

VISIT/VISER Program Application Timeline

Estimated time to obtain J-1 visa: 3-9 months

UW DEPARTMENT

The complete set of application materials which includes the VISIT or VISER online application, the J Visa Supplemental Request form with signatures, copy of passport, financial documentation, and TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo scores, and DS-7002 form with signatures (for VISIT applicants only), must be received by the VISIT/VISER team **no later than 12 weeks (3 months)** before the student's start date. *Plan the start date carefully.* The student cannot enter the US after the start date, and they **MUST** start their program on the start date (a weekday).

STUDENT

Why 12 weeks? This is to allow sufficient time for the VISIT/VISER team to review the application and for the DS-2019 form to be generated. Most importantly, it allows adequate time for the student to attend an appointment at the US Consulate in their home country to obtain their J-1 visa. Depending on the country, it can typically take 3–12 weeks for the student to obtain their J-1 visa and make travel and housing arrangements in Seattle.

CHANGING A START DATE:

If the student needs to change the start date, an amended DS-2019 is required. Any request for an amended DS-2019 must be emailed to uwvisit@uw.edu as soon as possible before the program start date or at least 3 weeks before the proposed new start, whichever comes first. *Please note that if the student has received their visa, they do NOT need to schedule another visa appointment if they request an amended DS-2019.*

Key Players in the VISIT/VISER Application Process:

Student Intern: The J-1 exchange visitor category for a UW VISIT participant. To be eligible, student interns must be working on a degree in their home country at the time of their VISIT internship and must return home to complete that degree following their internship.

Student Researcher: The J-1 exchange visitor category for a UW VISER participant. To be eligible, student researchers must be working on a degree in their home country at the time of their VISER program and must return home to complete that degree following their program.

UW Host Supervisor: UW faculty member who is supervising the student.

Department Contact (DC): The individual within the UW host department who works with the prospective VISIT/VISER participant and the supervisor to complete the application process.

VISIT/VISER Team: Oversees the VISIT and VISER programs and visa compliance for program participants. The VISIT/VISER office issues the DS-2019 and is the go-to source for immigration questions related to students' J-1 visas, the VISIT and VISER program application process, logistical questions, etc.

APPLICATION STEPS	Approx. Time
<i>All applicants must have completed a TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo English proficiency exam within the past 2 years. Applications are not accepted without TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo score results, so students must factor in the time to schedule and take the exam.</i>	varies
1. International student contacts a UW professor. Professor agrees to become the student's UW host supervisor.	2-6 weeks
2. Student and supervisor agree on internship goals that meet the purpose of the VISIT/VISER program as a cultural exchange, within an American academic research context, that benefits the student.	2-6 weeks
3. Supervisor or Department Contact (DC) downloads VISIT or VISER J-Visa Supplemental Request Form and DS-7002 (VISIT only) from the VISIT or VISER Canvas site for departments.	1 day
4. Supervisor, DC, and student complete J-Visa Supplemental Request Form and DS-7002 (VISIT only).	2-6 weeks
5. DC provides online application link (from the VISIT or VISER Canvas site for departments) to student.	1 day
6. Student completes online application.	1-2 weeks
7. After student submits the online application, DC is notified to complete their portion of the online application, including uploading the J-Visa Supplemental Request Form and DS-7002 at least 12 weeks before the proposed start date.	1-2 weeks
8. VISIT/VISER team is notified of application received and carefully reviews the application packet and processes the DS-2019.	2 weeks
9. VISIT/VISER team emails DS-2019, DS-7002 for VISIT students, and additional information to student, DC, and supervisor.	1 day
10. Upon receipt of DS-2019 form, student applies for a visa and makes a visa appointment with the US Consulate in their home country (fees apply).	2-60+ days
11. Following visa appointment, US Consulate issues J-1 visa. Time varies by country depending on administrative processing requirements.	1-10 weeks

VISIT/VISER students can enter the US up to 30 days before their internship start date (as shown on the DS-2019). This provides time for students to travel to Seattle, find housing, and settle into their new surroundings. <i>Students must begin their internship on their start date (not early and not late) and are not allowed to continue their internship after their end date.</i>	Up to 30 days
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