



J-1 ACADEMIC TRAINING GUIDELINES & APPLICATION

Are you interested in furthering your ISEP experience in the United States by doing research or work in your field of study? Academic Training is an option! "Academic Training" is a term used by the U.S. Department of State for J-1 Visa students who wish to work or do research in the U.S. in their area of study as part of their academic program.

Academic Training Requirements:

- Academics:
 - Must relate to the academic field which you are studying at your host ISEP institution (the subject/field indicated in Section 4 of your DS-2019).
 - You must be in the United States primarily for study, and not for Academic Training, and you must be in good academic standing at your host institution.
- Finances:
 - Academic Training can be paid or unpaid
 - If participating in Academic Training after your original ISEP program, the work must either be paid, or you must prove that you have sufficient funds to support yourself during the training program. ISEP considers sufficient funds to be at least USD\$800 per month.
- Time constraints:
 - Can be done part-time (up to 20 hours per week) during your ISEP exchange or full-time (up to 40 hours per week) after your original ISEP exchange period or during vacation periods. *Note: Most students choose to participate after completing their ISEP exchange on campus.*
 - Your Academic Training must begin within 30 days after the original end date of your ISEP program at your ISEP institution.
 - If your exchange period was for one semester, you may participate in Academic Training for up to four months; if your exchange period was for one full year, you may participate in Academic Training for up to nine months.
 - If you earned a graduate degree from your U.S. institution while on ISEP, you are eligible for Academic Training for a period not to exceed the period of time on ISEP or 18 months, whichever is shorter.
- Maintaining J-1 visa status:
 - During your Academic Training, you must maintain J-1 legal status to remain in the United States, and apply for visa extensions when necessary.
 - You must remain enrolled in ISEP health insurance coverage for the duration of your Academic Training period.

How to Apply:

Once you've found a position that would qualify for Academic Training, submit the following items to your host ISEP Coordinator, who will approve your application and pass it on to ISEP-Central to be authorized. The deadlines are as follows: **November 15th for Spring Academic Training and April 1st for Summer Academic Training.**

Note: Only ISEP as your visa sponsor can authorize Academic Training. Please note that Academic Training authorization cannot be granted by your ISEP Host Coordinator, International Office Advisor, *or anyone else at your host institution.*

- Offer letter from prospective employer that includes the following: (Sample Included)
 - Your job position/title
 - a brief description of the goals and objectives of your Academic Training
 - the specific begin and end dates of the Academic Training
 - number of hours per week you will be participating in the Academic Training
 - the address where you will be participating in the Academic Training
 - the name and address of your training supervisor
 - the salary you will receive for participating in the Academic Training (if applicable)
- Statement from Academic Advisor (form included in the application)
 - The form must be filled out in its entirety
 - The form must include the same information as the employer letter.



APPLICATION FOR J-1 ACADEMIC TRAINING AUTHORIZATION

To Be Completed by the ISEP Participant

Name: _____ Date: _____

Home Institution: _____

Host Institution: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address (During Requested Academic Training Period):

Home/Apt # Street Name City State Zip

Requested Academic Training Dates (Must Match Employer's Offer Letter Dates):

Table with 3 columns: Begin Date (Month/Day/Year), End Date (Month/Day/Year), Total Number of Months

Previous Academic Training Dates (for students who have participated in an Academic Training):

Table with 3 columns: Begin Date (Month/Day/Year), End Date (Month/Day/Year), Total Number of Months

I have submitted the following original documents to my ISEP Host Coordinator, who will review and submit them to ISEP for approval. I understand that I am not eligible to begin working at the Academic Training position until I have received official authorization from ISEP.

- o Academic Advisor Approval Form from my Host Institution Academic Advisor
o Offer Letter from my Academic Training Employer
o Copy of my DS-2019 and I-94 Forms
o Payment authorizing extension of my ISEP health insurance to cover the entire Academic Training period
o Proof of \$800/month of Academic Training (either received through Academic Training or by personal funds)

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

To be completed by the ISEP Host Coordinator

I confirm that the student listed above is in good academic standing at this institution. Furthermore, I have discussed this student's request for Academic Training authorization and support this request.

The last day of the student's ISEP exchange on campus is _____ (for post-exchange Academic Training only).

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sample Employer's Letter for J-1 Academic Training

Company Letterhead

Company Name
Company Address 1
City, State Zip
Phone Number

Date

Title Student Name
Student Address 1
City, State Zip

Dear Student Name:

This is to confirm that Company Name, is offering you employment as Position from Begin Date to End Date, at a salary of Amount per month. This employment will serve as "academic training" following your one year (or semester) program in Name of Program at Host University.

The goals and objectives of your training with us will be Main Goals and Objectives. The location of your training program will be Location.

Your training supervisor will be Supervisor's Name, Title. Her/His address and telephone number.

You will be expected to work Amount of Hours each week.

On behalf of the company, we welcome you to Company Name.

Sincerely,

Name
Position Title

(Please sign in blue ink)