



**Department of State
United States of America**

J-1 VISA

**College and University Exchange Student
Program and Internship
Professor and Research Scholar Program**



Midwest University
Wentzville, Missouri, USA



WHAT IS THE EXCHANGE VISITOR (J-1 VISA) PROGRAM?

The primary goals of the Exchange Visitor Program are to allow participants the opportunity to engage broadly with Americans, share their culture, strengthen their English language abilities, and learn new skills or build skills that will help them in future careers.

WHO COMES ON THE EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM?

Participants are research scholars, government officers, and young leaders eager to hone their skills, strengthen their English language abilities, connect with Americans, and learn more about the United States. Most individuals choosing to come to the United States on a J-1 visa exchange program are funded privately.

HOW MANY EXCHANGE VISITORS ARE IN U.S.?

More than 300,000 participants from almost every country in the world come to the United States on J-1 visas each year. Eighty-six percent are 30 years of age or younger. Fifty-five percent are women.

WHAT CATEGORIES OF PARTICIPANTS ARE IN THE EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM?

There are fifteen different categories of participants under the J-1 visa program. Midwest University has supported three categories - Professors/Research scholars, Interns, and Trainees.

Professors/Research Scholars: These two categories promote the exchange of ideas, research, and linkages between research and academic institutions in the United States and foreign countries. Many Korean government officers are attending this program.

Interns: College and university students or recent graduates gain exposure to U.S. culture as they experience U.S. business practices in their chosen occupational field. Foreign college students or the people graduated from college no more than 12 months ago are attending this program.

Trainees: Professionals with a degree, professional certificate, or relevant work experience gain exposure to U.S. culture and receive training in U.S. business practices through a structured and guided work-based program. People who have a degree or professional certificate from post-secondary an academic institution and at least one year of prior related work experience or five years of work experience are attending this program.

INTERSHIP EXCHANGE



WHAT DO THE EXCHANGE VISITORS DO IN U.S.?

Professors/Research Scholars have opportunity to promote the exchange of ideas, research, and linkages between research and academic institutions in the United States and foreign countries.

Interns & Trainees can work in various areas related to their careers. They can legally work (minimum of 32 hours/week) in a wide range of specializations, including business management, advertising, design, accounting, IT, science, engineering, architecture, education, social science, public administration, and art.

Internships & Trainee are offered opportunities in the following occupational categories:

- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
- Arts and Culture
- Construction and Building Trades
- Education, Social Sciences, Library Science,
- Counseling and Social Services
- Health Related Occupations
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Information Media and Communications
- Management, Business, Commerce and Finance
- Public Administration and Law
- The Sciences, Engineering, Architecture, Mathematics and Industrial Occupations

* Interns and trainees cannot work in unskilled or casual labor positions.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE EXCHANGE VISITORS?

Professors/Research Scholars:

Professors/Research Scholars need the host counterparts to help their research. The categories of host counterparts have to be in a field related to their research area such as U.S. federal, state, or local government agency, and corporations. You do not need any financial support for them. Sometimes they will visit your facility to conduct research and all you do is support it. You can have strengthened professional and personal relationships with government officers from another country. Also, you can learn the culture and information of the country that the government officers come from.

Interns & Trainees:

Interns & Trainees need the host employers to hire them. The categories of host employers have to be a field related to their career. Interns & Trainees will work for fixed-duration of internship (Intern: 12 month, Trainee: 18 month). At the end of the duration the next candidates will replace the position through the same process. You have to pay at least minimum wage of the respective area or higher. J-1 VISA interns and trainees are generally exempt from taxes from the category of the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax. You can learn the culture and information of the country that the employees come from.

