Traveling in E-3 Status

Below are some basic guidelines you should know about. However, it is recommended that you check with your adviser [1] before you travel if you have any questions about your situation.

**Passports**

All international scholars and family members planning to depart temporarily from the U.S. and return to the Yale area must have a valid passport in order to exit the U.S. The passport must also be valid for a minimum of six months into the future at the time of re-entry to the U.S. Some countries have an agreement with the U.S. that automatically extends passport validity for 6 months [2], for U.S. entry purposes only.

**Visa Stamps**

Except for Canadian citizens, all international scholars will also need to have a valid E-3 visa stamp in their passport issued by a U.S. embassy or consulate. Visa stamps cannot be obtained or renewed inside the U.S.

**Visa Documents**

The visa document for the E-3 is called the Notice of Action Form I-797.

**I-94 Record**

Every nonimmigrant entering the U.S. on a sponsored visa will have what’s called an I-94 record created by the authorities upon entry. It is the responsibility of international students, scholars and family members to look up their I-94 record [3] after entering the U.S. to ensure there are no errors.

**Third Country Visits**

When planning to visit a country outside the U.S. which is not your country of citizenship or legal permanent residency, be sure to research whether or not you will need a visa to enter that country [4].

**Canada, Mexico and Contiguous Islands**

If you are traveling to Canada, Mexico or the contiguous islands for less than 30 days, you may be eligible for a visa renewal exemption [5].

**Travel Checklist**

- Valid I-797 Approval Notice for Yale University
- Copy of all supporting documents issued to you in the OISS approval package (Form I-797 approval notice, I-129, and the Labor Condition application)
- Copy of most recent payroll from Yale

**Travel During Change of Immigration Status**
Traveling in E-3 Status

Scholars are advised to **not** travel outside the U.S. during a pending change of status petition (e.g., those who are changing from an F-1/J-1/Other to E-3.) Please contact your OISS adviser for further details.

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**Travel During Extension or Change of Employers**

If you have any plans to travel outside the U.S. during the E-3 extension process, you should speak to your OISS adviser as soon as possible. If you plan to return to the U.S. before the expiration of your current approved E-3 status and with a valid E-3 visa stamp, there may not be any difficulty. However, in many cases the action of departing from the U.S. during the extension process can make the new E-3 extension inactive, or void.

If you plan to leave the U.S. and your current E-3 status is expired, you cannot return to the U.S. until the extension application is approved, and the approval notice is sent to you. Finally, you would have to apply for a new E-3 visa stamp with a consulate or embassy before you can return to the U.S. After you have received the new, extended E-3 approval notice, you may travel outside the U.S. once again. However, while outside the U.S. you will have to obtain a new E-3 visa stamp at a U.S. embassy or consulate. It is not possible to obtain visa stamps inside the U.S.

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**Source URL:** https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/other-visa-options/e-3-australian-citizens/traveling-in-e-3-status

**Links**

[1] https://oiss.yale.edu/about/connect-with-oiss  