



Office of International Services

OIS International Scholar Newsletter- June 2025

This newsletter is a channel for the JHU Office of International Services (OIS) to share timely immigration-related reminders, as well as relevant resources and updates with our International Scholar community. Visit the OIS website for more information about our services and how to connect with our office: <https://ois.jhu.edu>.

OIS Services and Advising

The Office of International Services (OIS) at Johns Hopkins is a virtual service operation that serves our international scholars via electronic means. To quickly connect with a J-1 Scholar advisor, remember to use our dedicated service account: J1-Advising@jhu.edu. You can also refer to the OIS website for information related to your [J-1 immigration status](#).

Immigration Policy Updates

We encourage you to continue to check the OIS website for [Recent Federal Immigration Actions](#), as well as our [Immigration Policy Information and Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage. If there are any updates relevant to our international community, we will post them here.

OIS would like to take this opportunity to ensure that our international clientele knows they are welcome here and will be supported as a vital part of the JHU family.

Travel Information

Carefully review the “[Travel Information](#)” section of the OIS website and prepare the appropriate documentation before departing the U.S. When considering travel, *keep in mind that changes can occur at any time. If you cannot afford an interruption in your research, employment or teaching due to an indefinite period abroad, you should carefully consider the need to travel outside the U.S.*

- Individuals needing to renew their J-1 visa should be aware of recent news that could impact their visa application. See “[Media Reports of Pause in Visa Processing](#)” section of the Recent Federal Immigration Actions page of the OIS website.
- J-1 Exchange Visitors must request a travel signature at least 10 business days in advance of travel by submitting the “Travel Signature/DS-2019 Reprint Form” in iHopkins under the J-1 Scholar Services section.
- Review your I-94 record when you re-enter the U.S., ensuring it reflects the correct class of admission (“J-1”), date of admission, and admit-until date (“D/S”). Retrieve your electronic I-94 [here](#), print a copy, and carry it with you, as required by immigration law. If your I-94 contains incorrect information, email OIS for guidance on correcting it.

J-1 Scholar Reminders

- **Maintaining J-1 Status:** J-1 Exchange Visitors should be aware of the requirements of [Maintaining J-1 Status](#). A few important highlights include the need to notify OIS of the following:
 - **J-1 Program Changes:** Contact OIS in the event of any changes in the conditions of a J-1 Exchange Visitor’s program (including a change in faculty sponsor, change of lab, change of department, change in title or responsibilities, change in work location, etc.)
 - **Early Completion:** J-1 Scholars planning to complete their J-1 program more than 15 days prior to the end date on their DS-2019 form should notify OIS by submitting the J-1 End of Program/Departure Information eForm in iHopkins.
 - **Participation Requirements:** J-1 Exchange programs must take place within the U.S., and primarily in-person at the approved activity site(s), which are listed in section 1 of the form DS-2019. *Virtual or fully remote exchange programs are not permitted.*
 - **Address Reporting:** J-1 Scholars must report their local U.S. address directly to OIS within 10 days of a change: [J-1 Scholar Address Reporting](#)

Announcements

In case you missed it: effective December 9, 2024, the U.S. Department of State released an updated version of the [Exchange Visitor Skills List](#). The 2024 Skills List is the first comprehensive revision of this list since 2009. Many countries that were formerly on the Skills List are no longer included in the new version.

OIS summarized these updates on our website under the section: [Important Notice Regarding the Exchange Visitor Skills List](#). Individuals from countries that no longer appear on the 2024 Skills List may no longer be considered subject to the 212e Two-Year Home Residency requirement (if the Skills List was their only reason for being subject). This includes J-1 Exchange Visitors who began a J-1 program prior to December 9, 2024.

Events & Resources

The OIS website provides numerous resources for our international community. Be sure to check out [these resources](#), intended to promote and support health, safety and well-being while in the U.S.

International Scholars should be aware of scams (which are deceptive attempts to accomplish fraudulent or illegal acts that could threaten your safety and well-being). The OIS [website](#) provides detailed information on how to identify and protect yourself if you become the target of a scam!

For upcoming Johns Hopkins events and activities on campus, check out the [JHU Events](#) page!