How Do I Sponsor an Exchange Visitor?

If you are a faculty member at LMU and are interested in sponsoring an Exchange Visitor, you must obtain the approval of sponsorship from the Departmental Chair, Dean and the Chief Academic Officer. To request an application form, please contact OISS.

- Request Form for Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitors (DS-2019)

Estimated Annual Living Expenses

Exchange Visitor: $14,538
Spouse: $6,423
Dependents: $4,223

For more information, please contact the Office for International Students & Scholars.

Phone: 310-338-2937
Fax: 310-258-4303
E-mail: oiss@lmu.edu
Website: www.lmu.edu/oiss
History

On August 28, 1989, Loyola Marymount University received temporary designation as a sponsor of the J-1 Exchange-Visitor Program from the U.S. Department of State in accordance with the administrative regulations issued under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (Public Law 87-256, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act.). The Act promotes mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange. The Exchange Visitor Program provides foreign national opportunities to participate in exchange programs in the U.S. The expectation is that upon completion of their exchange programs, these foreign visitors will return home to share their experiences with family, friends and fellow countrymen.

Through the efforts of the Office for International Students & Scholars (OISS), LMU received permanent designation as a J-1 Exchange-Visitor sponsor on October 18, 1991, under the following description:

A program of Loyola Marymount University to provide courses of study, lecturing, and research opportunities in the various fields of instruction and research conducted by Loyola Marymount University for qualified foreign students, professors, research scholars, short-term scholars, and specialists to promote the general interest of international education and cultural exchange.

Program Compliance & Administration

As part of utilizing the Exchange Visitor Program (EV), LMU must adhere to the rules and regulations of the Exchange Visitor Program administered by the U.S. Department of State. When selecting a candidate as an Exchange Visitor, the faculty sponsor must determine that the program is well suited to the Exchange Visitor’s background, education, needs, experience or training. The Exchange Visitor must also have proficiency in the English Language enabling him/her to successfully participate in the program and function independently in the community.

The funding source of the Exchange Visitor can vary - self funds, LMU funds, funds from EV’s government or other organizations can be used.

By participating in the Exchange Visitor Program, it is highly expected that the EV is solely engaged in academic activity supervised by a faculty sponsor at LMU.

The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations governing Exchange Visitor Programs (22 CFR 514.14) require that the EV obtains health, accident, medical evacuation and repatriation of remains insurance during the course of their program. Willful failure to maintain the required insurance will result in the termination of the exchange program.

Categories

Since its inception, LMU has hosted over 150 Exchange Visitors, and currently Exchange Visitors are sponsored in the following categories:

- **Professor**: 3 weeks - 5 years
  An individual concerned primarily with teaching, lecturing, observing, or consulting. J-1 Professors may also participate in departmental research.

- **Research Scholar**: 3 weeks - 5 years
  An individual concerned primarily with conducting research, observing, or consulting in connection with a research project. The Research Scholar is allowed to teach or lecture.

- **Short-term Scholar**: Maximum of 6 months
  A professor, research scholar, specialist, or a person with similar education or accomplishments coming to the United States on a short-term visit for the purpose of lecturing, observing, consulting, training, or demonstrating special skills.

- **Specialist**: Maximum of 1 year
  An individual who is an expert in a field of specialized knowledge or skill coming to the U.S.A. for observing, consulting, or demonstrating special skills.

Two Year Home Residence Requirement

Some Exchange Visitors and family members who were admitted to the U.S. or who adjusted their visa status to J after admission, must return home for a minimum of 2 years after completing their educational and cultural exchange program before they can change or adjust their status. This requirement applies to those whose:

- Exchange program was financed to some extent by the U.S. Government or EV’s country government;
- Skill appears in the Exchange Visitor Skills List as identified by their home country government; or
- Purpose in coming to the U.S. was to receive graduate medical education or training.