

Immigration Essentials

Berkeley International Office

Stay up-to-date

Things can change quickly in the immigration world. Please stay up to date on the latest information and how it could affect your immigration status in the following ways:

- BIO Website, especially:
 - [Know Your Rights](#)
 - [Immigration Policy Updates FAQ](#)
 - [Immigration Policy Updates](#)
- Read ALL emails from BIO!
 - See the [BIO Email Archive](#)
- Speak with an adviser using our virtual or in-person advising. See the [BIO Student Services](#) page.
- DO NOT UNSUBSCRIBE BIO EMAILS OR NEWSLETTER!
 - If you unsubscribe you are removed from ALL future BIO emails and newsletters.
 - You will miss important information impacting your immigration status.

Top 10 Rules for F-1/J-1 Status

BIO Advisers are the resource for information and guidance on questions related to your student visa.

See: [Top Tips for Maintaining Your F/J Student Status](#)

Additional information specific for J-1s from Dept of State: [Exchange Visitor Brochure](#) & [J-1 Exchange Visitor Welcome Brochure](#)

How to Stay in F/J Status

1. Maintain U.S. Physical Presence & Keep your local U.S. address/Phone up-to-date
2. Enroll in Full-time units
3. Get BIO approval before a reduction in course load or withdrawal
4. Work ONLY with proper Employment Authorization.
5. Avoid violating the UC Berkeley Code of Student Conduct or U.S. laws
6. Attend the school noted on your I-20 (F-1s) or DS-2019 (J-1s)
7. Keep your I-20 or DS-2019 valid at all times and understand your completion date.
8. Always carry immigration documentation and understand documents needed for travel
9. Understand your grace period after completion
10. Special Rules for J-1/J-2s: Maintain proper health insurance & Understand Two Year Home Physical Presence Requirement & 12-Month Bar

+ Information for F-1/F-2 Dependents

Why are there rules and limits?

- Your F-1/J-1 status has a primary purpose: FULL-TIME STUDY*
- SEVIS tracks where you reside, your full-time enrollment, your travel in and out of the US, and special authorizations (employment, RCLs)
- Your status is closely monitored by SEVP

*OR LATER, if approved: full-time post-completion practical training directly related to your studies



1. Maintain U.S. Physical Presence &
Keep your local U.S.
address/Phone up-to-date

Complete Arrival Confirmation & Address Reporting

Go to [Cal Central](#) and complete these Task items:

1. Arrival Confirmation Form (includes uploading I-94)
2. Update Local US Address & Phone: Update your LOCAL U.S. Phone & address in Cal Central
3. Anytime you change your living address or change your email, update Cal Central **within 10 days!**

*Temporary addresses are ok.
Remember to update again when you find permanent housing.*

See [Arrival & Address reporting](#) on the BIO webpage!

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Securing America's Borders

Get I-94 Number: I-94 FAQ

Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 69000888062

Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): D/S

Details provided on Admission(I-94) form:

Family Name:	LI
First (Given) Name:	LYDIA
Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	01/01/1990
Passport Number:	P123123213
Passport Country of Issuance:	Mexico
Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY):	04/11/2012
Class of Admission:	F1

Individuals can visit www.cbp.gov/I94 to retrieve a copy of their electronic Form I-94.

CALCENTRAL

My Dashboard My Academics My Finances My Campus

CalCentral Update CalCentral v03 Release

Profile

Basic Information

Contact Information

Emergency Contact

Demographic Information

Privacy & Permissions

Title IV Release

Credentials

Work Experience

Profile

Contact Information

Phone Number Home/Permanent Phone 510642-1234 ext. 123 Edit

Local Phone (preferred) 510555-1212 Edit

Email Other Email (preferred) scommunications@berkeley.edu Edit

Address Diploma Address 2111 BANCROFT WAY #4000 BERKELEY, California 94720-4000 Edit

Home Address 2111 BANCROFT WAY #500 Edit

Local Address 400 SPENCER HALL BERKELEY, California 94720 Edit

Maintain U.S. Physical Presence

F/J students cannot be outside of the US for 5 or more consecutive months, or the F/J status will end.

- You are expected to be **in the US** either:
 - studying in person full-time or
 - after completion, engaged in full-time F/J post-completion employment.
- Temporary absences or travel are allowed but should not interfere with your studies and work in the U.S



2. Maintain full-time enrollment

Online instruction: only 1 class (or 3 units) of online instruction is allowed, to be counted toward your full-time enrollment requirements

Full time enrollment is determined by your academic department.

College of Letters & Science requires

13 units

Most academic departments require

12

units each semester.



Summer?

Summer enrollment is NOT required unless Summer is your very FIRST or VERY LAST semester of study.

See BIO's [Full-Time Enrollment Requirements](#) page for full details

Enrollment Reminder: Remote Instruction

- Reminder- F-1/J-1 students are required to enroll full-time Online coursework is very limited! Your enrollment must be primarily in-person coursework. Only 1 course or 3 units of online coursework is allowed due to normal F/J visa regulations.
- You can search for classes using the Berkeley Academic guide, which also allows you to filter for mode of instruction.
- A class is 100% online if the course instructional mode is listed as "Online" or "Web-based".
- Courses considered "in-person" have at least one course component coded with "In Person" instructional mode and you MUST physically attend the in-person classes
- You are expected to be *physically present and attending classes*

Common questions

- I'm enrolled in a class that is coded as in-person. My professor (or academic advisor, etc) told me it's OK for me to not go to class and study remotely, because attendance is optional. Is that OK?
 - NO
- I have a really important thing to do in my home country (internship, family issues, it's cheaper to live...) My department said its OK for me to study from there. Is that OK?
 - During Summer vacation, Spring Break, Winter Break? YES, sure!
 - During Fall/Spring when you are enrolled? CHECK WITH BIO BEFORE MAKING ANY PLANS.



3. Get BIO approval *before* a reduction in course load or withdrawal

Reduced Course Loads & Withdrawal

Academic
Reasons*

*limited to issues during the first semester of arrival in the US.

Medical
Reasons

Final
Semester*

*Degree-Seeking students ONLY!

NOT AVAILABLE FOR EAP

Approval from a BIO Advisor is **required IN ADVANCE.**

BIO Approval is REQUIRED to drop below full time enrollment, withdraw, or cancel.

Reducing your courseload, withdrawing or cancelling without BIO permission will negatively impact your F/J status.

See BIO's [Reduced Course Load Authorization](#) page for more information



4. Work **ONLY** with proper Employment Authorization.

Employment Options

- See the [BIO Employment page](#) for general information for both F and J types of employment.
- DO NOT WORK without the correct work authorization!
- Working without authorization is a serious violation of your F-1/J-1 student visa. If you are uncertain if you need work authorization for certain activities, come check with us first.
- More information to come in our **Working in the US** presentation later today!



5. Avoid violating the UC Berkeley Code of Student Conduct or U.S. laws



UC Berkeley takes academic integrity very seriously. Academic misconduct can lead to suspension or dismissal from the university.
*Any impact on your enrollment impacts your F-1/J-1 visa status

Examples of Academic Misconduct



- Cheating
- Plagiarism, self-plagiarism
- Unauthorized group work or collaboration
- Falsification
- Inappropriate AI use

Examples of Behavioral Misconduct

- Dishonesty
- Forgery
- Theft
- Drug/Alcohol Violations
- Abuse of electronic resources
- Housing policy violations
- Physical abuse
- Terrorizing conduct
- Violation of privacy
- Harassment
- Stalking
- Hazing
- Obstruction of University Activities
- Disorderly Conduct
- Failure to comply
- Destructive devices, weapons

**Contact BIO about
any Student
Conduct issue
IMMEDIATELY!**



Contact BIO as soon as possible if you have an encounter with police/law or immigration enforcement.

Arrests can have very serious immigration consequences which can impact your ability to travel or your status in the US.

We are here to **help** and **support** you.

If you have an urgent legal/immigration issue (Deportation/Detention, Arrest, Trouble at U.S. Point of Entry) use the [BIO Emergency Contact Form](#)

See [BIO's Know Your Rights](#) page for more information about [Interactions with Law Enforcement](#) and the [Legal Assistance](#) page



Activities that you engage in on & off campus
can impact your visa status.

Be safe, be smart, be peaceful!

Respect consent in your interpersonal relationships.



The legal drinking age in the U.S. is...

21

DO NOT Drink & Drive

Visa/Immigration Rules ≠ CA Laws

Just because it's legal in California...
Does not mean it's OK for your F/J!

Cannabis use, possession, or even possession of drug paraphernalia can lead to **deportation or arrest and visa revocations**.

Drug/alcohol violations can also lead to **bars from the U.S** and **future inadmissibility**.

You must obey all State AND Federal Laws!



Know Your Rights: Protecting Your Status

- **Maintain Your Status**
- **Follow All U.S. Laws**
- **Carry Documentation of Your Status**
- **Answer Questions Briefly and Honestly:** If you are questioned by law enforcement or immigration officials, you have certain rights which require you to only provide certain information, such as your name, address, and immigration status. However, if you are lawfully present in the U.S. on a nonimmigrant visa, you may choose to answer basic questions about your status and purpose to clarify your presence. Keep your answers short and polite. Avoid guessing, speculating, or making jokes during the conversation.
- **Seek Legal Assistance When Needed:** If you have any interactions with law enforcement or immigration officials, reach out to BIO so that we can assist you and direct you to relevant resources. You may also wish to contact an attorney. In some circumstances, you may want two attorneys: one criminal and one immigration. Many attorneys only specialize in one area of law.

Basic Rights in the U.S.

- **Right to Free Speech:** As an international in the U.S., you have the right to free speech under the First Amendment, though it may be limited in certain ways. You can express your opinions, join protests, and engage in discussions without government interference. However, threats, hate speech, or inciting violence are not protected. Additionally, while peaceful protest is generally legal, a recent [executive order](#) has increased scrutiny on protest participation, and certain activities could put your visa status at risk. Actions like civil disobedience, attending protests that become unlawful, or being arrested at a demonstration—even unintentionally—could have serious immigration consequences. If you choose to participate in protests, be aware of the legal risks.
- **Freedom from Illegal Search and Seizure:** You do not have to consent to a search of yourself, your residence, or your belongings without a judicial warrant (not an ICE administrative document). However, police may pat down your clothing if they suspect a weapon. If an officer requests to search you, you have the right to ask if you are required to comply and can refuse unless they have legal grounds. If an officer or immigration agent requests your immigration papers, some noncitizens are legally required to show them. Others may choose to remain silent and consult an attorney. If you have copies or originals of your immigration documents, providing them could help demonstrate your legal nonimmigrant status.
- **Permission to Remain Silent:** You have the right to remain silent. You are only required to answer questions establishing your identity, citizenship, and immigration status. Anything you tell an officer can later be used against you in court. If you choose to exercise this right, you should state this out loud. However, if you are on a non-immigrant status, be aware that refusing to answer immigration-related questions could result in negative consequences, such as denial of entry to the U.S. or even arrest.
- **Guarantee of Due Process:** You have the right to receive notice of any charges against you, present your case, and seek legal representation. If you are arrested, you may have the right to a government-appointed lawyer or may need to hire a lawyer (the government does not provide free legal counsel for immigration cases). You may request a lawyer at any time if you are questioned by law enforcement or immigration officials. Exception: You are not entitled to an attorney at a port of entry or U.S. border.
- **Right to Contact your Country's Consulate:** When foreign nationals are arrested or detained, they have the right to have the closest consulate or embassy notified.



6. Always carry immigration documentation and understand documents needed for travel

Always Carry Immigration Documentation

Technically all F/J non-immigrants are expected to have evidence of status with them at all times.

- **In the Berkeley Area (U.S.):** if you choose not to carry originals, always have printed copies of your immigration documents: [I-20/DS-2019](#), passport, [visa](#) (if applicable) [I-94](#), post-completion EAD (if on OPT or STEM OPT).
- **Outside of the Berkeley Area (U.S):** have the original documents with you when travelling- safely protected!

Required U.S. Entry Documents- Enrolled Students

Be prepared to present the following documents to the CBP Officer when you arrive in the US:

- Passport (valid for at least 6 months into the future)
- Valid F/J nonimmigrant visa (not Canadians!)
- Printed & signed, form [I-20](#) or [DS-2019](#) with valid travel signature within *12 months* of entry date
- Evidence of financial resources (see [Required Funding Documentation](#))
- Proof of UC Berkeley enrollment (current students)
- Proof of [SEVIS fee payment](#)

Officers may ask you questions about your reason for entering the U.S., where you are traveling, or about your academic program.

If you encounter problems at entry, please contact BIO as soon as possible:

<http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/contact-us>

See full details on the [Travel & Re-Entry page](#)



I-20

DS-2019

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
ICE Form I-20 A-B (12/2016)

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1655-0038

SEVIS ID: N0004705512 (F-1) NAME: John Doe Smith

EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION

EMPLOYMENT STATUS	TYPE
EMPLOYMENT START DATE	EMPLOYMENT END DATE
EMPLOYER NAME	EMPLOYER LOCATION

COMMENTS

CHANGE OF STATUS/CAP-GAP EXTENSION

REQUESTED VISA TYPE	REQUEST/EXPIRES STATUS	RECEIPT NUMBER	BENEFIT START DATE/REQUEST DATE
EVENT HISTORY			
EVENT NAME			
EVENT DATE			

OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

AUTHORIZATION	START DATE	END DATE
TRAVEL ENDORSEMENT		

This page, when properly completed, may be used for purposes of the automatic extension of official temporary visas from the United States. Each certification requires a valid passport.

SCHOOL OFFICIAL	TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE ISSUED	PLACE ISSUED
Ima N Advisor	DSO	Ima N Advisor	9/20/2016	Berkeley, CA

ICE Form I-20 A-B (12/2016) Page 2 of 3

U.S. Department of State
CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXCHANGE VISITOR STATUS (J-NONIMMIGRANT)

OMB APPROVAL NO. 1605-0119
08/2007
ESTIMATED BURDEN TIME: 45 min
*See Page 2

DATE OF BIRTH: 04-10-1991
RESIDENCE: Beijing, China
COUNTRY OF BIRTH: CHINA
OLYMPIAN COUNTRY CODE: CN
OLYMPIAN COUNTRY: CHINA
CLASSIFICATION: J-1

LEGAL PERMITS: Exchange Visitor Category: F-1, Exchange Visitor Category: RESEARCH SCHOLAR
Primary Site of Activity: UC Berkeley Campus, 1206 Cory Hall, Dept. of MSE, Berkeley, CA 94720-1768
Program Number: P-1-00352

1. Program Sponsor: University of California at Berkeley
Persons: PROFESSOR; RESEARCH SCHOLAR; SHORT TERM SCHOLAR; SPECIALIST; STUDENT ASSOCIATE; STUDENT SACHELOS; STUDENT DOCTORATE; STUDENT INTERNSHIP; STUDENT NARRATIVE; STUDENT NON-DEGREE

Purpose of this form: Extend as on-going program

3. Form Covers Period: From 09-01-2016 To 07-01-2017
4. Exchange Visitor Category: RESEARCH SCHOLAR
Subject of Exchange: Research in Environmental Chemistry

5. During the period covered by this form, the total estimated financial support (in U.S. \$) to be provided to the exchange visitor by:
Host: 10000
Sponsor: 10000
Exchange Visitor Category: RESEARCH SCHOLAR
Total: 20000

4. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DS/DSO) OR CERTIFICATION BY RESPONSIBLE OFFICER OR ALTERNATE RESPONSIBLE OFFICER THAT A NOTIFICATION COPY OF THIS FORM HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DS/DSO OFFICE)

Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer: Nicole Schwab
Name of Official Processing Office: Berkeley International Office
Address: 2229 Piedmont Ave, Berkeley, CA 94704
Telephone Number: 510-643-3413
Date: 09-17-2016

6. Statement of Responsible Officer for Subgroup Transfer (FOR TRANSFER OF PROGRAMS)
OFFICE: Berkeley International Office
DATE: 09-17-2016
REASON: Transfer of program from one office to another
SIGNED BY: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
SUPERVISOR: YES/NO

7. PRELIMINARY ENDORSEMENT OF CONSULAR OR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS REGARDING SECTION 1(b)(3) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT AND PL-94-410 AND/OR PL-94-411 AS AMENDED (see Note (3) of page 2)

The Exchange Visitor is the subject of:
 No adverse to the nonimmigrant admission requirement
 Adverse to the nonimmigrant admission requirement based on:
 A. Government Security (G-1)
 B. The Exchange Visitor Skills List under
 C. PL-94-410 as amended

DATE: 9/19/2016
SIGNATURE: Nicole Schwab
TITLE: Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer

EXCHANGE VISITOR CERTIFICATION: I have read and agree with the statement in item 7 on page 2 of this document.

ICE Form I-20 A-B (12/2016) Page 1 of 2

Travel signature

See full details on the [Understanding Your I-20](#) or [Understanding Your DS-2019](#) pages

**** If you receive an electronically signed I-20/DS-2019 by email, you must print out the I-20/DS-2019, sign it, and carry a physical copy when using it for travel or other official purposes.**

I-20/DS-2019 Travel Endorsement

- If you are a student returning to the US after travel, your [I-20](#) or [DS-2019](#) needs a valid travel endorsement for re-entry
- The travel endorsement is valid for 12 months**
- *OPT or STEM OPT students- travel endorsement is only valid for 6 months!

F-1s: Check your I-20 on page 2 in the “Travel Endorsement” section.

J-1s: Check your DS-2019 on page 1 in the “Travel Validation” box.

TRAVEL ENDORSEMENT

This page, when properly endorsed, may be used for re-entry of the student to attend the same school after a temporary absence from the United States. Each endorsement is valid for one year.

Designated School Official	TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE ISSUED	PLACE ISSUED
Ima N Advisor	DSO	<i>Ima N Advisor</i>	9/29/2021	Berkeley, CA

TRAVEL VALIDATION BY RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

(Maximum validation period is 1 year)*

*EXCEPT: Maximum validation period is up to 6 months for Short-term Scholars and 4 months for Camp Counselors and Summer Work/Travel.

(1) Exchange Visitor is in good standing at the present time

12/07/2020

Date (mm-dd-yyyy)

Ima N Advisor

Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer

(2) Exchange Visitor is in good standing at the present time

Date (mm-dd-yyyy)

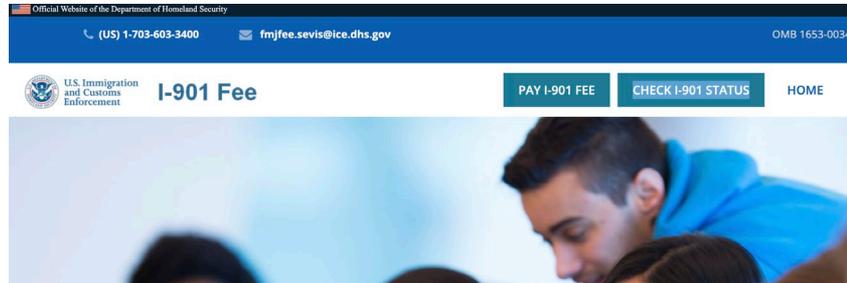
Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer

How do I get a new travel signature?

1. **Submit a [Replacement Document request \(#13\)](#)** to receive a new I-20 or DS-2019 with a new travel endorsement. (Note: BIO has a 5 business day processing time!).
2. **Drop off your I-20 or DS-2019** at [Berkeley International Office](#). Your I-20/DS-2019 with an updated travel signature will be ready for you to pick up 5 business days later.
3. **EMERGENCY ONLY:** Sign in for [Drop-In Virtual Advising](#). This option is only available for unforeseen emergency situations if you will enter the US in fewer than 5 business days. Outside of emergency situations you must use one of the other travel signature options.

SEVIS Fee Payment

SEVIS: Student and Exchange Visitor Information System



You made this payment after receiving your SEVIS ID for the FIRST TIME. You'll need proof of the payment for future visa interview or entry to the US.

You only pay this fee once for the SEVIS record. If you have already paid the fee, you'll just need your receipt!

1. Go to www.fmjfee.com
2. Click "Check I-901 Status"
3. Follow instructions to look up your fee payment and print receipt.

Preparing for Arrival

- Carry all required documents with you, not in your checked bag!
- If possible, arrive during BIO Office hours Monday-Friday from 10-12 or 1-4pm. If you have a problem during arrival, request that CBP call BIO.
- Do not bring any [restricted items](#). Make sure you follow rules regarding travel with medications, food, or pets.
- Medical and recreational marijuana remains **illegal** under U.S. federal law. Possession or use may result in deportation or incarceration.
- It is **illegal** to bring drug paraphernalia into the United States, unless prescribed for authentic medical conditions such as diabetes.
- Be aware that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) may inspect your electronic devices.
- See the ACLU's tips regarding precautions you can take to [prepare your devices for travel](#)





7. Attend the school noted on your I-20 (F-1s) or DS-2019 (J-1s)

Transferring SEVIS Record

- Transfer IN = Must have UC Berkeley I-20/DS-2019 & full-time study at UC Berkeley
- Transfer OUT = Request I-20/DS-2019 transfer to *another school* for full-time study

Taking classes at another school while still at UCB:

Concurrent enrollment classes at other schools will not count towards your full-time enrollment at UC Berkeley for visa purposes.



8. Keep your I-20 or DS-2019 valid at all times and understand your completion date.



8. Understand your grace period after completion

What is my Grace Period?

Your main goal on an F-1 or J-1 visa is to study. When you are finished with that, you will have some time to decide what to do next.

This length of time is called a **grace period**.

- F-1s have a **60 day grace period**.
- J-1s have a **30 day grace period**, but must take some actions before their DS-2019 program end date as outlined below.

Action	F-1	J-1
	Final Deadline	Final Deadline
Depart the U.S.	60 days after your I-20 program end date	30 days after your DS-2019 program end date
Transfer to a new school (or remain at Cal but change educational level)	60 days after your I-20 program end date	before your DS-2019 program end date
Apply for work authorization or explore employment options	60 days after your I-20 program end date * Start applying 90 days before completion!	before your DS-2019 program end date * Start applying anytime in your last semester!



10. Special Rules for J-1/J-2s:
Maintain proper health insurance,
Understand Two Year Home
Physical Presence Requirement &
12-Month Bar

Health Insurance

- All registered students at the University of California are required to meet the university's [health insurance mandate](#). Registered UC Berkeley undergraduate and graduate students are automatically enrolled in the Berkeley [Student Health Insurance Plan](#) (SHIP)
- J-1 students — and their J-2 dependents — must maintain [health insurance coverage](#) that meets J-1 federal guidelines *for the entire length of their program*, including post-completion Academic Training. SHIP meets these requirements.
- More info in the Health & Safety presentation!

J-1: Understand the 2-Year Physical Presence Requirement

- Certain J-1 Exchange Visitors are subject to a [two-year home country physical presence requirement](#).
- If you are subject to this rule, you must return to your country of last legal residence for two years or obtain a waiver before you are eligible for the H (temporary employment), L (intracompany transfer), K (fiancée) or Permanent Residence (Green Card) categories.
- J-2s are subject to the rule if the J-1 is subject. J-2s can't fulfil or waive the requirement separately (the J-1 has to waive or complete it.)

J-1: Understand the 2-Year Physical Presence Requirement

- Who is subject to the requirement? (BIO provided you a preliminary opinion with your DS-2019. You may notice a marking on your J-1 visa or your DS-2019 from the consulate.) Below are reasons you may be subject:
 - Home Government or US Government Funding
 - Funding from an International Organization or Bi-National Commission
 - The Exchange Visitor Skills List
- BIO holds [workshops](#) that cover all aspects of the two-year home country physical presence requirement.
- Don't file for a waiver without consulting BIO!

J-1: 12 Month Bar

- The [12 month bar](#) applies to any J whose status is 6 months or more. It impacts repeat, back-to-back J participation
- You are not eligible for a new J-1 Professor or Research Scholar categories if you were physically present in the U.S. in any J status for any part of the 12-month period preceding the proposed program start date for the [J-1 Professor or Research Scholar category](#).
- This 12-month bar does not apply to J-1 and/or J-2 participants whose previous presence in J status was less than 6 months

F-2/J-2 Dependents

Visas for Dependents

- F-2
- J-2

Who's eligible for F-2/J-2?

- Children under 21
- Legally married spouse

What activities are allowed for Dependents?

- **J-2** dependent spouses can apply for work permission
- **J-2** dependents are eligible to **study** part-time or full-time in the U.S.
- **F-2** dependents (spouse, child) are **NOT eligible for any work** or employment.
- **F-2 children** may attend full-time elementary or secondary school (kindergarten-12th grade).
- **F-2 spouses and children** may enroll in other academic programs for *less than a full course of study* at an SEVP-approved school
- **F-2 spouses and children** may participate in studies that are "avocational or recreational in nature" (i.e., non-academic hobbies and recreational studies) up to and including *full-time*.

What about travel?

- F-2/J-2- need the same travel documents: passport, F-2/J-2 I-20/DS-2019 with travel signature, F-2/J-2 visa
- They also need copies of all of the F-1/J-1 documents





BIO wants to help you have an enjoyable career during and after your time at Cal.

Remember that any violation of your visa status can have serious consequences.

Update us! Stay enrolled full-time! Work only with authorization!

Don't exceed your grace period for exit!

Be safe! BIO's here to help!