

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, printed I-94, and proof of health insurance 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 \$370 (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 <https://www.uscis.gov/>.

Request Form to Add Dependents as J-2 Visa Holders

J-1 Scholar/Student Name:

Department:

Email:

Dependent information: (please complete the following information for each dependent)

Dependent #1: Spouse Child Male Female

Name (*as written on passport*)

Family

First

Middle

Date of Birth

Place of Birth

Month/Day/Year

City

Country

Country of citizenship

Country of legal permanent residence

Personal email address

Dependent #2: Spouse Child Male Female

Name (*as written on passport*)

Family

First

Middle

Date of Birth

Place of Birth

Month/Day/Year

City

Country

Country of citizenship

Country of legal permanent residence

Personal email address

Dependent #3: Spouse Child Male Female

Name (*as written on passport*)

Family

First

Middle

Date of Birth

Place of Birth

Month/Day/Year

City

Country

Country of citizenship

Country of legal permanent residence

Personal email address

Did you remember to include the following for each dependent?

1) Copy of passport

2) Proof of relationship (i.e. marriage certificate or birth certificate)

3) Proof of funding of \$4,860 per spouse per year, or \$1,900 per child per year

4) Copies of current immigration documents if they are in the U.S.

5) If any dependent has previously held a J visa status, you must also include copies of the DS-2019 (or IAP-66) and copy of visa stamp



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