



J-1 Scholar Coordinator Meeting

2019

GLOBAL EDUCATION OFFICE

MESA VISTA HALL

Global Education Office

Advisors

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- ❖ **Office Hours**: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm
- ❖ **Walk-in hours**: Monday-Friday, 1:00-3:00pm, Monday and Thursday 10:00– noon (during the academic year only)
- ❖ **Appointments**: Call to schedule an appointment
- ❖ **International Scholar Orientation**: Ongoing Wednesdays at 10:00 am (1 to 1.5 hours)

Meeting Agenda



- ▶ Welcome (please share computers with a unnm.edu user)

What's New?

- ▶ DOS Updates
- ▶ On-line Application
- ▶ GEO Website Updates

Important Reminders

- ▶ Banner Entry
- ▶ J-1 Scholar Departure



What's New?: Updates from the State Department and GEO

DOS Visits/Audits

- ▶ Many J-1 Programs have been visited by the State Department
- ▶ To Ensure that UNM Continues to be in Good Standing, we must be diligent about:
 - ▶ English proficiency requirements
 - ▶ Health Insurance compliance
 - ▶ Orientation and Cultural Events for Scholars
- ▶ Also, sponsors MUST notify state department of a problem or controversy on the next business day; this includes being involved in a crime and losing a passport. Please let us know if you hear of anything!
- ▶ State department has specified NOT to email pdf copies of DS-2019s!!! If scholar has to pay the SEVIS fee, just give the number without the pdf.

English Proficiency Requirements

- ▶ Must have “sufficient proficiency in the English language, as determined by an objective measurement of English language proficiency, to participate in his or her program and to function on a day-to-day basis”
- ▶ Objective measurements:
 - ▶ Recognized English language test
 - ▶ Signed documentation from an academic institution or English language school; or
 - ▶ A documented interview conducted by the sponsor either in person or by videoconferencing or by telephone if videoconferencing is not a viable option (please be sure that someone is conducting a proper interview)

MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE

- ▶ J1 Scholars are required to have health insurance for themselves and their dependents for their entire stay
- ▶ Requirements include medivac and repatriation
- ▶ Schools are also supposed to inform scholars of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requirements, if applicable
- ▶ Minimum J1 insurance requirements provide LESS coverage than the ACA plans, but include medivac and repatriation
- ▶ Scholars who stay for more than 2 years will technically be in violation of the ACA if they do not have ACA insurance, but they **MUST** continue to have medivac and repat insurance while on J1 – all current UNM employee insurances have this.

E-Packet for Scholars

- ▶ Scholars receive an e-packet with orientation information prior to arrival at UNM (used to be given after arrival only)
Information includes:

- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Health insurance
- ▶ Driver's License
- ▶ Getting Involved at UNM
- ▶ Married Scholar information
- ▶ SSA information
- ▶ Avoiding scams





Don't
forget!

J-1 SCHOLAR ORIENTATION

WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00 AM
GEO 2120 MESA VISTA HALL

*PLEASE CONTACT GEO TO SCHEDULE
SCHOLAR FOR ORIENTATION AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING ARRIVAL.*

WHY IS J-1 SCHOLAR ORIENTATION SO CRUCIAL?

- ❑ We review the J-1 Scholar's responsibilities in order to maintain valid J-1 status.
- ❑ We discuss the 12 and 24 month bars and the 212 (e) Home Residency Requirement.
- ❑ We make copies of the J-1 Scholar's immigration documents and collect address for federal record-keeping requirements.
- ❑ We collect insurance information for scholars who are self-pay.
- ❑ We give them instructions to apply for the Social Security Card
- ❑ We give them information about campus and GEO services for them.



New On-line Scholar Application



On-line Scholar Application Experimentation



GEO Website



Important Reminders for J Scholar Coordinators



J-1 Scholar Departure

Departure issues

- ▶ Informing GEO of a scholar's departure is critical for compliance with federal regulations, so you need to let us know as soon as you know
- ▶ Once a "Research Scholar" record is ended they have to wait 2 years before they can enter in that status again, so you need to be aware of their plans
- ▶ If they will continue working on the same project at home, they have been in Research scholar status for less than 5 years, and they plan to return to resume work, there is a way to keep the record active via an "Out of Country" process

J-1 Scholar Notice of Departure



Please contact GEO if the J-1 Scholar leaves more than 30 days before the program end date so we can end the record!

Many scholars are subject to 12 and 24 month bars on repeat participation. A delay in reporting a scholar's departure delays the ability of the scholar to start accruing time to overcome the bars.

Entering the Scholar in Banner

- ▶ This is critical for the scholar to function at UNM!!
- ▶ Paperwork should be done as soon as the DS-2019 is issued!
- ▶ Contact the appropriate employment office immediately to begin the paperwork for “Visiting Colleague” or “Letter of Academic Title”; instructions are in the email you get when the DS-2019 is ready

Future Plans

- ▶ Assistance with bringing scholars:
 - ▶ What are the obstacles to bringing more scholars?
 - ▶ What is the climate like in your department re increasing/decreasing invitation of scholars?
 - ▶ Is there anything we can do to help?

