Transfer Out for J-1 Scholars

Who can “transfer out” their SEVIS record from the University of Utah?

If you are a J-1 Exchange Visitor, you may transfer to another institution in the U.S. as long as the purpose of the transfer is to continue the original program goals and objectives in which you were admitted in J-1 exchange visitor status and if you remain within the same participant category (Research Scholar, Professor, Short-term Scholar, Student Intern, and Specialist).

Please Note: If you are unsure if your new program would be a continuation of the goals and objectives of your current program, we would suggest working with your new institution regarding your eligibility to transfer.

General Guidelines for a Transfer Out:

- We recommend that you request to have your SEVIS record transferred from the University of Utah to your new institution at least two weeks before the program end date on your current DS-2019.
- There must be no gap between the end date of activities at the University of Utah and the transfer effective date (begin date) at your new institution. For example, the begin date at the transfer-in institution should be the day after the end date at the University of Utah.
- Your new DS-2019 form will be issued by the new institution on or after the transfer effective date.
- You may not begin your new J-1 program at your new institution until the transfer effective date has been reached.
- It is important for you to communicate your intent to transfer out with both the ISSS office at the University of Utah and your new institution.

How to Apply for a Transfer Out:

Please submit the Transfer-Out SEVIS Record E-form through UAtlas.

Please be prepared to submit the following information in the E-form:

- End Date of your Exchange Visitor Program at the University of Utah and the Begin Date of your Exchange Visitor Program at your new institution
- Name of your new institution
- Program Number of your new institution
- Confirmation that your transfer will be a continuation of your original program objectives
- Job Offer/Invitation/Appointment Letter from your new institution (the program begin date listed in the E-form must match the begin date in your letter)
- Transfer-in Eligibility document for your new institution (if requested by your new institution)

Please Note: This policy is for J-1 Scholars only (Research Scholar, Professor, Short-term Scholar, Student Intern, and Specialist). If you are a J-1 Student, please refer to the J-1 Student Policies and Forms.
Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can I travel while my transfer is pending?

Yes, however, please be cautious. If you depart the U.S. while the SEVIS transfer is pending, you must re-enter the U.S. on the DS-2019 of your new institution. A delay in travel may result in a “no show” status and/or completion of your J-1 exchange visitor program, ending your immigration status.

2. Can I transfer out if I am subject to the 212(e) home residency requirement?

Yes. The 212(e) home residency requirement does not affect your ability to transfer out to another institution. For more information, please see our 212(e) Policy Guide.

3. Can I transfer out if I have submitted a waiver for the 212(e) home residency requirement?

Yes. A transfer should not affect a waiver petition in pending status; however, we would suggest consulting an immigration attorney for more information in this area.

4. Can I transfer out if I have received a favorable 212(e) waiver recommendation from the Department of State or if USCIS has approved my 212(e) waiver?

Transferring out to another institution could re-subject you to the 212(e). We would suggest consulting an immigration attorney for more information in this area.

5. Can I transfer out if I have reached the maximum program length of my visa category?

No. Since a transfer is as a continuation of your J-1 exchange visitor program, if you have reached the maximum length of your visa category, you would not be eligible to transfer out to another institution.

6. Can I receive an extension beyond my current program end date once I have transferred out?

Yes. Extensions can be requested for any length of time up to the J-1 visa category maximum duration; however, your eligibility to extend would be assessed by your new institution.