**Special Visa Guidance for Postdoctoral Scholars**

Postdoctoral scholars are typically trainees in advanced studies in their fields beyond the doctoral level to gain additional experience in research and teaching.   International post-docs are sponsored in J-1 research scholar status if they are not coming to the post-doc position in F-1 OPT or J-1 Academic Training.  In general, exceptions to bringing postdocs in J-1 research scholar status fall into one of the following categories.

* Currently in H-1B status
* U.S. permanent residency application started
* Spouse in tenure-track position for whom we are probably processing for a green card
* Married to U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident
* Received Ph.D. in U.S. in F-1 status and is currently on OPT
* Other compelling reasons as described by the department head or dean with request for an H-1B in lieu of the J-1 scholar category.