



# ECFMG

A Member of Intealth

# J-1 Initial Validations

Arrival and Reporting of Initial J-1 Physicians



**WELCOME**

# What is Validation of Initial Arrival?

ECFMG, as a J-1 visa program sponsor, must notify the U.S. Department of State (DoS) of the arrival of all newly-sponsored J-1 exchange visitor physicians **by confirming each new J-1 physician's arrival in SEVIS**



Specific documents evidencing arrival in J-1 status are required before a SEVIS record can be validated.

# Who Needs to be Validated?



All foreign national physicians who have *newly acquired* J-1 visa status **must be validated**.



Foreign national physicians *continuing* under ECFMG sponsorship in the same or a different training program **do not require validation**.

# Validation of Arrival

Upon arrival to the training program, J-1 physicians must provide the TPL with evidence of their J-1 visa status.

## Evidence of J-1 status includes copies of:

- J-1 visa stamp in passport issued by U.S. Consulate, *unless a Canadian citizen*
- I-94 record showing J-1; D/S (Duration of Status)

# Visa and Visa Status

- A *visa* is the physical stamp affixed to a passport page that permits a foreign national to enter the United States in a specific visa classification.
  - May only be obtained at U.S. consulates outside of the U.S.
  - Only required if applicant is physically outside U.S. and wishes to enter/reenter
  - Expiration of the visa in a passport will not affect a physician while he or she is maintaining J-1 visa status in the United States



Visas are not required of Canadian citizens entering the U.S. with a Canadian passport



# Visa and Visa Status (cont.)

- *Visa status* is the legal condition or manner under which a foreign national is present in the United States.
  - Indicates an individual's purpose for being in the U.S. and the objectives he or she is authorized to pursue, such as training, studying, or working
  - Reflected on **Form I-94** (Entry/Departure Record), which is issued at the U.S. port of entry to every entering nonimmigrant

An ECFMG-sponsored physician's Form I-94 should always reflect "J-1" status with the notation of "D/S" (Duration of Status)

# Exceptions to Visa Issuance



Citizens of Canada are not required to have a U.S. Consulate visa stamp



J-1 exchange visitors who **change visa status** within the U.S. through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will have a **Form I-797**, not a J-1 visa stamp in passport

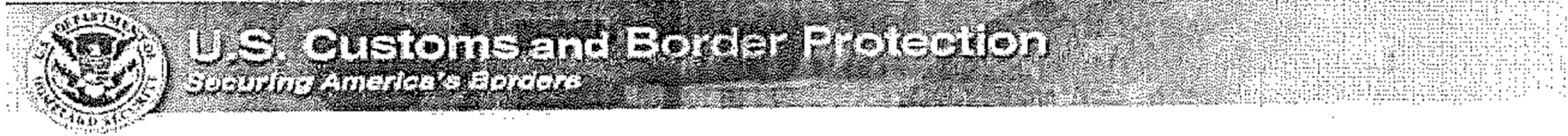


# I-94 Arrival/Departure Record

- When a foreign national enters the U.S., their I-94 record is automatically generated and is stored online
  - Previously, foreign nationals were issued paper I-94 cards, but CBP (U.S. Customs and Border Protection) now issues all I-94 records electronically
  - A physical stamp is still placed in the passport upon entry



A traveler's most recent I-94 record, as well as arrival/departure history, can be accessed on [CBP's I-94 Website](#).



OMB No. 1651-0111  
Expiration Date: 11/30/2014

**Most Recent I-94**

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Admission (I-94) Record Number: 10101010101

Most Recent Date of Entry: 7/10/2014

Class of Admission: J1

Admit Until Date: D/S

Details provided on the I-94 information form:

Last/Surname: Brewster

First (Given) Name: Mortimer

Birth Date: 1985 March 29

Passport Number: 555ABC

Country of Issuance: Nepal



[Get Travel History](#)



RECEIPT NUMBER <b>EAC-01-234-56789</b>	CASH TYPE I539
RECEIPT DATE May 28, 2004	PRIORITY DATE
NOTICE DATE August 27, 2004	PAGE 1 of 1
APPLICATION TO EXTEND/CHANGE NONIMMIGRANT STATUS	
APPLICANT FISHER, MICHELLE	
BENEFICIARY FISHER, MICHELLE	

Notice Type: Approval Notice  
Class: J1  
Valid from 08/27/2004  
Valid for Duration of Status

The above application for change of nonimmigrant status is approved. The new status is listed above. The length of authorized temporary stay in this status for the named applicant(s) is also listed above. A copy of Form I-94 issued by the sponsor has also been notated to show the present status of the exchange visitor and the new authorized period of stay. Each applicant must turn in his or her Form I-94 when leaving the United States.

If any person included in this application must depart the U.S., he or she may wish to take this notice with them to facilitate their return to this status. He or she must obtain a new visa in the classification before returning to the U.S.

The information submitted with this application indicates that the exchange problem involves graduate medical training or education. As a result, the applicant is subject to the 2-year foreign residency requirement of section 212(e) of Immigration and Nationality Act.

THIS FORM IS NOT A VISA NOR MAY IT BE USED IN PLACE OF A VISA.

Please see the additional information on the back. You will be notified separately about any other cases you filed.  
IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
VERMONT SERVICE CENTER  
75 LOWER WELDEN STREET  
SAINT ALBANS VT 05479-0001  
Customer Service Telephone: (800) 375-5283  
Form I797A (Rev. 09/07/93)N

PLEASE TEAR OFF FORM I-94 PRINTED BELOW, AND STAPLE TO ORIGINAL I-94 IF AVAILABLE

Detach This Half for Personal Records  
Receipt # **EAC-01-234-56789**  
I-94# **12345678900**  
NAME FISHER, MICHELLE  
CLASS J1  
VALID FROM 08/27/2004  
Valid for Duration of Status  
PETITIONER: MICHELLE FISHER  
3624 MARKET STREET  
PHILADELPHIA PA 19104

**12345678900**  
Receipt Number **EAC-01-234-56789**  
Immigration and  
Naturalization Service  
I-94  
Departure Record      Petitioner:

14. Family Name FISHER	16. Date of Birth 01-01-1980
15. First (Given) Name MICHELLE	
17. Country of Citizenship LEBANON	

# Example Form I-797

Form I-797 is a “Notice of Action” and is commonly referred to as an “Approval Notice.” This form shows a change of status (CoS) to J-1 visa classification.

I-94 is also available on Form I-797 here

# What to Upload for SEVIS Validation

Once an initial (not continuing or transferring) J-1 physician arrives in the United States, you are required to promptly complete and sign the [Validation of Initial Arrival in J-1 Status](#) form and upload it as a PDF through EVNet with copies of the applicant's:

1. **Form I-94** (Arrival/Departure Record) or **Form I-797** (applicable if the applicant was approved for a change of status in the U.S. through USCIS)
  - J-1 physicians may print a copy of Form I-94 card at <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home>
2. **J-1 visa page from the passport**, if applicable (Canadian citizens do not have J visa stamp)

**Once a J-1 physician's start date is validated, no changes can be made to the date.**



## Exchange Visitor Sponsorship Program (EVSP)

### HIGH PRIORITY

### Validation of Initial Arrival in J-1 Status

#### Information for Exchange Visitor (EV) Physicians

The initial arrival of each EV physician to the United States must be immediately validated by ECFMG® in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). Failure to provide timely reporting of arrival to the United States may invalidate your SEVIS status and negatively impact your ability to remain in the United States and/or affect future immigration benefits. Please note the following with respect to your arrival in the United States and ongoing maintenance of J-1 status.

- **Arrival to the U.S. in J-1 Visa Status:** Work with the Training Program Liaison (TPL) at your host institution to complete this form and submit required documentation.
- **Social Security Number (SSN):** SEVIS validation is required to apply for a U.S. SSN; J-1 physicians must wait 11 business days after being validated in SEVIS before applying for an SSN. Validation status can be confirmed in OASIS. Validated records are marked "active." On the Social Security Card application, at the question about "citizenship," J-1 physicians should select "other."
- **Maintenance of J-1 Status:** Once in "active" J-1 status you are required, at minimum, to:
  - » Follow all rules and regulations of the J-1 exchange visitor program
  - » Notify ECFMG of any proposed change in your training plan
  - » Respond *promptly* to all information requests initiated by ECFMG

Failure to comply with any of the above could result in termination of your sponsorship and associated J-1 status.

**NOTE: All EV physicians must enter/begin the training program within 30 days of acquiring J-1 visa status.**

#### Information For TPLs

Please work with each new/incoming EV physician to complete this form and provide required documentation to ECFMG as soon as possible following initial arrival in the United States. Once validated in SEVIS by ECFMG, the physician's program start date cannot be changed.

**NOTE: All EV physicians must enter/begin the training program within 30 days of acquiring J-1 visa status.**

EV Physician Name: \_\_\_\_\_ USMLE/ECFMG ID: \_\_\_\_\_

(Exactly as it appears on Form DS-2019)

Orientation Start Date, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Orientation Paid:  Yes  No

(MM/DD/YY)

Training Program Start Date\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Training Program End Date \_\_\_\_\_

(MM/DD/YY)

(MM/DD/YY)

If the physician's start date has changed, please indicate a reason:

\*If the physician's start date was delayed and the contract dates have been amended from those listed on Form DS-2019, a copy of an updated contract or letter of offer must be uploaded with this form.

#### EV PHYSICIAN CONTACT INFORMATION

U.S. Residential Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, City, State, Zip Code)

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder:** EV physicians are required to report any address changes, including changes to e-mail address or telephone number, within 10 days to ECFMG through OASIS. **If necessary,** enter a temporary U.S. address and update OASIS with the permanent address once established.

#### The following documentation must be uploaded with this completed form:

- Copy of Form I-94\*\* or Form I-797
- Copy of J-1 visa page from the passport, if applicable (Canadian citizens do not have J visa stamp)

\*\*EV physicians may print a copy of Form I-94 at <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/>

I certify that the information provided above is true and accurate:

TPL Name: (Please type or print) \_\_\_\_\_

TPL Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and submit this form, including all required supporting documentation, as a PDF file via either EVNet (TPL) or OASIS (applicant) immediately upon the EV physician's arrival to the United States.

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February 10, 2023  
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# Validation of Initial Arrival in J-1 Status Form

[www.ecfm.org/evsp/arrival.pdf](http://www.ecfm.org/evsp/arrival.pdf)

## HIGH PRIORITY

Don't wait: validate! TPLs should submit this form as soon as possible after a new J-1 physician enters the United States.

# EVNet Search for Validated/Non-Validated Physicians



**ECFMG**<sup>®</sup>

**EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES**

**EVNet**

Exchange Visitor Network

Phone (215) 823-2121  
Fax (215) 386-9766  
M-F, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Eastern Time in the U.S.

[Home](#) > [Search](#)

Welcome Anthony Fisher

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Search

Account Maintenance

EVSP

CVS ON-LINE

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Search for applicants/physicians at your programs/institutions

USMLE/ECFMG ID

Last Name

Search

Pending appointment profiles

Currently sponsored

Clear

Validated Physicians

Non Validated Physicians

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# Validated Physicians

Exchange Visitor Network

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Last Name

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Pending appointment profiles

Currently sponsored

Clear

Validated Physicians

Viewing Options

Records per page :

1 Total Records

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[Export to Excel](#)

<u>Name</u>	<u>USMLE/ ECFMG ID</u>	<u>Sponsorship End Date</u>	<u>Specialty</u>	<u>Validation Date</u>
<a href="#">Rockets, Houston</a>	0-812-419-0	06/30/2014	PEDIATRICS	03/28/2014

# Non-Validated Physicians

Welcome Anthony Fisher

My Programs/Institutions

Search

Account Maintenance

EVSP

CVS ON-LINE

Resources

Logout

Search for applicants/physicians at your programs/institutions

USMLE/ECFMG ID       Last Name        
     

Pending appointment profiles       Currently sponsored        
 Validated Physicians       Non Validated Physicians

Viewing Options

Records per page : 10

13 Total Records

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[Export to Excel](#)

Name	USMLE/ ECFMG ID	Sponsorship Start Date	Sponsorship End Date	Specialty
		02/23/2015	02/16/2016	RADIATION ONCOLOGY
		07/01/2014	06/30/2015	RADIOLOGY-DIAGNOSTIC
		07/01/2015	06/30/2016	PLASTIC SURGERY
		09/29/2014	09/28/2015	INTERNAL MEDICINE
		07/01/2015	06/30/2016	RADIOLOGY-DIAGNOSTIC
		07/01/2014	06/30/2015	RADIOLOGY-DIAGNOSTIC
		07/01/2015	06/30/2016	RADIOLOGY-DIAGNOSTIC
		07/01/2015	06/30/2016	INTERNAL MEDICINE
		07/01/2014	06/30/2015	GENERAL SURGERY
		07/01/2014	06/30/2015	ANESTHESIOLOGY

Next





# Initial Applicants Facing Delays



## Communicate with EVSP!

- Is the contract still valid?
- Is the program willing to wait? If so, how long?
- Was the visa delayed or denied?

# Delays in Start Date



J-1s *must* start training within 30 days of arrival to the U.S.

- Communication with Program Coordinators and Directors
  - When and why to notify the TPL

# Applying for a Social Security Number

- Before applying for a Social Security Number (SSN), J-1s must:
  1. Wait **11 business days** after being validated in SEVIS; **AND**
  2. Confirm validation by ECFMG of the SEVIS record – “Active”



Applying for a SSN *prior* to SEVIS validation may cause significant delays in issuance of the SSN

- J-1 applicants receive this info in the “Welcome Letter” email sent by ECFMG after initial DS-2019 form is issued

# Travel Outside the U.S.

- EVSP Travel Information



[www.ecfm.org/evsp/during-travel.html](http://www.ecfm.org/evsp/during-travel.html)

- Request for Duplicate Form DS-2019



[www.ecfm.org/evsp/ds2019dup.pdf](http://www.ecfm.org/evsp/ds2019dup.pdf)

- Re-entry to the U.S. as a J-1 requires:

- Travel validated DS-2019 Form
- J-1 visa in passport as issued by U.S. Consulate\*

\* Except for Canadian citizens

# Required Notifications

- See our [Forms & Memos](#) page for the required reporting forms for:
  - Resignations
  - Dismissals
  - Remediation
  - Leaves of Absence (including Maternity Leave)
  - Off-site Rotation/Elective
  - Incident or Allegation



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# Questions?



(215) 823-2121



[EVNetAdmin@ecfm.org](mailto:EVNetAdmin@ecfm.org)