

Academic Training for J-1 Exchange Students

Academic Training is permission to work anywhere in the U.S. for training purposes granted to Exchange students in good J-1 standing. This allows them to remain in the U.S. after their program of studies ends under the following conditions:

1. Student must apply no later than 30 days after the end of their program.
2. It must be directly related to the field of studies listed on the DS-2019.
3. A letter of employment is required with information about the training opportunity: Name of Company, address, start and end date and job description
4. The total training period may not exceed the period of full course of student
Example: Students who have attended MSU for 1 semester are eligible for 4 months of Academic Training and Students who have attended MSU for 2 semesters are eligible for 8 months of Academic Training.
5. All Academic training is counted as full-time even if the employment is on a part-time basis.
6. Permission has to be granted by Office of International Programs if the student is here on Montana State University J-1 program, otherwise permission must be granted by the program sponsor (ISEP, Fulbright, IIE, etc.).
7. Even if the student's visa is expired in their passport, it will not affect the Academic Training options since the training details are entered on the DS-2019 which is the proof of legal status.
8. If the visa has expired, the student cannot leave the U.S. before or during the Academic Training period.
9. After completion of the Academic Training there is a 30 day grace period during which the student can remain in the U.S.

How to apply:

1. The student must speak with the Office of International Program about their Academic Training.
2. The Office of International Programs will extend the DS-2019 and enter the Academic Training information.
3. If the student does not have a social security card, than they will need to work with the Office of International Programs to apply for a social security card.

For any further questions please contact:

Office of International Programs: international@montana.edu

Deborah Chiolero: chiolero@montana.edu 994-7722