least U.S. $50,000 per person per accident or illness;
2. Repatriation of remains in the amount of U.S. $7,500;
3. Expenses associated with medical evacuation in the amount of U.S. $10,000;
4. Deductible of no more than U.S. $500

A willful failure to maintain insurance requirements is considered to be a violation of the Exchange Visitor Program and may result in immediate termination of their records.

J-2 DEPENDENT EMPLOYMENT AND STUDY

Dependents in J-2 status are not allowed to be employed in the U.S. without first receiving work permission from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). J-2 dependents are eligible to apply to USCIS for employment authorization so long as the employment is not for the purpose of supporting the J-1 student.

There is no restriction for J-2 dependent to study in the United States. However, J-2 can only study as long as the J-1 principal is eligible to stay in the U.S.

EXTENSION OF J-2 STATUS

Dependents in J-2 status are permitted to stay in the U.S. only to the extent that the J-1 principal is authorized to stay.

TRAVEL ABROAD AND REENTRY

A J-2 dependent who wishes to travel outside the U.S. for a temporary visit and to reenter the country follows the same procedures as a J-1 principal. Proper documentation to reenter the U.S. includes:

- A valid passport and visa;
- A currently valid Form DS-2019 properly endorsed for travel by the International Student Advisor at ISS

REPORTING UPON ARRIVAL

Within 10 days of their arrival in the U.S., J-2 dependents must report to ISS with the following documents:

- Stamped DS-2019
- Passport
- Visa
- I-94