

J-1 students and scholars who would like add dependents (spouse or children) to their records as J-2 visa holders must fill out this form and provide the following for each dependent: 1) copy of passport ID page, 2) proof of relationship (i.e. marriage certificate or birth certificate), 3) proof of funding of \$4860 per spouse per year, and \$1900 per child per year, 4) Dependent email address.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Only your spouse or children qualify for J-2 status. [22 C.F.R. § 62.2]
All other family members or friends must apply for the visa appropriate for their visit.
- J-2s must have health insurance that meets Department of State requirements [22 C.F.R. § 62.14]
- J-2s are eligible to apply for work authorization through USCIS. [8 C.F.R. § 274a.12(c)(5)]
For more information, please consult an OISS advisor.
- J-2 s are allowed to attend school. For more information, please consult an OISS advisor.

Gaining J-2 Status

Issuance of the DS-2019 for your dependent does not give your dependent J-2 status in the United States. There are two ways for your dependent to obtain J-2 status: 1) apply for a J-2 visa at a U.S. Consulate abroad and enter the U.S. on their J-2 status or, 2) apply for change of status to J-2 by mail within the United States, if they are already in the country under a different visa status.

1) Applying for a J-2 Visa at a U.S. Consulate Abroad

If your dependents are not in the United States, you must mail the new DS-2019, financial documentation, and supporting documents (i.e. proof of relationship, your offer letter, etc.) to your dependent abroad so that they may apply for a J-2 visa at a U.S. Consulate. Dependents do not need to pay the SEVIS fee.

Mail the following to your dependent:

- Original DS-2019 for each dependent
- Financial documentation
- Proof of relationship (i.e. marriage certificate, birth certificate, adoption certificate)
- Copy of your Passport, J-1 visa, and I-94 card or printout
- Copy of your DS-2019
- Copy of your SEVIS fee payment receipt
- Copy of your offer letter from Rice (scholars) or academic transcripts from ESTHER (students)
- OISS supporting letter for J-2 visa interview

After your dependent is approved for a J-2 visa, they may enter the United States in J-2 status using their DS-2019. They will be given a stamp at the port of entry which should say J-2 D/S. J-2 dependents are strongly encouraged to attend an OISS check-in appointment, and you should provide OISS with copies of the DS-2019s, visa stamps, and printed I-94 information of any dependents that arrive on a Rice DS-2019.

2) Applying for Change of Status within the United States

Your dependent may apply for a change of status within the United States by submitting an application to the USCIS after obtaining a DS-2019 from OISS. To be eligible to apply for a change of status, your dependent must be in valid non-immigrant status and the application for change of status must be received by USCIS prior to the end date of their current non-immigrant status. Your dependent should not travel outside of the U.S. while a change of status is pending.

Submit the following documents to the USCIS:

- Completed I-539 form: <http://www.uscis.gov/i-539>
- Check for \$290 (fee subject to change) made payable to U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Cover letter explaining the circumstances leading to the need for a change of status
- Original DS-2019 issued to dependent for J-2 status
- Financial documentation
- Proof of relationship (i.e. marriage certificate, birth certificate, adoption certificate)
- Photocopy of dependent's passport (biographic pages, current visa stamp, passport expiration date)
- Photocopy of J-1 scholar's or student's passport (biographic pages, J-1 visa stamp, I-94 card or printout) & DS-2019 form
- Dependent's **original** I-94 card if they have one

The address for USCIS is located in the instructions for the I-539 at www.uscis.gov.



J-2 Dependent Health Insurance Verification Form

Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS)

Revised February 16, 2016

J-1 Exchange Visitor's bringing dependents (spouse/children) to Rice University will need to fill out the following form to verify insurance compliance.

Dependents:

Name	Relationship	Date of Birth
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Dependent Insurance Information

Verification of health insurance must be provided to the OISS in English and certify that all J insurance requirements are covered. Please visit <http://oiss.rice.edu/scholarhealthinsurance/> for more information on the insurance requirements, common insurance carriers, and additional resources.

___1. The J-2 (s) is/are/will be insured under the same policy as the J-1.

___2. The J-2 (s) is/are/will be insured under another policy.

Name of Insurance Company

Contact Phone Number

Policy Name/Number

Dates of Coverage

J-1 Scholar Attestation:

Please read carefully, initial each statement, and sign.

_____ I have reviewed the J-1 Health Insurance PowerPoint on the OISS Scholar Health Insurance web page and understand that I must maintain health insurance for myself and my J-2 dependents throughout my entire J-1 stay. I understand that I will be required to provide proof of health insurance to OISS, and may be required to show proof to the Department of State (DoS) upon request. **Furthermore, I understand that if I neglect to purchase health insurance or maintain coverage for myself or my dependents, I will be terminated from the J-1 program by Rice University and the termination reported to SEVIS and the U.S. Department of State, as per 22 CFR 62.14.**

_____ I understand that if my dependent(s) come to the US separately, at a later time, they need to check-in with OISS and show proof of health insurance upon their arrival. I understand that it is my responsibility to maintain health insurance for my dependents and provide proof to OISS at the time of their arrival. (22 CFR 62.14(h))

_____ I certify that none of the documentation or information I have submitted is false. If any documentation or answers I have provided are found to be false, I understand my status will be terminated and I must leave the U.S. immediately.

Scholar's Name Printed

Scholar's Signature

Date