

## J Scholars: Re-Entry from Travel Outside the U.S

### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

J-1 scholars with valid status should be prepared to present the following documents when seeking re-entry to the U.S. after a temporary absence:

**DS-2019 with Valid Travel Signature:**

A travel signature is generally valid for re-entry to the U.S. within 1 year of the signature date or until the end date on your DS-2019, whichever occurs first. For example, if you are a short-term scholar with a 5 month program, a travel signature is only valid until the end date of your DS-2019.

**Valid Passport:** Must be valid 6 months beyond your date of re-entry to the U.S.

- Exception: [http://www.ice.gov/sevis/travel/faq\\_f2.htm#\\_Toc81222003](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/travel/faq_f2.htm#_Toc81222003)
- Passports may be renewed at your country's embassy or [consulate in the U.S.](#)

**Valid U.S. Visa:** Visa must be valid at time of re-entry (Citizens of Canada do not require a visa.)

Exception—**Automatic Visa Revalidation** [8 CFR 214.1(b)(3)]: F, M, J, and Q non-immigrants can usually revalidate an expired visa automatically when returning to the U.S. **after a visit of less than 30 days** to Canada, Mexico, or **adjacent islands** ([http://www.ice.gov/sevis/travel/faq\\_f2.htm#\\_Toc81222015](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/travel/faq_f2.htm#_Toc81222015)) except Cuba. If you intend to use automatic visa revalidation, be sure to travel with your I-94 (electronic or paper).

If you are not eligible for automatic visa revalidation, you must obtain a valid visa in order to re-enter the U.S.

**If you meet any one of following criteria, you will not be eligible for automatic visa revalidation.**

- You applied for a new visa and Department of State has not yet issued it to you
- You applied for a new visa and Department of State denied the application
- You have a terminated SEVIS record indicating that you are out of status;
- You have had a visa cancelled under INA §222(g) ("stayed beyond the period authorized")
- You have been out the United States for more than thirty days
- You are a national of Iran, Sudan, or Syria.

For more information, access: [https://help.cbp.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/1218/~/automatic-revalidation-for-certain-temporary-visitors](https://help.cbp.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/1218/~/automatic-revalidation-for-certain-temporary-visitors)

**CU Boulder Departmental Invitation / Offer Letter / J-1 Program Summary Form (from DS-2019 Request Process)**

**Current Financial Support Documents:** Must be able to show funds for expenses as noted on your DS-2019 (e.g., bank statement, CU Boulder offer letter indicating salary, funding/sponsorship letter, affidavit of support and bank statement)

**I-901 SEVIS Fee Receipt:** If you do not have your original receipt, you can print a copy at: <https://www.fmjfee.com/i901fee/index.jsp>.

### TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF MORE THAN 30 DAYS DURING J PROGRAM

If during your J program you will be outside the U.S. for more than 30 days, you must submit the following to ISSS prior to your departure:

- **J-1 Scholar Temporary Absence Form:** <http://www.colorado.edu/oie/node/1169/attachment/newest>
- **Updated J Insurance Compliance Form**

Health, medical, repatriation, and evacuation insurance for you (and your dependents) must be valid for the duration of your J-1 program, even while you are outside of the U.S.

If you are **not currently on CU payroll** or **will not remain on CU payroll during the absence**, you must also submit:

- A **letter from your inviting professor** that addresses the following: a justification for keeping the J-1 program active while you are outside the U.S.; an explanation of the benefit conferred to CU while you are absent; a statement that the collaboration with CU Boulder will continue and that the J-1 program goals; and the objectives will continue to be pursued while you are absent.

### TRAVEL TO THIRD COUNTRY DESTINATIONS

Depending on the country you are traveling to and/or through, you may require a transit visa (to travel through an intermediary country on your way to your final destination) or a tourist visa to enter your final destination. Please consult the appropriate [embassy](#) or [foreign consular office](#) to determine if an additional visa is necessary: <http://www.state.gov/s/cpr/rls/fco/c58132.htm>.

### RENEWING YOUR VISA

Please review the ISSS handout entitled, "[Visa Renewal Information for Students and Scholars](#)" It is available on the ISSS website: <http://www.colorado.edu/oie/node/675/attachment/newest>.

### J-2 DEPENDENT TRAVEL

- Dependents may travel with or without the J-1 primary as long as everyone is maintaining status.
- Dependents may remain in the U.S. without the J-1 primary as long as the primary maintains current status and will return after a temporary absence of less than five months using the same SEVIS ID number.
- When seeking re-entry to the U.S., dependents must present: their IDS-2019 with current travel signature, valid passport, \*valid visa, and may be asked to provide proof of J-1's status (e.g., copies of primary's documents as noted above).

\*Exceptions: Canadians; individuals who qualify for automatic visa revalidation

## I-94 AUTOMATION AT AIR AND SEA PORTS

Paper I-94s are no longer distributed upon arrival at U.S. air and sea ports. Instead, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) generates an electronic arrival record. An admission stamp is still entered in the passport indicating the arrival date, non-immigrant status (e.g., F-1, J-1, H-1B), and admitted until date (D/S for F and J status).

**Review your U.S. admission stamp to ensure that your status was recorded properly.**

### U.S. Admission Passport Entry Stamp



Access: <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov>

**Enter information as it appears on the visa you utilized to enter the U.S. or passport if you are a citizen of Canada.**

When entering your **First (Given) Name**, do not include middle names, nicknames, or titles.

**If you are unable to access your I-94 using your visa information, try entering your name:**

- As it appears on your passport biographic page
- As it appears in the passport Machine Readable Zone
- As it appears on your airline ticket/ itinerary

I-94 Retrieval Screen

Enter Your Traveler Info

Note: The info returned may not reflect applications submitted to or benefits received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

\* First (Given) Name :

\* Last (Family) Name/Surname :

\* Birth Date :  /  /

\* Passport Number :

\* Passport Country of Issuance :

**Keep your I-94 printouts to document your maintenance of status. You do not have to turn them in when you depart the U.S.**  
 Exception: To prove eligibility for automatic visa revalidation, you should travel with your I-94.



### Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number : 86753099999

Most Recent Date of Entry: 2014 December 10

Class of Admission : J1

Admit Until Date : D/S

Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Last/Surname :	SIMPSON
First (Given) Name :	LISA
Birth Date :	1979 AUG 11
Passport Number :	J9876543
Country of Issuance :	Australia

**Class of Admission**  
(DS-2019: J-1 (Dependents: J-2))

**Admit Until Date for F & J Status**  
D/S  
(Duration of Status)

**If you are unable to retrieve your I-94 or the information on your I-94 is incorrect or incomplete:**

- Obtain an I-94 Correction with Customs and Border Protection
  - See page 2 of the following handout for instructions <http://www.colorado.edu/oie/node/979/attachment/newest>

## FREQUENTLY ASKED TRAVEL QUESTIONS

**Question: Do I need my original DS-2019 or can I use a copy when re-entering the U.S.?**

- You must present an **original** I DS-2019 at the port of entry
- You must always present your **most recent** DS-2019 at the U.S. port of entry.

**Question: I am currently outside the U.S. and I forgot my I-20/DS-2019 or the signature is more than a year old! What do I do?**

- Contact ISSS immediately to request that a new DS-2019 signed for travel be mailed to you abroad.
  - Attach the [Mailing or Third-Party Pick-up Authorization Form](#) to your email.
- If you do not obtain the document, you **may** be provisionally admitted to the U.S. for only 30 days with a form I-515. You will have 30 days to mail in the Form I-515 with the requested documents. If you receive an I-515, please consult ISSS immediately.

**Question: Can I re-enter the U.S. after I have completed my J-1 program using my J-1 visa?**

- J-1 scholars cannot re-enter the U.S. during their grace period using their J-1 visa.