



Exchange Visitor Program Research Scholars, Professors, and Short-Term Scholars Information Sheet

Background:

The purpose of the [Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (the “Act”), as amended, Public Law 87-256, 22 U.S.C. 2451, *et seq.* (1988)] is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchanges. Educational and cultural exchanges assist the Department of State in furthering the foreign policy objectives of the United States.

The purpose of the Program is to provide foreign nationals with opportunities to participate in educational and cultural programs in the United States and return home to share their experiences, and to encourage Americans to participate in educational and cultural programs in other countries.

(22 CFR Part 62 - Exchange Visitor Program, § 62.1 Purpose, (a) and (b))

What is the purpose of the exchange visitor program (J-1 Visa program)?

The Exchange Visitor Program fosters global understanding through educational and cultural exchanges. All exchange visitors are expected to return to their home country upon completion of their program in order to share their exchange experiences.

For more information: <https://j1visa.state.gov/basics/common-questions/?aid=22>

NB: The Exchange Visitor Program (EVP) is NOT a work program. It is not an alternative work option for the H-1B visa program, nor is it a temporary bridge from an F-1 OPT situation to an H-1B or another visa. It is a cultural exchange program.

Authorized Flagler College EVP Categories:

Short-Term Scholar (A) - A foreign national who is a professor, research scholar, or person with similar education or accomplishments who enters the United States for a short-term visit for the purpose of lecturing, observing, consulting, training, or demonstrating special skills at research institutions, museums, libraries, postsecondary accredited academic institutions, or similar types of institutions. The maximum duration of stay is six months.

Professor (B) - A foreign national whose primary purpose is teaching, lecturing, observing, or consulting at post-secondary accredited academic institutions, museums, libraries, or similar types of institutions. A professor also may conduct research where authorized by the sponsor. The participant must not be a candidate for a tenure track position. The maximum duration of stay is five years.

Research Scholar (C) - A foreign national whose primary purpose is conducting research, observing, or consulting in connection with a research project at research institutions, corporate research facilities, museums, libraries, post-secondary accredited academic institutions, or similar types of institutions. A research scholar also may teach or lecture where authorized by the sponsor. The participant must not be a candidate for a tenure track position. The maximum duration of stay is five years.

Reciprocity:

In conducting its Exchange Visitor Program (EVP), sponsors must make a good faith effort to develop and implement, to the fullest extent possible, reciprocal exchanges of individuals.

Useful Information:

1. Use the information provided below for Exchange Visitors (EV) who will be classified as Short-Term Scholars (A), Professors (B), or (C) Research Scholars. **PLEASE DO NOT USE THIS PROCESS FOR STUDENTS.** There is a separate process for students that is available from the Center for Global Education.
2. Start the process by making an appointment with the Center for Global Education as soon as possible, with a *minimum of six months* before the start of the EV Program, preferably earlier. At this meeting the goals and objectives of the Exchange Visitor Program will be explained, as well as the internal process and the different forms that need to be submitted. There is also a good deal of information needed from the EV. Several offices on campus are involved with the full process. It is important to note that materials must be sent to the EV for him/her to obtain a visa, which will take additional time.
3. The maximum program duration for Short-Term Scholars (A) is six months. No extension(s) beyond six months possible. An EVP for Professors (B) and Research Scholars (C) may be requested for up to five years.
4. An EV who has been in the U.S. as a J-1 *Student, Professor (B), Research Scholar (C), or J-2 dependent* longer than six months is barred from re-entering the U.S. as a *Professor (B) or Research Scholar (C)* for 12 months following the expiration of his/her program or stay. **This regulation does not apply to Short-Term Scholars.**
5. *Funding* - There are several ways in which an EV may fund their stay in the U.S.
 - a. If Flagler College is providing any funding for the EV, the sponsoring department will need to submit documentation to the Center for Global Education on the allotted amount.
 - b. If an organization other than Flagler College is providing any funding for the EV, evidence of funding must be submitted to the Center for Global Education.
 - c. If the EV is supported by personal funds, a bank statement must be submitted to the Center for Global Education.
 - d. If the EV is supported by government or international funds, an official statement translated into English with funds converted to U.S. dollars must be submitted to the Center for Global Education.
6. Financial support of \$2,266 per month is required for a *Short-Term Scholar (A), Professor (B), or Research Scholar (C)*. EV dependents (spouse, children) who accompany the EV require additional funding. The financial support statement must be expressed in English and in U.S. dollars. The minimum amounts required are as follows:

	Exchange Visitor	Spouse	Each Child
Per Month	\$2,266	\$1,000	\$500
Per Year	\$27,192	\$12,000	\$6,000

7. Health and accident insurance coverage is mandatory for all EVs and their dependents while they are in the U.S., for the full duration of their program. **The DS-2019 will not be issued without proof of health insurance that meets the following guidelines per U.S. Department of State regulations:**

- Medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness;
- Repatriation of remains in the amount of \$25,000;
- Expenses associated with medical evacuation of the exchange visitor to his or her home country in the amount of \$50,000; *and*
- A deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.

8. On the *Exchange Visitor Request Form*, to "Begin a new EV program" means the EV will (normally) come from his/her home country of citizenship or residence directly to the U.S.

9. On the *Exchange Visitor Request Form*, to "Transfer to Flagler College" means the EV is already in the U.S. at another institution in one EVP, and is being invited to transfer to an EVP at Flagler College. Copies of all the DS- 2019 forms issued by the other institution(s) must be attached to this form. Please submit a "transfer" request with a lead time of six weeks (minimum) to provide enough time to Flagler College to obtain an official release from the former institution.

10. *The Exchange Visitor Profile* should be completed and signed by the EV; a scanned version is acceptable.

Please feel free to reach out to the Center for Global Education at global@flagler.edu if you have any additional questions.

We are excited to have you at our College!



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