

J1 Physicians

Procedures and Required Documents

Passport, Visa , and I-94

What is the difference between a visa stamp and visa status?

- The visa stamp in your passport is used only for *entry* to the US. It must be valid when reentering from outside the US
- Upon entry with visa, you have legal immigration status, even if your visa stamp expires
 - Your I-94 and DS-2019 give you legal status in the US
- Your passport expiration is very important—passports must be valid at least six months into the future

Maintaining Legal Status

- ▶ Upon Entering the country
 - ECFMG must verify your status in the SEVIS system. For this purpose, please bring your visa, I-94, and DS-2019 to Kathy Sandman in the GME office after you enter the country.
- ▶ Travel

Before you can travel outside the country, your DS-2019 must have a travel validation signature added. Please see Kathy Sandman at least 4 weeks before traveling to obtain the proper document.

Keeping Your Status Up To Date

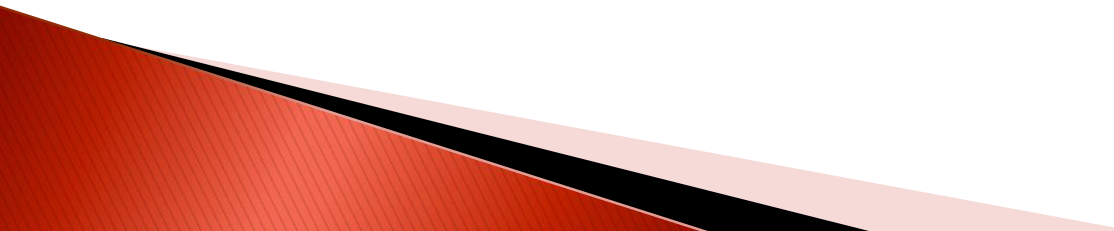
J1 status requires both DS-2019 and I-94

- I-94 should not have an expiration date—it should indicate “D/S”
- DS-2019 expires yearly and must be renewed

The GME office coordinates renewal of DS-2019. This process starts around March. There is a \$250 renewal fee to ECFMG.

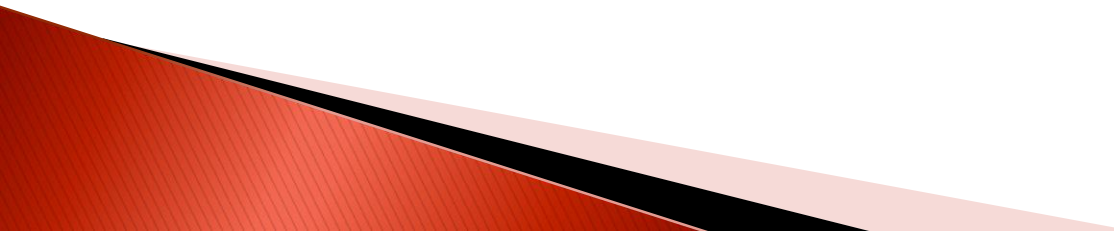
Mandatory Insurance Requirements

Federal Regulations require that Exchange Visitors and dependents obtain health, accident, medical evacuation and repatriation of remains insurance. Insurance must provide the following coverage:

- ▶ 1. medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness
 - ▶ 2. repatriation of remains in the amount of \$25,000
 - ▶ 3. expenses associated with the medical evacuation of the Exchange Visitor to his/her home country in the amount of \$50,000
 - ▶ 4. a deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.
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ECFMG will provide insurance for the Exchange Visitor and his/her accompanying dependents for medical evacuation and repatriation of remains (numbers 2 and 3 above). The policy will match the prescribed levels stipulated by Federal Regulations and becomes effective on the start date indicated on the DS-2019.

It is the responsibility of the Exchange Visitor to obtain the other insurance specified in numbers 1 and 4 above. This insurance is provided as a benefit of the training program at the University of Louisville.



Help with your transition to the US

The ECFMG offers an extensive training program to assist newly arriving international medical graduates in **adjusting more quickly and easily to learning and practice within the U.S. medical education system**, and working and living in the United States.

It is strongly recommended that you review this information, available here:

► <http://www.ecfmg.org/echo/resources.html>



Questions?

Please contact Kathy Sandman in the GME office with any questions about J1 visas.

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