



BROWN

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Comparing F-1 and J-1 Status

F-1	J-1
Can enter U.S. 30 days before program start date	Can enter U.S. 30 days before program start date
60 day grace period to depart U.S., transfer your F-1 status to another school, or change status at end of program	30 day grace period to depart U.S., transfer your J-1 status to another school, or change status at end of program
Immediately eligible for up to 20 hours/week of on-campus work authorization; unlimited on-campus work authorization during breaks while remaining in F-1 status	Eligible for up to 20 hours/week of on-campus employment upon receiving authorization from OISSS or sponsoring agency (e.g. IIE, LASPAU, AMIDEAST etc.); unlimited on-campus work authorization during breaks while remaining in J-1 status with sponsor permission
Spouses in F-2 status may study part-time, but cannot obtain employment authorization	Spouses in J-2 status can study, and are also eligible to apply for work authorization from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS).
No home residency requirement	<p>Subject to 2 year home residency requirement if receiving government funding or if the field of study is on the Exchange Visitor Skills List</p> <p>If the student receives government funding to attend school, the student may be required to apply for the J-1 visa unless confirmation is received from the government sponsor confirms that they do not object to the student obtaining an F-1 visa instead of the J-1.</p>
F-1 health insurance requirement as per Brown University policy. Adequate F-2 insurance coverage highly recommended.	J-1 and J-2 are subject to exchange visitor compliant health insurance and the J-1 is also subject to the English language proficiency verification per Department of State requirement
<p>Off-campus work authorization:</p> <p>1) Optional Practical Training (OPT). Eligible after completion of one year of study for up to 12 months per educational level, work must be in major field of study. Can be used either during or after program of study. Requires application to USCIS; processing takes up to three months and requires a fee. Does not initially require a job offer. OPT allows for a maximum unemployment period of 90 days, so you must have found employment within 90 days of the OPT start date. Students in STEM eligible fields may be able to apply for a 24 month extension of their post-completion OPT.</p>	<p>Off-campus work authorization:</p> <p>Academic Training (AT). Eligible for off-campus work authorization related to program of study up to 18 months for bachelor's and master's students or length of academic program whichever is shorter, up to 36 months for doctoral students. Exchange students can be eligible for AT corresponding to the amount of time in program (i.e. 90 days study = 90 days AT eligibility). Authorized through OISSS or other DS-2019 issuing sponsor without fee or application to USCIS. Requires a job offer, AT must be authorized prior to completion of program and/or before graduation. Authorized AT</p>

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<p>2) Curricular Practical Training (CPT): Eligibility requires that recommended CPT be done in conjunction with an independent study or be a degree requirement or an integral part of your degree program. Used in the summer or part time during the school year after completion of one year of study and while in active student status. Use of full-time CPT beyond one year forfeits OPT.</p>	
<p>The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) has authorized the use of printouts of scanned F-1 I-20's. Students can print a copy of the F-1 I-20 to present at any required visa interview and upon arrival at a U.S. port of entry. See the official SEVP guidance at the link below. https://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/I20-guidance.pdf</p>	<p>The U.S. Department of State (as of 4/27/2023) allows J-1 sponsors to sign Form DS-2019 digitally and submit it electronically. The rule is effective 4/27/23. Students can print a copy of the J-1 DS-2019 to present at any required visa interview and upon arrival at a U.S. port of entry. https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/03/28/2023-06157/exchange-visitor-program-general-provisions</p>