

J-1 Academic Training Information

Academic Training is work, training, or experience related to a student's field of study. Appropriate activities vary over disciplines. For example, postdoctoral training in biochemistry might consist of paid research at one location with one faculty adviser, where academic training in music may involve a number of paid or unpaid teaching or performance opportunities. Academic training may involve sequential or simultaneous activities, either paid or unpaid, with several employers, provided the application and approval procedures are followed for each employer and activity, and the time limits are not exceeded.

Non-Degree students can only be authorized for Academic Training for the length you have been in the U.S., up to 12 months. For example, if you have been here for 3 months your DS-2019 can only be extended for 3 months.

Degree seeking students can be authorized for up to 18 months of Academic Training.

PhD students can be authorized for up to 36 months of academic training.

In order to be approved for J-1 Academic Training there are 3 steps:

- ☐ Receive a job offer letter from your employer – see page 3 for Model Employers Letter
- ☐ Receive a completed Recommendation Request for Academic Training from your academic advisor/major professor – see page 2
- ☐ Turn in both of the letters and Recommendation Request form to an advisor with ISSFS
- ☐ The final step in this process is for your DS-2019 to be extended for the length of your Academic Training and to receive a letter from the ISSFS authorizing your Academic Training work authorization for the appropriate length of time.

Reminders:

You are required to update the IPO with your current address within 10 days of moving.

Your Academic Training employer cannot be changed without authorization.

You are required to inform ISSFS of any changes in dates of employment.

MODEL EMPLOYER'S LETTER FOR J-1 "ACADEMIC TRAINING"

The employer should print on letterhead.

