



The University of Pittsburgh  
Office of International Services

**Visa Options & Factors to Consider when Inviting International Scholars**  
**J-1 Research Scholar/Professor/, J-1 Short-term Scholar, J-1 Student Intern, H1B Visa classifications**

Factors	J-1 Student Intern	J-1 Short-Term Scholar	J-1 Research Scholar/Professor	H1B
<b>Employment</b>	Authorized "incident to status" by the Program Sponsor	Authorized "incident to status" by the Program Sponsor	Authorized "incident to status" by the Program Sponsor	Authorized only for approved position at approved salary level at approved employer (job specific & position-specific)
<b>Qualifications</b>	Must be a student in "good standing" at a post-secondary institution.	Must possess a bachelor's degree	Must possess a bachelor's degree	Must possess the minimum degree and experience required for the specialty occupation. Equivalent to at least a bachelor's degree.
<b>Minimum Duration</b>	N/A	N/A	3 weeks	N/A
<b>Maximum Duration</b>	1 year	6 months	5 years	6 years
<b>Funding Source</b>	May be funded by Pitt, personal funds, home country or other sources.	May be funded by Pitt, personal funds, home country or other sources.	May be funded by Pitt, personal funds, home country or other sources.	Must be paid prevailing wage by Pitt.
<b>Restrictions/Limitations</b>	*No tenure track position *May be subject to 212(e) two year home residency requirement *Cannot have immigrant intent *Subject to 12 month bar	*No tenure track position *May be subject to 212(e) two year home residency requirement *Cannot have immigrant intent *Subject to 12 month bar	*No tenure track position *May be subject to 212(e) two year home residency requirement *Subject to 12/24 month bar *Cannot have immigrant intent	N/A
<b>Dependents</b>	J-2 visa classification-may apply for employment authorization. Can study full or part-time.	J-2 visa classification-may apply for employment authorization. Can study full or part-time.	J-2 visa classification-may apply for employment authorization. Can study full or part-time.	H-4 visa holders may not apply for employment/cannot work. Can study full or part-time.
<b>SEVIS Fee &amp; Tracking</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Internal OIS Cost Recovery Fee Assessed</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes + USCIS fees
<b>Processing Times*</b>	5 Business Days unless changing status or transferring from another U.S. university	5 Business Days unless changing status or transferring from another U.S. university	5 Business Days unless changing status or transferring from another U.S. university	OIS processing: 6 weeks USCIS 'regular' processing: 2-4 months USCIS 'premium' processing: 15 calendar days

\*These processing times include the time it takes OIS to process the case internally and any USCIS adjudication prior to the visa application abroad (if applicable). The times do NOT include the visa process with the U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad, nor include any time for travel. These processing times are subject to change without notice. Please consult with your immigration specialist.