

Status	J-1 Scholar	H-1B	B-1/B-2 WB/WT
Purpose	Exchange visitor, primarily researcher or professor.	Temporary worker in specialty occupation.	-Temporary visitor for business (B-1) -Temporary visitor for pleasure (B-2) Waived visitor (WB or WT)
Eligibility Criteria	-University appointment to teach or conduct research. Can be paid or unpaid. -Proof of adequate financial support -Minimum of bachelor's degree or equivalent	-Skilled employment requiring at least Bachelor's degree -Licenses may be necessary for certain positions	-Have a legitimate business or tourist reason for coming to the U.S. -Hold a passport and intend to return to home country
Maximum Stay	5 continuous years	-3 years with extension of 3 years for total of 6 aggregate years	-Generally given up to 6 month I-94s -Can usually extend for additional 6 months
Advantages	-Relatively quick to process -Visa not too difficult (but can be in some countries) -J-2 dependent may work with permission from DHS	-May have long-term intent to immigrate -If 2 year J-1 home residency requirement, must obtain waiver before applying	-May be easy to obtain, especially for WB and WT countries -B-1 can be reimbursed for travel and expenses -B-2 Honoraria for up to 9 days within 6 months
Disadvantages	-2 year home residency requirement if funded by gov't source, skills list or medical trainee -Category switch problematic within J program	-Must file with both Dept of Labor and DHS -Employer liable for return transportation if terminates employee prematurely -H-4 cannot work	-WBs and WTs cannot extend or change statuses -Payments limited to strict conditions -Requires extensive paperwork if applying a tax treaty
Required Fees	-\$290 if filing via I-539 -Fee for J-1 visa if abroad -SEVIS fee -OIA Service fee	-\$325, \$500 -\$1225 for nonexempt employers -Fee for H-1B visa if abroad -OIA service fee	-Fee for B-1/B-2 visa -\$290 if extending via I-539