The purpose of the Exchange Visitor (EV) Program is to provide visitors to the U.S. with an opportunity to participate in educational and cultural programs and to share their experiences upon their return home, as well as to encourage Americans to participate in educational and cultural programs in their country.
DID YOU KNOW...

If you will be out of the country for **more than 30 days** and you intend to return to continue your Exchange Visitor program, you must receive authorization for a **Temporary Out of Country Absence** or your SEVIS immigration record will become inactive and your J-1 program will complete.

To be eligible for a Temporary Absence, you must:

- Continue to pursue your original program goals and objectives. Your research or collaboration with the University of Utah must be ongoing and continue to be a benefit to the University.
- Maintain the required health insurance for yourself and your dependents even when abroad.
- Remain under the supervision of your supervisor or PI at the University of Utah.

For more information and for instructions on how to apply, please see our **Temporary Out of Country Absence Policy Guide**.

DID YOU ALSO KNOW...

Your **passport** is both an official form of identification and a travel document, issued by your government, and needed for many important activities, such as travel abroad, opening a bank account, and getting a driver’s license.

U.S. Department of State regulations disclose that a passport must be valid at the time of admission (entry) to the U.S. and must also be valid for a minimum of six months **beyond** the expiration of your initial period of stay, unless your country is a member of the six-month club. If a member of the **six-month club**, your passport must only be valid for your period of stay, not six months beyond this date.

If you passport expires, or is lost or stolen, please let ISSS know, as we are happy to answer any questions that you may have. Remember that an expired passport **does not** put you “out of status” with your visa, but is required to valid at all times, and can prevent you from certain benefits, such as an extension of your stay. In most cases, this can be done through your country’s U.S. Embassy or Consulate.
IN THE NEWS...

“China Coaches Training Program honored at Pac-12 China game” - @THEU
The J-1 Visa Coaches Program hosted at the University of Utah was featured in @THEU. Read the complete article and learn more about the program.

Announcing new E-forms!
The J-1 Scholar Team has created two new E-forms accessed through the iStart Portal called Personal Information Update and Health Insurance Update. Using these E-forms, you can request to have your personal information and health insurance updated.

Immigration regulations require all J-1 Exchange Visitors to report any personal information change, such as phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and residential address to International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) within 10 calendar days of the change.

Also, as a reminder, proof of health insurance must be updated at all times. We will send a request in the next few weeks for Research Scholars and Professors to update their health insurance, and every 6 months after. We require this of everyone in order to maintain their legal visa status. Please wait for the e-mail reminder, but be prepared to provide the following information:

1. Name of your health insurance company
2. Website of your health insurance company
3. Phone number of your health insurance company
4. Period of coverage of your health insurance
5. Proof of coverage, such as a copy of your insurance card or insurance policy
FUN FAMILY THINGS TO DO DURING THE WINTER...

The New Woodward in Park City, UT

Ice Skating at the Gallivan Center

Winter Tubing at Soldier Hollow

Ice Castle in Midway, UT

Snowmobiling in Utah

Hot Springs in Utah

Please follow the link to VisitUtah for more winter activity ideas!
PLEASE REMEMBER TO ALWAYS...

- Update ISSS of any change in your physical address, phone number, and e-mail address within 10 calendar days of the change through iStart.

- Request a travel signature on your DS-2019 if you plan to depart the U.S. and return to continue your exchange program. When you submit your DS-2019 for a travel signature, we will provide a travel survey for you to complete. The travel survey lists information helpful to know to successfully re-enter the U.S.

- Maintain health insurance that meets the requirements of the Exchange Visitor Program for the entire duration of your stay as indicated by the begin date and end date listed on your DS-2019.

- Report to the ISSS office if you plan to complete and/or leave more than 15 days early based on the end date listed on your current DS-2019 so that we can update your DS-2019 to reflect your stay in the U.S.

J-1 Exchange Visitor Program
International Student & Scholar Services
Office for Global Engagement
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