# J-1 Exchange Visitors Special Regulations

# J-1 Visa Categories

Professor/Research Scholar

Apply for J-1 Visa

Granted up to 5 year duration, with provisions

### **Options:**

Change visa to H-1B or other visa status to continue working in U.S.

#### 24 Month Bar:

Cannot re-enter U.S. on J-1 visa program for 24 months

Note: A J-1 EV participating in a J-1 program for longer than 6 months is subject to the 12 month bar, regardless of program category. The 12 month bar prohibits an EV from participating in a subsequent J-1 Professor or Research Scholar program for the 12 month period immediately following any J-1 program of 6 months or longer.



Short-Term Scholar

Apply for J-1 Visa

Granted up to 6 months only

Cannot extend program more than 6 months

(Could include faculty in U.S. for less than 6

months)

## **J-1 Special Considerations**

Apply for J-1 Visa Stamp



U.S. Consulate to determine if Exchange Visitors (EV) are subject to the 212 (e) 2-year residency home residency requirement based on the following criteria:

Area of study or field is on Skills List

Directly funded by U.S. Government

Directly funded by Home Government

If subject to 212 (e):

EV must return to home country for 2 months upon completion of J-1 program.

Note: EV cannot apply for H-1B or "green card"

Options

Apply for visa waiver at http://tinyurl.com/visawaiverEV

or

serve two years in home country

or

apply for OT visa