DS-2019 Extension Guide for Degree-Seeking J-1 Students

What is a DS-2019 Extension?

Degree-seeking students may request an extension of their DS-2019 if you need to continue your studies past your current Program End Date. If you are unable to finish your degree program by the end date noted on your DS-2019, you can request an extension of your program. Extension requests can be made for a minimum of one semester and a maximum of one year at a time.

The extension must be completed before the end date of the DS-2019, and the length of time allowed for an extension is based on a recommendation from your academic advisor. ISSS will only review your request once both you and your academic department advisor have submitted the request.

Eligibility for an Extension:

- In order to be eligible for an extension, you must be currently maintaining status, making normal progress towards the completion of your degree, and have academic requirements remaining.
- The request should be received by ISSS at least 10 business days prior to the Program End Date on your current DS-2019. If the extension request is made after these 10 business days, there is no guarantee that the request will be processed before the DS-2019 expiration date.

How to apply for an Extension:

1. To request an extension, please complete the J-1 Student Extension E-form using the iStart link found at www.isss.utah.edu. Be prepared to upload your current DS-2019, Financial Support Documentation, and your academic advisor’s contact information.
2. The ISSS Office will contact you when your new DS-2019 is ready to pick up. Please allow 10 business days for processing.

Important Considerations:

- You are allowed to request an extension from a minimum of one semester to a maximum of one year (not more than one year from current DS-2019 expiration date).
- There is a 10 business day processing time for all DS-2019 extension requests.
- DS-2019s cannot be extended after they expire. If your DS-2019 expires before you are able to submit a complete DS-2019 Extension request, you will be considered “out of status” and Reinstatement may be necessary in order to remain legally in the US to continue your studies.
- Please remember that your request is not considered “complete” until your academic advisor submits their approval.
- Further information about the forms of Financial Support Documentation that may be submitted for an DS-2019 extension request can be found on the ISSS website at the link below:


Please Note:
This policy guide is for degree-seeking J-1 students only. If you are a non-degree seeking exchange student on a J-1 visa and would like to extend your DS-2019, please call the ISSS office at 801-581-8876 and schedule a Sponsored Student Advising appointment as soon as possible to discuss your situation.

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