

J-1 Exchange Visitor Program Regulations

SEVIS I-901 Fee

Before you apply for your J-1 visa, you must have a copy of the receipt verifying that you have paid the SEVIS I-901 fee. This fee was mandated by the U.S. Congress, became effective September 1, 2004, and will cost \$100 (US). It is our recommendation that you pay this fee using a credit card or through Western Union Quick Pay so that you can get a receipt immediately. For additional information please see <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/index.htm>

Arrival in the United States

Exchange visitors **may not** enter the United States more than 30 days prior to the start date that is listed on their Form DS-2019. If the exchange visitor fails to have a properly completed Form DS-2019 as well as other immigration documents (passport, visa, etc.) to present for inspection upon arrival at the U.S. port of entry, that individual **MAY NOT** be permitted to enter the U.S. At the discretion of the immigration inspector, temporary admission **MAY** be granted to those individuals who are missing immigration documents and Form I-515 would be issued. **Therefore, carry all immigration documents with you in the cabin portion of the plane. DO NOT pack them in your luggage that goes in the cargo hold of the airplane since you will claim this luggage AFTER you undergo inspection at the port of entry.**

Report to the University of Missouri-Kansas City

Once an exchange visitor arrives at a U.S. port of entry, the program sponsor is informed electronically of the exchange visitor's entry to the United States. The exchange visitor sponsor is obligated to report to U.S. Immigration any exchange visitor who fails to report to begin his/her program. **UMKC Exchange Visitors who fail to report to the UMKC International Student and Scholar Office within 30 days of the program start date are subject to deportation.**

Social Security Office - DO NOT go to the Social Security Office if you are a new J visa holder in the United States until you have met with a Responsible Officer/Alternate Responsible Officer at UMKC's International Student Affairs Office.

Change of Name or Address in the United States and Site Activity

U. S. Immigration Law requires Exchange Visitors to report changes in U.S. address or Name changes to their Responsible Officer/Alternate Responsible Officer (RO/ARO) within 10 days. The address must be the physical address where you reside and NOT a Post Office Box number. It is the responsibility of the exchange visitor to inform the RO/ARO of site activities during their exchange program. Site activities may be added, deleted, or amended by the RO/ARO.

National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS)

Non-Immigrants from certain countries as well as those that the Attorney General of the United States or the Department of State designates on a discretionary basis are required to be processed under "Special Registration" procedures known as NSEERS. Those subject to NSEERS will undergo more extensive inspection than other nonimmigrants. **Please allow ample time for any connecting flights to Kansas City if you are subject to NSEERS.** (The ISAO website has [NSEERS information](#).)

Medical/Accident Insurance - Upon arriving in the U.S., insurance coverage must be secured for all J -1 visitors and their dependents accompanying them, and proof of coverage must be submitted to ISAO. The U.S. State Department regulations specify that at a minimum, the insurance coverage shall include:

- **Medical benefits of at least \$50,000 per person per accident or illness;**
- **Repatriation of remains in the amount of \$7,500;**
- **Expenses associated with medical evacuation in the amount of \$10,000; and**
- **Deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness**

Terminating an Exchange Visitor- Reasons for termination in the J exchange program include the following: (1) Conviction of a crime, (2) disciplinary action, (3) engaging in unauthorized employment, (4) failure to submit change of current address within 10 days, (5) failure to pursue exchange visitor program activities, (6) failure to maintain health insurance including medical evacuation and repatriation insurance, (7) failure to maintain a full course of study if in the Student Category, (8) involuntary suspension, (9) violation of exchange visitor program regulation, or (10) violation of sponsor rules governing the program.