



J Exchange Student Application for Form DS-2019

The University of Texas-Pan American
Office of International Admissions and Services
University Center 113
1201 W. University Dr.
Edinburg, TX 78541-2999
intladvise@panam.edu; (956) 381-2922



Application deadlines: Fall Semester.....July 1 | Summer 1.....April 1
Spring Semester.....November 1 | Summer 2.....May 1

Application Deadlines are for completed applications. It is important to submit applications well in advance of the deadline so if something is missing there will be time to notify the applicant. Once the deadline arrives any incomplete application will be forwarded to the next available semester if the student so desires .

This application is only for Exchange Students who are currently enrolled in a university in their home country and with which UTPA has a written Exchange Agreement. It is **not** for a prospective student who is seeking want to study and seek a degree at UTPA. Before entering the United States as an Exchange Visitor, you must obtain a "J-1 Exchange Visitor" visa from the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in your home country. To obtain this visa, the university must issue you a "Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status", commonly referred to as Form DS-2019.

Please complete this application and request form and return it with your other application materials. Follow all instructions completely. Any information missing will prevent your application from being approved in a timely manner.

This application is only for Exchange Students. It is not for degree-seeking students. There is a separate application for Exchange Scholars or Researchers.

Application checklist: (failure to provide the following documents will result in denial of application)

- UTPA international student application
- International Student Advisement Office DS-2019 application
- Recent Financial documents (dated within the last three months)
- copy of identification pages of passport
- proof of medical insurance coverage
- copies of any U.S. visas, I-94, and/or other documents (only if you are currently in the U.S.)

Personal Information

1. Semester applying for: Fall Spring Summer 1 Summer 2 Year: 20_____
2. Legal Name Last _____ First _____
(exactly as it appears on passport; please include copy of passport)
3. Gender: male female
4. Date of birth: month _____ day _____ year _____
5. City of birth: _____ 6. Country of birth: _____
7. Country: of citizenship: _____
8. Country of legal permanent residence: _____
9. Occupation in home country: student scholar/researcher other: _____
9. Mailing address in home country: Name _____
Address _____
City _____

Country _____

Postal codes _____

Home phone(include codes) _____

E-mail _____

10. Emergency Contact Information

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

Country _____

Postal codes _____

Home phone(include codes) _____

Business phone _____

E-mail _____

Relationship to applicant: parent(s) spouse legal guardian other _____

11. If you are currently in the U.S. what kind of visa do you hold? F-1 J-1 other _____
(provide copies with application)

12. Have you ever held a J visa before? yes no If yes, when? _____
(copies of any previous DS-2019 Forms (formerly IAP-66 forms) must be attached to application)

13. Do you currently have a passport? yes no If yes please give the following information:
date of expiration _____
issuing country _____
passport number _____
(copy of passport must be included with the application)

Academic Program Information

1. Name of supervisor of host department here at UTPA _____

2. Duration of stay: Please put exact dates of the program that you are coming to study. Wrong dates could be result in visa denial.

(program start date) month _____ day _____ year _____

(program end date) month _____ day _____ year _____

(days must coincide with the exact length of the program for the DS-2019; current immigration law allows you to enter the U.S. no sooner than 30 days before the first day of class and remain in the U.S. for a maximum of 30 days after the expiration date of the DS-2019; travel is permitted within the U.S. during this time period. This 30 day period preceding and after your program of study cannot be reflected in the dates on the DS-2019; we cannot extend your time of study so please be sure of the dates you will be here.)

3. Program of study is in the field of: _____

Please be aware that you can only take classes in the field of study. Your DS-2019 will state your program of study. For example you cannot come for an engineering program and take English classes.

Financial Information

U.S. Federal Regulations require this office to obtain written evidence of sufficient funds already in place to cover all expenses for your time of study in the United States before we can issue the DS-2019. An acceptable financial document must have been issued no more than nine months before you are to begin your program. Please keep copies of the documents to also present to the U.S. Consulate at your visa interview and to U.S. Immigration officer at the U.S. Port of Entry. Pay stubs and credit cards are not acceptable forms of evidence.

Estimated expenses per semester or summer session of study as a J-1 student; if you will be attending more than one session you must add the extras costs. U.S. immigration law requires that you be enrolled full-time at all times. Full-time is equal to 9 credit hours during the summer sessions and 12 during the fall and spring sessions:

for fall or spring semester (12 hours)

Tuition	\$1,100.00 (if resident tuition)
Books	\$ 300.00
Room & Board	\$2,400.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 200.00
Total	\$4,000.00

for summer session 1 or 2 (9 hours)

Tuition	\$ 839.00 (if resident tuition)
Books	\$ 150.00
Room & Board	\$ 875.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 100.00
Total	\$2,000.00

additional expenses for dependents \$2000 per person per semester or \$500 per summer session; costs are subject to change; these are the minimum amounts required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

You must provide documents proving that you have at least these minimum amounts to our office. Be aware that these are only for one semester so if you will be staying for two semesters you will need to add the totals appropriately. Also these amounts do not include medical insurance which is required by law that you have during your time in the U.S. since most J students purchase their own before they come. Medical insurance will be discussed further.

Sources and proof of funding Please list and document the amount of money and the sources of your financial support during your program at UTPA.

UTPA (assistantships etc.) _____
 U.S. Government Agency _____
 International Organizations _____
 Home government scholarship/loan _____
 Personal Funds _____
 Family _____
 Sponsor (other than family) _____
Total \$ _____

Immigration requires supporting documents to verify the evidence of funds. Examples:

- Recent bank statement (within last three months)
- An original letter signed by a bank official indicating the accounts opening date, average balance, current balance
- a signed affidavit of support if funds provided by a sponsor (including amounts and bank letter).
- Credit cards and pay stubs are not acceptable forms of proof. Documents must have dates that is no older than 3 months.

(applicants not providing proof of sufficient funding and proof of funding in the form of bank statements or bank letters will be denied)

4. If you will have dependants that accompany you, provide the following information. You are also required to have medical insurance that covers all dependents:

last name	first name	date of birth	relationship to you	country of birth	country citizenship

Certification and Signature

By my signature, I certify that all statements on this form are true and accurate information and that the stated funds are available for my educational expenses at the University of Texas-Pan American during the period specified. I will notify the institution of any changes in my financial circumstances. Furthermore I understand that under the Privacy Act, the information that I have provided cannot be given out to anyone except me without my written permission.

Student Signature _____

Date _____



Department of State Mandatory J-1 Insurance Regulations

U.S. Department of State regulations require that sponsors (colleges, universities, or agencies which promote educational exchange) monitor insurance coverage for all exchange visitors (J-1 principal and J-2 dependent non-immigrants) in their programs. While no recommendations are made on specific policies or carriers, the regulations do establish minimum coverage as follows:

- 1) Medical benefits of at least **\$50,000** per accident or illness;
- 2) Repatriation of remains in the amount of **\$7,500**;
- 3) Expenses associated with medical evacuation of the exchange visitor to his or her home country in the amount of **\$10,000**.

In addition to the standards for coverage, the regulations also set forth rating requirements for acceptable policies. Coverage backed by the full faith and credit of the government of the exchange visitor's home country are exempt from these rating requirements.

Insurance must be purchased in advance, from one of the many student insurance companies that specialize in such medical coverage and can be designed to cover the dates of your stay in the U.S. Proof of coverage must be supplied to our office in advance, before we can issue the DS-2019. Many alternatives are available and a partial listing is provided on the following page.

Important: DOS regulations require insurance coverage to be in place from the time the exchange visitor enters the country and throughout the duration of the program. UTPA is required to terminate an exchange visitor's participation in the program if no proof of coverage is provided within the first 5 days of program start date or if the visitor and his/her dependents willfully fails to comply with and maintain the required insurance coverage at any time during their stay.

All Exchange Visitors must agree to comply with this mandatory insurance requirement, provide our office with a copy of the policy (in English) as evidence that the minimum coverages are met, and must sign and return this document to the OIAS. The OIAS will not issue Form DS-2019 to the prospective Exchange Visitor until it has received a signed copy of this document and copy of insurance coverage.

I verify that I have read the information contained above and that I will comply with the insurance regulations as specified by the Department of State. I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain and maintain health insurance coverage for myself and any J-2 dependents before arrival and throughout the duration of my J-1 program. I also understand that failure to comply with these requirements is a violation of my visa and will result in immediate termination of my J status. Federal immigration regulations require UTPA to report status violators immediately to the proper authorities. A copy of the insurance is enclosed.

Name: (Please print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

SOME HEALTH INSURANCE PROVIDOR'S WEBSITES

The following is a partial list of many available websites for medical insurance companies that specialize in providing medical insurance for international students and scholars. The International Student Advisement Office does not make recommendations but is only providing this list as a reference. The insurance can be purchased on-line with a major credit card.

- **The Harbour Group, L.L.C.** www.hginsurance.com
- **Wallach & Company** www.wallach.com
- **Marsh** www.InternationalPlans.com
- **HTH Worldwide** www.hthadvisors.com
- **Global Medical USA**
 <http://www.studyabroadinsurance.com/GlobalMedical/PDFs/GloMedUSA.pdf>
- **International SOS Assistance, Inc.** www.internationalsos.com
- **Macori, Inc** www.macori.com
- **Travel Medical Insurance Assoc.** www.travelmedicalinsurance.com