

Academic Training

Advisor Letter of Recommendation

22 C.F.R. § 62.23 (f) (5) (i)

The J-1 student visa holder who wishes to pursue academic training as part of his/her program of study must have a letter or recommendation from that individual's academic advisor to present to the Responsible Officer/Alternate Responsible Officer (RO/ARO). The above regulations specify that the following must be included in this letter of recommendation:

- (a) Goal's and objectives of the training program;**
- (b) Description of the training program, including its location, the name and address of the training supervisor, number of hours per week, and dates of the training;**
- (c) How the training relates to the student's major field of study; and**
- (e) Why it is an integral or critical part of the academic program of the exchange visitor student.**

Offer Letter

The J-1 student should obtain an offer letter from his/her prospective employer and present this to the academic advisor to assist the academic advisor in preparing the recommendation letter. This letter should, in turn, be submitted to the RO/ARO.

The RO/ARO will review the letter of recommendation submitted by the academic advisor to determine whether the academic training is warranted and the criteria and time limitations set for in 22 C.F.R. § 62.23 f (3) and (4) are satisfied.

Authorization Letter

J-1 students MAY NOT begin academic training until they receive an authorization letter from the RO/ARO. Likewise, the student may need a new DS-2019 if the academic training is to occur following the program of study. Students must allow adequate time for the above to be completed in a timely fashion and to remain in compliance with U.S. Immigration Law.