

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 40 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/remote 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.
 - If you are travelling internationally and undertaking any UC Berkeley related activities while traveling, including use of university equipment, data or technology please review [GEO's resources regarding international travel](#)
- *Why am I not able to just enroll remotely from outside the US?*
 - If you don't need to be present in the US for your studies, you don't qualify for F/J visa status. You can end your F/J status and study remotely from abroad/



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 BEFORE TAKING ANY ACTION to cancel, withdraw or reduce your units.**

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

ALERT

Conduct Process Requires Urgent Action

- If you are a respondent in a conduct case you will receive an email from studentconduct@berkeley.edu
- The email includes information about your allegations and options for response. It requires your initial response in **5 business days**.
 - Options may include setting up a meeting , asking for an extension of response time. In cases that involve possible suspension/dismissal you may have options to request a hearing, appeal sanctions, etc
 - **Read & carefully review every communication.** Each step in the process has deadlines.
- **If you do not respond within deadlines** you will be automatically be subject to any sanctions included in the notifications, including suspension or dismissal

Contact BIO about
any Student
Conduct issue
IMMEDIATELY!

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!



What Can I Do to Stay Safe and Prepare for Immigration Emergencies?

1. Review [BIO's Know Your Rights](#) page - information/resources regarding interactions with law/immigration enforcement.

2. Create an emergency contact plan - Identify a predetermined friend/family member emergency contact in case of arrest/detention. Make sure they are ready and prepared to contact emergency legal support, notify BIO, and (if you choose) to contact your country's embassy or consulate in the U.S.

3. Identify Legal Resources in Advance - Review [BIO's Legal Assistance](#) and Rapid Response Resources

4. Carry Documentation of Your Status - Carry evidence of registration (Form I-94), as well as other documents that confirm your immigration status (i.e. your I-20, DS-2019, valid OPT EAD card, or I-797 Approval Notice). If you are traveling, always bring the original documents with you.

5. Maintain Your Status - See [Maintaining Your F/J Status](#)

6. Protest & Free Speech Activities - 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.

Rapid Response & Legal Support

- Local Rapid Response Hotlines (to report ICE activity or if emergency legal assistance is needed) **Alameda County (ACILEP)**: (510) 241-4011 or **San Francisco**: (415) 200-1548. (Full list available [here](#).)
- **BIO Emergency Contact Form** - Submit this form to alert BIO that you have experienced an immigration emergency. (Your first contact should be a trusted friend or family member, or immigration attorney.)
- **State of California Resources for Immigration & Legal Support**
- **BIO's Legal Assistance** page- Information on how to obtain legal assistance including immigration attorney support



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!

Current Travel Ban Summary

- **Proclamation: Restricting and Limiting the Entry of Foreign Nationals To Protect The Security Of The United States** Expands and builds on Travel Proclamation 10949 issued on June 4th, 2025
- "Full" travel ban (all immigrant/non-immigrant visa categories **including F/J**): **Afghanistan, Burma, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen.**
- New additions as of Jan 1, 2026 now include: **Burkina Faso, Laos , Mali, Niger, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Syria and individuals with Palestinian Authority Documents.**
- "Partial" travel ban (immigrants and B-1, B-2, B-1/B-2, **F, J and M**.) on **Burundi, Cuba, Togo, Turkmenistan* and Venezuela** and new additions Jan 1, 2026 : **Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Benin, Cote d 'Ivoire, Dominica, Gabon, The Gambia, Malawi, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Tonga, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.**
- Additional [White House Fact Sheet on the Proclamation](#)

Turkmenistan ban for immigrant only, ban lifted for B-1, B-2, B-1/B-2, **F, J and M*

Travel Ban- Impacts & Exceptions

Who is impacted?

foreign nationals of the designated countries who:

- Are *outside of the U.S.* on or after January 1, 2026, **and**
- *Do not have a valid visa* on or after January 1, 2026

Exceptions:

- F/J students who are *inside the United States* on January 1, 2026, or who are *outside the United States on that date but have a visa that is valid as of* January 1, 2026, would not be covered by the ban
- Additional exceptions: for **dual nationals traveling on a passport from a non-designated country**, lawful permanent residents, individuals granted asylum or refugee status, holders of diplomatic and international organization visas, and athletes participating in events like the 2026 World Cup and the 2028 Olympics.
- Some provisions exist for exemptions based on the national interest from the Attorney General/ DOJ, Secretary of State/DOS, Secretary of Homeland Security/DHS

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](#)

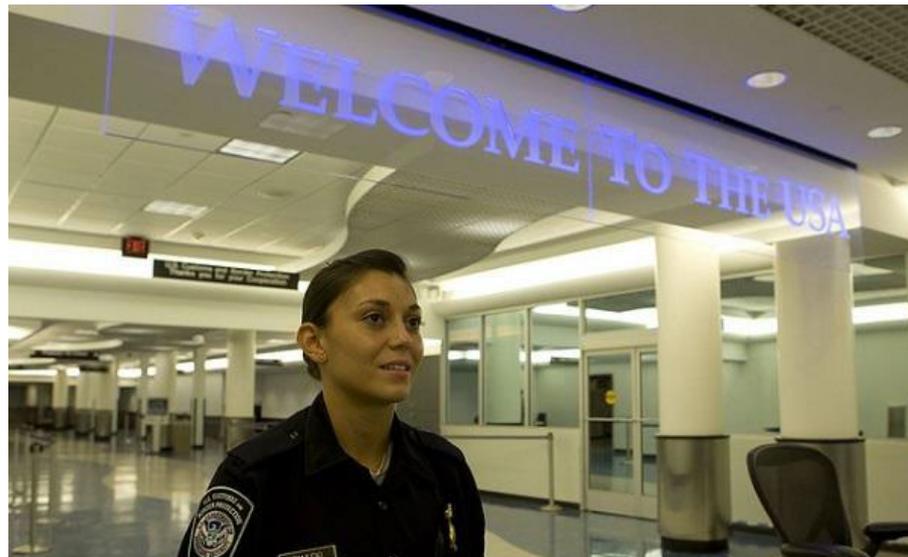
Officers may ask you questions about your reason for entering the U.S., where you are traveling, or about your academic program.

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](#)

*Post-completion F-1 OPT travel signature is only valid for 6 months



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. 1625-0038

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 the Visit: 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 the 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: 100000
Sponsor: 100000
Exchange Visitor: 100000
Total: 300000

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

5. Nicole Schwab
Berkeley International Office
2229 Piedmont Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94704
Telephone Number: 510-643-3413
Date: 09-17-2016

6. Statement of Responsible Office for Submitting Form (FOR TRANSFER OF PROGRAMS)
OFFICE: 09-17-2016
7. Statement of Responsible Office for Issuance of Certificate of Eligibility (FOR TRANSFER OF PROGRAMS)
OFFICE: 09-17-2016

TRAVEL VALIDATION BY RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS (Return within period of 1 year)

9/19/2016
Nicole Schwab
Signature of Responsible Office or Alternate Responsible Office

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE FINAL DETERMINATION REGARDING THIS 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

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)

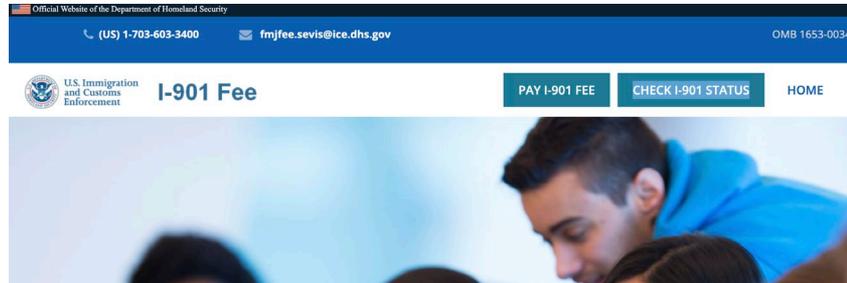
Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer

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 and/or conduct social media review.
- 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. Check with BIO about your plans.



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

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
SEVIS ID: N0004705512

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status
OMB NO. 1653-0038

PROGRAM OF STUDY	MAJOR 1 Economics, General 45.0601	MAJOR 2 None 00.0000
EDUCATION LEVEL DOCTORATE	PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY Required	ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES Student is proficient
NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH 72 Months	PROGRAM START DATE 01 SEPTEMBER 2015	PROGRAM END DATE 31 MAY 2021

PROGRAM OF STUDY

EDUCATION LEVEL DOCTORATE	MAJOR 1 Economics, General 45.0601	MAJOR 2 None 00.0000
NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH 72 Months	PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY Required	ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES Student is proficient
PROGRAM START DATE 01 SEPTEMBER 2015	PROGRAM END DATE 31 MAY 2021	

FINANCIALS

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR 9 MONTHS	STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR 9 MONTHS
Tuition and Fees \$ 23,000	Personal Funds \$ 3,000
Living Expenses \$ 6,000	Scholarship and Teaching Assistantship \$ 29,000
Expenses of Dependents (1) \$ 3,000	Funds From Another Source \$
Other \$	On-Campus Employment \$
TOTAL \$ 32,000	TOTAL \$ 32,000

REMARKS
Orientation begins 8/25/2015. Please report to ISSS upon arrival.

SCHOOL ATTESTATION
I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I executed this form in the United States after review and evaluation in the United States by me or other officials of the school of the student's application, transcripts, or other records of courses taken and proof of financial responsibility, which were received at the school prior to the execution of this form. The school has determined that the above named student's qualifications meet all standards for admission to the school and the student will be required to pursue a full program of study as defined by 9 CFR 214.2(b)(9). I am a designated school official of the above named school and am authorized to issue this form.

STUDENT ATTESTATION
I have read and agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay. I certify that all information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I seek to enter or remain in the United States temporarily, and solely for the purpose of pursuing a full program of study at the school named above. I also authorize the named school to release any information from my records needed by DHS pursuant to 9 CFR 214.2(g) to determine my nonimmigrant status. Parent or guardian, and student, must sign of student in under 18.

ICE Form I-20 A-B (12/28/16) Page 1 of 3

I-20

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

3. Form Covers Period:
From (mm-dd-yyyy):
To (mm-dd-yyyy):

4. Exchange Visitor Category:
Subject/Field Code: Subject/Field Code Remarks:

5. During the period covered by this form, the total estimated financial support (in U.S. \$) is to be provided to the exchange visitor by:

DRAFT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE: THIS USE OR OTHER THAN RESPONSIBLE OFFICER OR ALTERNATE RESPONSIBLE OFFICER IS A VIOLATION OF THE PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PROPERTY BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (50 USC 40105).

Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer: **BOB POPE REINHOLDT, JR. DALE**
Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer: **BOB POPE REINHOLDT, JR. DALE**
Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer: **BOB POPE REINHOLDT, JR. DALE**

Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer: _____
Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer: _____
Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate Responsible Officer: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____
Date Issued: _____

ICE Form I-20 A-B (12/28/16) Page 1 of 3

DS-2019

Request a program extension before your I-20 or DS-2019 expires if you need additional time to complete your degree program.

UCEAP students who wish to extend for a semester must first have approval from their home institution & UCEAP



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!