VISIT/VISER Program Application Timeline

Estimated time to obtain J-1 visa: 3-9 months

UW DEPARTMENT

The complete set of application materials which includes the VISIT or VISER online application, the J Visa Supplemental Request form with signatures, copy of applicant passport, CV/resume, financial documentation, proof of English proficiency, and DS-7002 form with signatures (for VISIT applicants only), must be received by the VISIT/VISER team **no later than 12 weeks (3 months)** before the student's start date. *Plan the start date carefully.* The student cannot enter the US <u>after</u> the start date, and they MUST start their program <u>on</u> the start date (a weekday).

STUDENT

Why 12 weeks? This is to allow sufficient time for the VISIT/VISER team to review the application and for the DS-2019 form to be generated. Most importantly, it allows adequate time for the student to attend an appointment at the US Consulate in their home country to obtain their J-1 visa. Depending on the country, it can typically take 3–12 weeks for the student to obtain their J-1 visa and make travel and housing arrangements in Seattle.

CHANGING A START DATE:

If the student needs to change the start date, an amended DS-2019 is required. Any request for an amended DS-2019 must be emailed to uwvisit@uw.edu as soon as possible before the program start date or at least 3 weeks before the proposed new start, whichever comes first. *Please note that if the student has received their visa, they do NOT need to schedule another visa appointment if they request an amended DS-2019.*

Key Players in the VISIT/VISER Application Process:

Student Intern: The J-1 exchange visitor category for a UW VISIT participant. To be eligible, student interns must be working on a degree in their home country at the time of their VISIT internship and must return home to complete that degree following their internship.

Student Researcher: The J-1 exchange visitor category for a UW VISER participant. To be eligible, student researchers must be working on a degree in their home country at the time of their VISER program and must return home to complete that degree following their program.

UW Host Supervisor: UW faculty member who is supervising the student.

Department Contact (DC): The individual within the UW host department who works with the prospective VISIT/VISER participant and the supervisor to complete the application process.

VISIT/VISER Team: Oversees the VISIT and VISER programs and visa compliance for program participants. The VISIT/VISER office issues the DS-2019 and is the go-to source for immigration questions related to students' J-1 visas, the VISIT and VISER program application process, logistical questions, etc.

APPLICATION STEPS	Approx. Time
All applicants must provide proof of English proficiency, so students must factor in the time to ensure completion of the English proficiency requirement.	varies
1. International student contacts a UW professor. Professor agrees to become the student's UW host supervisor.	2-6 weeks
2. Student and supervisor agree on internship goals that meet the purpose of the VISIT/VISER program as a cultural exchange, within an American academic research context, that benefits the student.	2-6 weeks
3. Supervisor or Department Contact (DC) downloads VISIT or VISER J-Visa Supplemental Request Form and DS-7002 (VISIT only) from the VISIT or VISER Canvas site for departments.	1 day
4. Supervisor, DC, and student complete J-Visa Supplemental Request Form and DS-7002 (VISIT only).	2-6 weeks
5. DC provides online application link (from the VISIT or VISER Canvas site for departments) to student.	1 day
6. Student completes online application.	1-2 weeks
7. After student submits the online application, DC is notified to complete their portion of the online application, including uploading the J-Visa Supplemental Request Form and DS-7002 *at least 12 weeks before the proposed start date*.	1-2 weeks
8. VISIT/VISER team is notified of application received and carefully reviews the application packet and processes the DS-2019.	2 weeks
9. VISIT/VISER team emails DS-2019, DS-7002 for VISIT students, and additional information to student, DC, and supervisor.	1 day
10. Upon receipt of DS-2019 form, student applies for a visa and makes a visa appointment with the US Consulate in their home country (fees apply).	2-60+ days
11. Following visa appointment, US Consulate issues J-1 visa. Time varies by country depending on administrative processing requirements.	1-10 weeks

VISIT/VISER students can enter the US up to 30 days before their internship start date (as shown on the DS-2019). This provides time for students to travel to Seattle, find housing, and settle into their new surroundings. *Students must begin their internship **on their start date** (not early and not late) and are not allowed to continue their internship after their end date.*	Up to 30 days