

J-2 Visas for Dependents

Published on Office of International Students & Scholars (<https://oiss.yale.edu>)

J-2 Visas for Dependents

The spouse or partner and dependent children (under 21 years of age) of the J-1 scholar are eligible for J-2 status and may use this status to accompany the J-1 scholar to the U.S. The eligible “spouse” or “partner” in this context is defined as: (1) legal marriage, evidenced by a marriage certificate issued by the place of celebration, (2) common law marriage, evidenced by an official verification or a legal brief verifying full material rights by the place of celebration.

J-2 Status Requirements

Individual DS-2019 for Each Dependent

Each person in J-2 status must have their own DS-2019.

With the DS-2019 the J-2 dependent may apply for a J-2 visa at the U.S. Consulate. See the section 'How to Obtain a DS-2019 For Each Dependent' below for more information.

Funding Requirements

The J-1 scholar must also demonstrate sufficient financial resources for the support of each of their J-2 dependents.

Scholar

Spouse

Each Child

J-2 Visas for Dependents

Published on Office of International Students & Scholars (<https://oiss.yale.edu>)

J-1 Total Minimum Funding Requirements Calculator*

As of July 1, 2024

** Disclaimer: this calculator is meant to provide you with an idea of the minimum funding requirements, and results are not guaranteed to be accurate . Results should not be taken as professional advice, or relied upon as the sole basis for making important decisions.*

J-1/J-2 Health Insurance Requirement

All Exchange Visitors (J-1) and their J-2 dependents are required to maintain health and accident insurance coverage during the entire time they participate in an Exchange Visitor program. [See the Health Insurance Requirement page for more information](#) [3].

How to Obtain a DS-2019 For Each Dependent

When Your Dependent(s) Will Accompany You to the U.S.

If the spouse and/or dependent child will accompany the J-1 scholar when they first arrive to the U.S, the scholar should add them to the 'Dependents Information' section when completing the [Exchange Visitor tab](#) [4] in OISS Connect.

When Your Dependent(s) Will Join You After Your Arrival to the U.S.

If the spouse and/or dependent child will join the scholar in the U.S. after their arrival, the scholar needs to create an [Add New Dependent request](#) [5] in OISS Connect. Be prepared to upload a copy of their passport(s) and evidence of sufficient funds to support their stay (see the 'Funding Requirements' section above) before creating a request for J-2 sponsorship.

OISS will contact you when the new DS-2019 forms are ready for you to send to your family members.

Employment

J-2 visa holders (the spouses, partners, and dependent children of J-1s) may apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for permission to work in the United States. This work authorization is called an Employment Authorization Document (EAD).

[Learn more about obtaining an EAD card on this page](#) [6].

Source URL: <https://oiss.yale.edu/travel-visas/for-scholars/visas/j-2-visas-for-dependents>

Links

[1] <https://postdocs.yale.edu/policies/compensation> [2]

<https://postdocs.yale.edu/policies/compensation/postgraduate-salary-minimum> [3]

<https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/j-1-scholars/maintaining-legal-status/health-insurance-requirement> [4]

<https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/j-1-scholars/applying-for-a-visa/filling-out-the-exchange-visitor-tab> [5]

<https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/j-1-scholars/oiss-connect-requests/adding-a-new-dependent> [6]

<https://oiss.yale.edu/employment-taxes/employment-for-spouses-partners-and-children/j-2-work-permission>

J-2 Visas for Dependents

Published on Office of International Students & Scholars (<https://oiss.yale.edu>)
