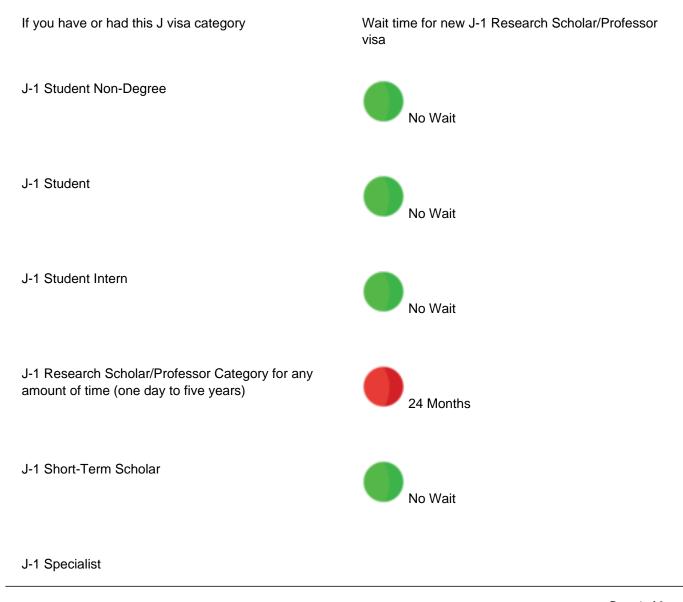
Understanding the 12 and 24 Month Bars

The 12 and 24 month bars are different from the two-year home country residence requirement. Any indication below that there is "no wait" time refers only to the 12 and 24 month bars. It is possible that a J-1 visitor has no wait time related to the 12 and 24 month bars - but is subject to the two year home residency requirement. [1]

The 12 and 24 month rule affects J-1 exchange visitors who have been in the U.S. on a J-1 visa previously, and wish to return, using the J-1 visa. The bars prohibit certain "repeat participation" in the Research Scholar or Professor categories only. Depending on what your previous J category was, you may be subject to a 12 month bar, a 24 month bar or have no bar at all. The following chart shows how long you would have to wait (the 12 or 24 month bar) before you could obtain a new J-1 Research Scholar or Professor visa based on what your previous J status was. If you have never before had J-1 visa sponsorship, then the bars do not apply to you.

Previous Scholar Visa Status

For LESS Than 6 Months:



Wait time for new J-1 Research Scholar/Professor If you have or had this J visa category visa No Wait J-2 Dependent of Research Scholar/Professor Category or any amount of time (one day to five 24 Months years) For MORE Than 6 Months: Wait time for new J-1 Research Scholar/Professor If you have or had this J visa category visa J-1 Student Non-Degree 12 Months J-1 Student 12 Months J-1 Student Intern 12 Months J-1 Specialist 12 Months J-1 Research Scholar/Professor Category for any amount of time (one day to five years) 24 Months J-2 Dependent of Research Scholar/Professor Category or any amount of time (one day to five 24 Months years) J-2 Dependent of any J-1 category except Short-Term Scholar 12 Months

Understanding the 12 and 24 Month Bars
Published on Office of International Students & Scholars (https://oiss.yale.edu)

Source

URL: https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/j-1-scholars/understanding-j-1-status/understanding-the-12-and-24-month-<u>bars</u>

Links

[1] https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/j-1-scholars/understanding-j-1-status/two-year-home-country-residencerequirement