



SIU SCHOOL *of* MEDICINE

IMG Orientation

Office of Graduate Medical Education (OGME)

2019-2020



Learning Objectives

The new J-1 physician will be able to:

- Identify the quickest method to process the J-1 visa
- Identify the correct visa status upon entry to the U.S.
- Understand the Validation of Arrival process
- Recognize the importance of filling out employment tax paperwork thoroughly
- Understand the application process for Social Security
- Understand the requirements for traveling abroad
- Identify cross cultural experiences
- Identify who to contact with questions

Visa Processing for Initial J-1

- ▶ **Schedule appointment at U.S. Consulate in home country**
 - ▶ If physician is in U.S., can apply for change of status thru the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Regional Service Center, however processing could take up to 4.5+ months.
- ▶ **Take original DS-2019 to appointment to obtain J-1 visa stamp (slide 4), could take several days to process.**
- ▶ **Canadian J-1s: present Form DS-2019 and supporting documents at the U.S. Port of Entry.**

Immigration definitions

“VISA”

- ▶ Issued by U.S. Consulate abroad
- ▶ Serves as an entry permit “stamped” into passport
- ▶ Expiration date only applies to entry (can expire once in U.S.)
- ▶ Typically issued for 1 year (thru end of PGY1 training)



Immigration definitions

“Visa Status”

- ▶ Issued at U.S. Port of Entry (Dept. of Homeland Security/Customs & Border Protection) or USCIS (internal)
- ▶ I-94 shows visa status & period of authorized stay
 - ▶ Electronic I-94 issued at air & sea ports, www.cbp.gov/I94
 - ▶ Paper I-94 at land ports of entry
 - ▶ J-1 I-94's must say “J-1; d/s” (*duration of status*)
 - ▶ Please check your status before leaving port of entry to ensure it is correct!

I-94 samples

Entered U.S. by air or sea:

Entered U.S. by land:

Departure Number OMB No. 1651-0111

Document Number: 0000000000 00

Document Title: I-94 Departure Record

Expiration Date: 14. Family Name: S T U D E N T
 15. First (Given) Name: I M A
 16. Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr): 0 1 0 1 7 0
 17. Country of Citizenship: A N Y C O U N T R Y

Stamp: ADMITTED APR 20 2011 Class Until J-1 D/S

CBP Form I-94 (10/04)
 See Other Side STAPLE HERE

Form I-94 Arrival/Departure Record

1/23/2017

19c - Official Website

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
 Securing America's Borders

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number: [Redacted]

Most Recent Date of Entry: [Redacted]

Class of Admission: J-1 **Must say "J-1 D/S"**

Admit Until Date: DHS

Details provided on the I-94 information form.

Last Name: [Redacted]

First (Given) Name: [Redacted]

Birth Date: [Redacted]

Passport Number: [Redacted]

Country of Issuance: [Redacted]

Get Travel History

Effective April 28, 2013, DHS began automating the admission process. An alien lawfully admitted or paroled into the U.S. is no longer required to be in possession of a printed Form I-94. A record of admission printed from the CBP website constitutes a lawful record of admission. See 8 CFR § 1.4(e).

If an employer, host, state or federal agency requests admission information, present your admission (I-94) number along with any additional required documents requested by that employer or agency.

Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.

For inquiries or questions regarding your I-94, please click here

Accessibility | Privacy Policy

Validation of Initial arrival to the U.S.

- ▶ All initial J-1 applicants must report arrival to ECFMG
- ▶ J-1 physicians must enter the U.S. no more than 30 days from start date
- ▶ Training Program Liaison (TPL) will send Coordinator an arrival form to be completed
- ▶ Prefer to report arrivals once the J-1 has physically arrived to the program vs. vacationing off site.
 - ▶ Exceptions only considered if license has been issued.

Validation of Initial arrival to the U.S.

- ▶ Required documentation sent to ECFMG by TPL/OGME:
 - ▶ Completed Arrival form
 - ▶ I-94 showing “J-1 D/S” or form I-797 for internal change of status
 - ▶ Copy of J-1 visa stamp in passport (latter does not apply to Canadian citizens)
- ▶ ECFMG validates arrival in SEVIS (Dept. of Homeland Security Student and Exchange Visitor Information System)
 - ▶ SEVIS start date = start date for 7 year maximum for training

Onboarding with Employing Hospital

- ▶ Important email sent from Employing Hospital by the end of April regarding the onboarding requirements
 - ▶ Respond as soon as possible to schedule required meeting
 - ▶ Meet the required deadlines for paperwork
- ▶ J-1 employment taxes
 - ▶ If you aren't sure how to fill out a tax form, it is extremely important that you ask your contact at your employing hospital.
 - ▶ Be prepared to provide a thorough report of all visa statuses in the past 6 years; this will determine your tax status.
 - ▶ A J-1 physician may be FICA exempt when they start training, but it is vital to understand that you will not carry this exemption throughout residency and at some point your paycheck *will* decrease.

Social Security Administration

- You CAN start your training without a Social Security number (SS#)
- Apply in person: Wait 10 days after entry to U.S. & arrival has been reported to ECFMG
 - SSA will need to be able to validate visa information in SEVIS
 - Find the nearest [Social Security Administration office](#) to your program location

Social Security Administration

- Application to SSA - bring required documents
 - Complete Application for a Social Security Card (Form SS-5)
 - “Legal Alien Allowed to Work”
 - Original DS-2019
 - Passport
 - Form I-94
- SSA will issue a letter to the J-1 confirming a SS# application
 - Provide this letter to the program and employing hospital while waiting for the SS card to be mailed.

Travel Abroad

- ▶ Initial DS-2019s are not typically validated for travel
 - ▶ J-1 should never travel outside of the U.S. without a travel-validated DS 2019
 - ▶ Only ECFMG can sign this section

TRAVEL VALIDATION BY RESPONSIBLE OFFICER
(Maximum validation period is 1 year)*

***EXCEPT:** Maximum validation period is up to 6 months for Short-term Scholars and 4 months for Camp Counselors and Summer Work/Travel.

(1) Exchange Visitor is in good standing at the present time

Date (mm-dd-yyyy)

Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer

(2) Exchange Visitor is in good standing at the present time

Date (mm-dd-yyyy)

Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer

NOT travel
validated!

Travel Abroad

- Consider potential delays for return.
- Required documents:
 - Passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the program end date listed on the most recent DS-2019.
 - Valid J-1 / J-2 visa (for re-entry)
 - Original DS-2019 with travel validation

Travel Abroad

- J-1 & J-2 can exit U.S. with an expired visa, but can't reenter*
- Renewing visa at U.S. Consulate prior to reentry:
 - Passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the program end date listed on the most recent DS-2019.
 - Original DS-2019 with travel validation - only ECFMG personnel can sign!!
 - Application fee
- Remember this can take time (days to weeks)



*Travel to Canada, Mexico, & Adjacent Islands of the U.S.

- J-1/J-2 not required to have a valid (unexpired) visa when traveling to these locations for less than 30 days, as long as hold valid “J status” in SEVIS.
 - This is “automatic revalidation”.
- To qualify for automatic revalidation upon reentry to U.S.
 - Passport must be valid 6 mos. beyond program end date on DS-2019
 - Must have original, travel-validated DS-2019
 - Copy of latest I-94 reflecting status as “J-1, D/S” (or J-2)
- Exceptions:
 - Visa not required for Canadian citizens seeking reentry
 - Citizens of Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria are not eligible for automatic revalidation - must have valid, current visa
 - Not eligible if you have traveled to Cuba

Cross-Cultural Experiences

- Required: to gain insight into U.S. customs, community, people
- Examples: outings to community events & local establishments, holiday celebrations, potlucks, department luncheons / gatherings
- J-1 must provide examples in renewal application process
- [ECFMG State Resource Map](#)



Other required reporting

- ▶ Notify ECFMG and Dept. of Homeland Security within 10 days of change of address
- ▶ Leaves of absence - in advance of leave
- ▶ Dismissals / Appeals / Resignations
- ▶ Off Site Elective / Required Rotations
- ▶ Remediation - maximum of 12 months
- ▶ Serious incidents or allegations must be reported within 1 business day.
 - ▶ Serious illness, injury, or death
 - ▶ Missing person
 - ▶ Criminal justice involvement, abuse, or litigation
 - ▶ Negative press
 - ▶ Large scale situations impacting safety, such as a natural disaster or civil unrest

Moonlighting

- Moonlighting is defined as *work at an additional job after one's regular, full-time employment.*
- J-1 Physicians are not allowed to moonlight per federal regulations.



Contacts:

- Your program coordinator
- A Training Program Liaison (TPL) in the Office of Graduate Medical Education:
 - Julie Rhodes, jrhodes@siumed.edu, (217) 545-3134
 - Jennifer Rodgers, jrodgers@siumed.edu, (217) 545-3846
- Your ECFMG Regional Advisor: Beth Judas, 215-823-2121
- One of the SIU School of Medicine IMG Welcome Ambassadors



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