



Request for Permission to Keep J SEVIS Record Active While Continuing Research Abroad

For use by J-1 scholars (in Professor and Research Scholar categories)

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Purpose: This form is intended for use by Boston University-sponsored scholars in J-1 immigration categories (Research Scholar or Professor) when requesting permission to depart U.S. for a period of 30 days or longer with the intention of returning to resume employment or academic activities at Boston University.

Scholars in the Research Scholar and Professor categories who end or interrupt their employment/exchange activity, and whose SEVIS record is inactivated, incur a 24-Month Bar from reentering the U.S. in these J-1 categories. In some instances, it is possible that the ISSO can allow the SEVIS record to remain active so that the 24-Month Bar is not incurred. If the J-1 Research Scholars or Professors will maintain an on-going Boston University appointment while they are outside of the U.S. and are expected to return to Boston University to resume employment or academic activities, this form may be used to request that the SEVIS record remain active during a temporary absence from the U.S.

These requests will be reviewed and approved on a case by case basis. [Scholars in all J-1 categories who are ending their Boston University appointment and/or departing the U.S. indefinitely should, instead, complete the Notification of End of Employment/Academic Activity form].

Name of J-1 Scholar: _____ Scholar's BU ID #: **U** _____

Boston University College/School: _____ Host Department: _____

Date of Departure from U.S.: _____ Date of Expected Return to BU to Resume Activity: _____

J-1 Scholar Request - To be completed by J-1 Scholar:

I, hereby, request that my SEVIS immigration record be kept active during a period of temporary absence from the U.S. to facilitate my intended return to Boston University to resume employment/academic activities. I will be leaving the U.S. for a period of more than 30 days, but plan to return to continue my academic appointment with BU on the date specified date.

By my signature below, I signify that I have read and understand the following:

- I am responsible to maintain **health insurance** for myself and any J-2 dependents in accordance with the requirements for J-1 Exchange Visitors as long as my SEVIS record remains active.
- Any **J-2 dependents** are expected to depart the U.S. with me during this proposed absence as their legal immigration status is dependent on my physical presence in the U.S.
- By requesting that my SEVIS record remain active during a temporary absence, I postpone the **24-Month Bar** on repeat participation, which affects J-1 scholars in Research Scholar and Professor categories.
- Any entry to the U.S. in **another immigration status** (including through the "Visa Waiver" program) will interrupt the continuity of my J-1 status and will incur the 24-Month Bar.
- Should I not return as indicated above, I must inform the ISSO prior to that date. The 24-Month Bar will go into effect as of the **completion date** indicated in my SEVIS record.
- I am responsible for providing the ISSO with accurate contact information for the duration of my temporary absence from the U.S.:

Foreign Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Signature of J-1 Exchange Visitor/Scholar

Date

Supervisor/Host Recommendation - To be completed by Boston University Supervisor/Host:

This scholar is departing the U.S. for a temporary absence and is expected to return to Boston University to resume his/her employment or academic activity.

Scholars in J-1 Research Scholar and Professor categories incur a 24-Month Bar from returning to the U.S. in those categories if their immigration record in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) is inactivated. Therefore, this scholar is requesting that his/her Boston University-sponsored SEVIS immigration record remain active during the proposed temporary absence to facilitate his/her return to the U.S. in order to resume employment or academic activities at Boston University

Please provide answers to the following:

Will the scholar maintain an active BU teaching or research appointment during the temporary absence from the U.S.?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is the date on which the scholar is expected to resume his/her duties with your department?

If no, provide an explanation of the relationship with BU and academic activities during the absence:

Will the scholar's salary or funding change during the absence?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Note: If the scholar's salary or BU funding will change in any way, including suspension of funding during absence, a new BU appointment letter clarifying the modified funding must accompany this request.

If yes, provide an explanation of how the funding will change during the absence:

Do you support/recommend this scholar's request to retain an active SEVIS immigration record during the proposed temporary absence from the U.S.?

☐ Yes ☐ No

By signing below, the BU Host/Supervisor agrees to the terms of the temporary absence [if approved] and to notify the ISSO prior to the date indicated (on reverse of form) should the terms of the temporary absence change.

Signature of BU Host / Supervisor

Date

Name of BU Host / Supervisor

Title

FOR ISSO USE ONLY:

After review of the above information, it is determined that:

☐ The scholar's SEVIS record will be kept active during the proposed temporary absence from the U.S.

☐ The scholar's SEVIS record should be inactivated as of: _____
Date

☐ Appointment/Employment End Date ☐ Departure from U.S.

A/RO Signature: _____

Date: _____