

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES DUBLIN•IRELAND J-1 SUMMER WORK AND TRAVEL PROGRAM



Welcome to the J-1 Summer Work and Travel Program! This information sheet details the step by step process of how to obtain your J-1 Summer Work and Travel Visa.

Overview of the J-1 Summer Work and Travel (SWT) Process

Step 1: Qualifying for the Program

You must be a post-secondary student currently enrolled in and actively pursuing a degree or a full-time course of study. Final-year students are eligible to take part as long as they apply prior to graduation.

Step 2: Choose a Program Sponsor and Receive a Certificate of Eligibility (DS-2019)

You must first apply for and be accepted into an exchange visitor program through a designated sponsoring organization. Visit our J-1 website here <http://dublin.usembassy.gov/swt.html> for a list of sponsors and contact one of their Irish partner agencies.

Your program sponsor will issue you a DS-2019 Certificate of Eligibility. The DS-2019 documents your acceptance to an exchange program sponsored by a Department of State designated Exchange Visitor Program Sponsor. Your designated sponsor will enroll you in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) and your SEVIS number will be on your DS-2019 form. **You will need your SEVIS number when you complete your visa application.**

Step 3: Read and Understand Your Legal Rights and Protections

You must read the Legal Rights and Protections pamphlet to learn about your rights in the United States. You can find it here: <http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/rights-protections-temporary-workers.html>

Step 4: Complete the DS-160 Online Visa Application

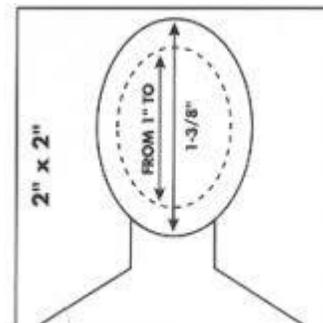
Once you have received your DS-2019 Certificate of Eligibility and SEVIS number, you will find the DS-160 online visa application form here: <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>. Please note your DS-160 barcode number (begins with AA) and the answer to your security question. Save your application frequently so that you do not lose any information!

Step 5: Make an Appointment for Visa Interview and Pay the Visa Application Fee

You or your service provider make an appointment through our online appointment website and pay the visa application fee. <https://ais.usvisa-info.com/en-ie/niv>

Step 6: Attend Your Visa Interview

- Arrive no more than 15 minutes early
- Please bring the following:
 - Valid passport
 - Form DS-160 confirmation page
 - Form DS-2019 – Certificate of Eligibility (issued to you by your sponsor)
 - SEVIS receipt for payment of \$35.00 fee
 - 1 photograph measuring 2"x2" taken against a plain white background



For more information please visit our website at <http://dublin.usembassy.gov/> or email our routinely monitored mailboxes at J1SWTDublin@state.gov or Dublincons@state.gov

- Letter from college confirming student status
- Final year students should be prepared to show evidence that they intend to depart the United States following the end of their program

At the conclusion of your interview, the consular officer will tell you that you have been approved or denied, if additional documentation or administrative processing is required and if so, for what reason.

Complete information on the Visa Interview Process is available here:

<http://dublin.usembassy.gov/non-immigrant-visas/your-visa-interview.html>

Step 7: Receive Your Passport, Visa, and DS-2019

Although all applicants are told the outcome of their application on the day of their interview, final visa processing and printing can take an **additional 3 to 5 business days** before the passport is returned via our contracted courier company. In certain rare cases, information received after the interview can cause delays to processing and for that reason, **applicants should apply at least 3 – 4 weeks ahead of their planned travel to the United States** and we recommend against making non-refundable financial commitments such as flights and hotel/hostel reservations until after your passport has been returned.

You will receive an email from our courier notifying you or your designated service provider that your passport is ready for collection from the courier office you selected when you made the appointment. Due to the volume of visa applications the visa unit does not offer expedited processing for Summer Work and Travel applicants and it is not possible to collect your passport in person from the Embassy and participants should be prepared to be without their passport for 5 to 7 business days.

Step 8: Arriving in the United States

You may travel to the United States up to 30 days prior to the start of your J-1 program date indicated on your DS-2019, but you cannot begin work until that date. Once you are in the United States, you will need to check in with your program sponsor. Your program sponsor is your initial point of contact for any issues, questions, or concerns.

Step 9: Traveling around the United States

You can work in the United States until the end date on your DS-2019, but have an additional 30 days to complete any travel. Students returning to college or university will want to factor travel time into their schedule. Final-year students must depart the United States no later than 30 days following the end of the program date.

Step 10: Future Travel to the United States

Did you know there are many different categories of J-1 Exchange Visitor visa programs? Consider looking for an internship or training program for post-graduate experiences.

Useful Websites

U.S. Embassy Dublin J-1 SWT information:

<http://dublin.usembassy.gov/swt.html>

J-1 Program information: <http://j12016.com/> and <http://j1visa.state.gov/>

Appointment system:

<https://ais.usvisa-info.com/en-ie/niv>

Your legal rights:

<http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/rights-protections-temporary-workers.html>

Have a question? Contact us by email:

J1SWTDublin@state.gov

For more information please visit our website at <http://dublin.usembassy.gov/> or email our routinely monitored mailboxes at J1SWTDublin@state.gov or Dublincons@state.gov