

Transfer-OUT for J-1 Exchange Visitor (EV) Scholars

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

J-1 Exchange Visitors may **transfer** to another institution in the U.S. as long as the purpose of a transfer is to **continue the original program goals and objectives** of an exchange program and if the EV remains within the **same participant category** (Research Scholar, Professor, Short-term Scholar, Student Intern, and Specialist).

Please Note: If you are unsure if a new program would be a continuation of the goals and objectives of a current program, please complete a [Transfer Survey](#) to assess both programs.

General Guidelines for a Transfer OUT:

- We recommend to communicate with the **Alternate Responsible Officer** (international scholar advisor) at the University of Utah at least **one month** before the start of an appointment at a **new institution**, as both institutions must collaborate on all SEVIS transfers.
- There must be **no gap** between the **end date** of the current program at the University of Utah and the **transfer effective (begin date) date** at the **new institution**. Both institutions will communicate as to the appropriate transfer effective date.
- A new DS-2019 will be issued to you **on or after** the **transfer effective date**.
- You are not allowed to begin a **new** Exchange Visitor Program at a **new institution** until the transfer effective (begin) date has been reached.

How to Apply for a Transfer OUT:

To facilitate a SEVIS transfer of your Exchange Visitor Program to a new institution, please submit a **Transfer-Out SEVIS Record** E-form through [UAtlas](#).

- **Exchange Visitor:** Please be prepared to submit the following information in the E-form:
 - **End Date** of the Exchange Visitor Program at the University of Utah and the **Begin Date** of your Exchange Visitor Program at the new institution
 - Name of the new institution
 - Program Number of the new institution (in most cases, begins with a P-1)
 - Brief statement and confirmation that the transfer **WILL**, or **WILL NOT**, be a continuation of your original program objectives
 - Invitation or appointment letter from the new institution (the program begin date listed in the E-form must match the begin date in your letter)
 - Transfer-in eligibility document from the new institution (optional, and if requested by your new institution)

Disclaimer: International Student & Scholar Services provides support and information related to U.S. immigration laws and regulations related to F and J status. ISSS staff are not attorneys and any information provided by us should not be construed as legal advice. Individuals are welcome to consult a qualified immigration attorney for specific legal advice, particularly in complicated cases. For a list of local Utah attorneys please visit our website [here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can I travel while my transfer is pending?

Yes. However, please be cautious. If you depart the U.S. while your **SEVIS transfer is pending**, you must re-enter the U.S. on the DS-2019 of your new institution.

A delay in travel, especially for a delay in travel of more than 30 days past the transfer effective date, may result in a **“no show” status** and/or completion of your J-1 exchange visitor program, which could result in an end to your legal visa 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?

We are not aware that a SEVIS transfer would adversely impact a 212(e) waiver application in pending status (not yet awarded by USCIS or receiving a **Favorable Recommendation** from DOS; however, we suggest consulting an immigration attorney for additional guidance.

4. Can I transfer out if I have received a Favorable Recommendation of a 212(e) waiver request from the U.S. Department of State (DOS), or if USCIS has approved my 212(e) waiver?

We are not aware of restrictions to a SEVIS transfer in this case, although some EV Programs will not accept transfers after a **Favorable Recommendation**. Please also be aware that a transfer to another institution could possibly re-subject an EV to 212(e). Also keep in mind that extensions will not be granted after a Favorable Recommendation or waiver award. For further guidance, we suggest consulting a qualified immigration attorney.

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

No. Since a transfer should be for the continuation of your J-1 Exchange Visitor Program, reaching the maximum length of your J-1 visa category would make you **ineligible to transfer** to another Exchange Visitor Program. For other options, please consult an ISSS Scholar Advisor or a qualified immigration attorney.

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

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.

7. Can I transfer to another Exchange Visitor Program during my 30 day Grace Period?

No. A transfer cannot be completed if an exchange visitor’s status in SEVIS is not active, and as a result, transfers during the 30 day grace period would not be permissible.