

# J-1 EXCHANGE STUDENTS

## *Academic Training Programs*

### *What is Academic Training?*

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 as long as they meet the following conditions.

### *Conditions for Academic Training*

- Students must apply no later than 30 days before the end of their program.
- Training must be directly related to the field of studies listed on the DS-2019.
- A letter of employment is required with information about the training opportunity: Name of Company, address, start and end date and job description
- 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.*
- All Academic training is counted as full-time even if the employment is on a part-time basis.
- Permission has to be granted by Office of International Programs if the student is on Montana State University J-1 program, otherwise permission must be granted by the program sponsor (ISEP, Fulbright, IIE, etc.).
- 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.
- If the visa has expired, the student cannot leave the U.S. before or during the Academic Training period.
- 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*

If you are interested in applying for an Academic Training Program, visit the Office of International Programs (OIP) to discuss your options in more detail. OIP will extend the DS-2019 and enter the Academic Training information for you. If you do not have a social security card, OIP can work with you to apply for one.

### *Contact OIP to Get Started*

For additional questions about Academic Training Programs:

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