

COMPARATIVE CHART BETWEEN H-1B AND J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR

| ISSUE | H-1B | J-1 Exchange Visitor |
|---|--|--|
| Purpose of Visa | Employment | International Exchange |
| Documentation of Status | I-797 and I-94 | DS-2019 and I-94 |
| Immigrant Intent | Dual Intent (Temporary or Permanent) | Non-Immigrant (Temporary) |
| Processing Agency | Dept. of Labor (DOL) U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) | Dept. of State (DOS) |
| Visa Eligibility Documents issued by | DOL & USCIS | Program Sponsor (UW-Madison, IFSS Office) |
| Processing Time | 5-6 months. Can be expedited with Premium Processing for an additional fee of \$1000 | 2-3 weeks (by IFSS Office). This excludes mailing time to scholar, timing of Consular Appointments, and airline flights. |
| Limitation of Stay | 6 years | Depends on J-1 Category: *J-1 Professor/Research Scholar-5 years *J-1 Short-term Scholar-6 months or less. |
| 2-year Home Residency Requirement (212e) | No | Yes, in some cases |
| Sponsor Responsibilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Must pay higher of actual or prevailing wage *Must pay return trip home if employee is terminated prior to end-date authorized. *Position requires a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in field of specialization. *Cannot bench employee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Must offer a non-tenure track Academic Staff position *Proof of Financial Support *Goals and Objectives clearly defined for position. *Must meet UW-Madison SHIP Insurance requirements *Position requires a minimum of a completed Bachelor's degree |
| Beneficiary's Responsibilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Must possess a minimum of a Bachelor's degree or higher *Must fulfill terms and conditions of approved H-1B petition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Must possess a minimum of a completed Bachelor's degree *English Proficiency *Meet SHIP Insurance requirements |
| Tenure Track | Yes | No |
| Grace Period | 10 days | 30 days from End-date of J-1 Program OR Date-of-Termination. |
| Dependent Visa | H-4 | J-2 |
| Dependent Work Authorization | No | Yes, with immigration approval |