

Available Visa Options: Foreign Nationals Coming to Penn State

	Visa Class	Permissible Activities	Eligibility	Length of Stay	Permissible Payments	PSU Sponsorship?
Unpaid	Visa Waiver Program for Business	Independent research; consult with business associates; attend workshop, seminar and/or conference; give lecture.	Will receive no salary or income from U.S. based company/entity other than expenses incidental to visit. Training cannot be designed to provide employment.	Up to 90 days	Reimbursements (travel, housing, per diem); honorarium for academic activity - 9 days or less, 5 institutions over last 6 months.	No – host dept. may be asked by foreign national to provide letter of invitation
	B-1 Visa for Business	Independent research; conduct business for their employer back home; attend workshop, seminar and/or conference; give lecture.	Will receive no salary or income from U.S. based company/entity other than expenses incidental to visit; training cannot be designed to provide employment.	Visa allows up to 6 months – PSU practice is up to 3 months only	Reimbursements (travel, housing, per diem); honorarium for academic activity - 9 days or less, 5 institutions over last 6 months.	No – host dept. may be asked by foreign national to provide letter of invitation
Paid by PSU or Unpaid	J-1 Exchange Visitor: Short-Term Scholar	Educational/cultural exchange in the form of lectures, observation, consultation, training or demonstrating special skills at post-secondary institutions.	Scholar must hold min. of a Bachelor's degree; academic positions for research/teaching; no staff positions; full-time; temporary position (ex. Research Associate); no tenure-track/perm positions.	3 weeks up to 6 months (no extension beyond 6 months)		Yes – host dept. to work with J-1 Scholar Advising to request DS-2019: Jscholaradv@psu.edu
	J-1 Exchange Visitor: J-1 Specialist	An individual who is an expert in the field of specialized knowledge or skill coming to the U.S. for observing, consulting, or demonstrating special skills.	Academic positions; no staff positions; full-time; temporary position (ex. Visiting Scientist/Professor); no tenure-track/perm positions.	3 weeks up to 1 year (no extension beyond 1 year)		Yes – host dept. to work with J-1 Scholar Advising to request DS-2019: Jscholaradv@psu.edu
	J-1 Exchange Visitor: Intern	Foreign national enrolled in and pursuing an undergraduate degree at institution outside the U.S.; must be participating in internship program in the U.S. that will fulfill educational objectives.	Enrolled/pursuing studies full-time at a post-secondary institution outside U.S.; internship must be min. 32 hrs/wk; work-based learning to allow development of practical skills; not eligible to be hired at end of internship; should not serve to fill labor need; min. funding of \$1,000/month.	3 weeks up to 12 months for each degree/major (no extension beyond 12 months)		Yes – host dept. to work with Student Advising to request DS-2019: DISSA-Adviser@psu.edu
	J-1 Exchange Visitor: Research Scholar	Educational/cultural exchange primarily in the form of research, however some teaching is also permissible.	Scholar must hold min. of a Bachelor's degree; academic positions for research/teaching; no staff positions; full-time; temporary position (ex. Research Associate); no tenure-track/perm positions.	3 weeks up to 5 years (includes time spent at another institution in J-1 status)		Yes – host dept. to work with J-1 Scholar Advising to request DS-2019: Jscholaradv@psu.edu
Paid by PSU	J-1 Exchange Visitor: Professor	Educational/cultural exchange primarily in the form of teaching, lecturing, observing, and/or consulting.	Scholar must hold min. of a Bachelor's degree; academic positions for research/teaching (no staff positions); full-time; temporary position (ex. Research Associate); no tenure-track/perm positions.	3 weeks up to 5 years (includes time spent at another institution in J-1 status)		Yes – host dept. to work with J-1 Scholar Advising to request DS-2019: Jscholaradv@psu.edu
	H-1B	Employment of a foreign national who is or will be employed in professional positions that require application of specialized knowledge.	Most commonly used for tenure-track/academic positions requiring at least a Master's Degree; no staff positions; full-time only.	Up to 6 years but no more than 3 years at a time	Must be paid wages and given benefits comparable to other employees	Yes – host dept. to work with Faculty Advising: FacultyAdvising@psu.edu ; need to pay app./anti-fraud fees
	E-3	Employment of a set number of Australian nationals to perform services in the U.S. that require application of specialized knowledge.	Most commonly used for tenure-track/academic positions requiring at least a Master's Degree; no staff positions; full-time only.	Up to 2 years at a time	Must be paid wages and given benefits comparable to other employees	Yes – host dept. to work with Faculty Advising: FacultyAdvising@psu.edu
	TN	Employment of foreign nationals from Canada/Mexico in positions covered by NAFTA agreement.	Employment must be on the list of NAFTA occupations; foreign national must meet the min. qualifications needed for the NAFTA occupation.	Up to 3 years at a time	Must be paid wages and given benefits comparable to other employees	Yes – contact FacultyAdvising@psu.edu for more information
	O-1	Reserved for scholars who have achieved a very high and acknowledged level of expertise in their field.	Must be able to demonstrate "extraordinary ability" to sustained national/international acclaim; temporary positions.	Up to 3 years initially, 1 year extensions	Must be paid wages and given benefits comparable to other employees	Yes – host dept. to work with Faculty Advising: FacultyAdvising@psu.edu