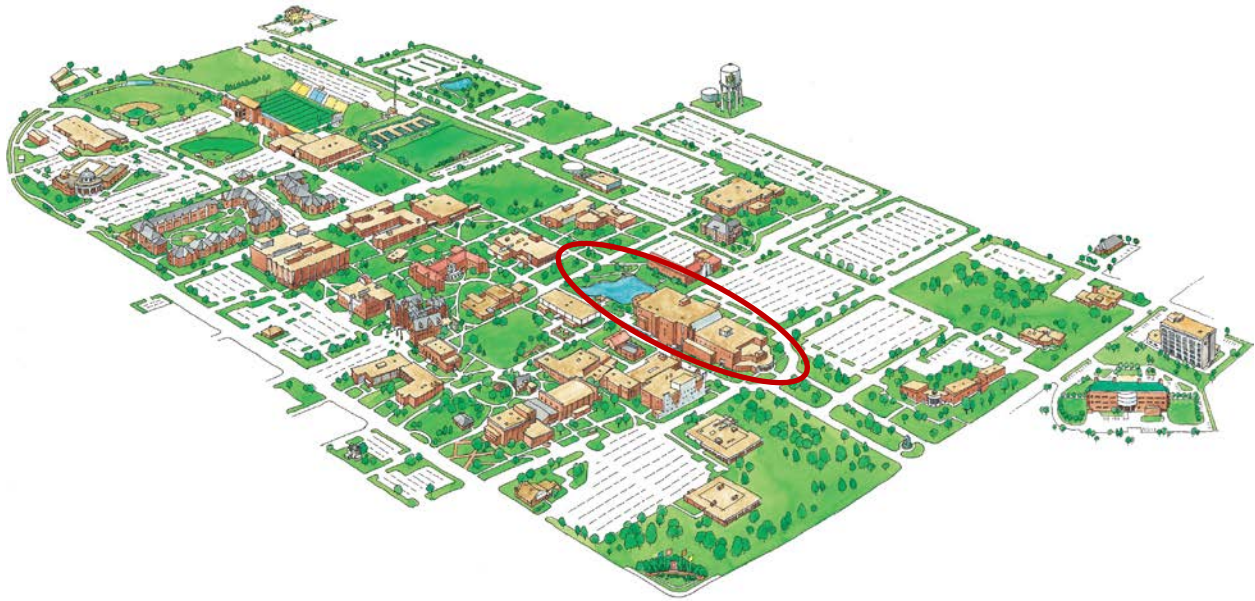


J-1 Scholar Pre-Arrival Information

University of Central Oklahoma and the of United States of America

Welcome to the University of Central Oklahoma! Upon arrival please come to see the Responsible Officer, Brandon Lehman, to check in. Upon checking in we will give you an immigration orientation so you are aware of the regulations and limitations of the J-1 visas. We have also included that information in this form. You are required to read this before you come into the United States.

Our office is located at the Nigh University Center in room 137. See the map below with our building circled on it:



The purpose of the Exchange Visitor program you are a part of is to promote international education and cultural exchange in order to develop mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Exchange programs exist in a variety of formats and permit visitors to come to this country for a wide range of activities. This school's Exchange Visitor program provides opportunities for study, research, teaching and observation.

Getting Settled:

Welcome to the University of Central Oklahoma. We are happy you are here and look forward to helping to make your time here run smoothly. Below you will find important information that will help you for your pre-arrival and during your Exchange program at The University of Central Oklahoma.

SEVIS Fee & Scholar Visa

SEVIS Fee:

U.S. Department of Homeland Security charges a \$180 SEVIS fee to initial J-1 scholars. This fee is IN ADDITION to the visa application fees charged by the U.S. consulate or embassy. The SEVIS fee only needs to be paid for the primary J-1 scholar, and does not need to be paid for any J-2 dependents.

The SEVIS fee must be paid before you apply for the visa if you are outside the United States, or before you apply for change of status if you are currently in the United States. The fee can be paid over the Internet by credit card. Scholars must have a printer ready to print the electronic receipt immediately. The fee can also be paid by mail with Form-I-901. See the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement website.

Scholar Visa:

If you are outside the U.S., you must apply for the J-1 scholar visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate nearest your residence abroad. J-1 scholars should apply as soon as possible for a visa. To find out the procedures of your J-1 visa applications please review information at this link [U.S. Embassy](#). For basic visa information for scholars, please go to the U.S. Department of State website.

Travel and Entry:

New J-1 visa holders cannot enter the U.S. more than 30 days prior to the begin date on their DS-2019.

When traveling into the U.S. you must have the following documents on you:

1. DS-2019
2. Valid Passport
3. Valid J-1 visa
4. Proof of SEVIS fee payment
5. Evidence of Financial Resources.
6. Evidence of scholar status, such as your employment letter, invitation request and letter from your home university.

DO NOT check these documents in with your luggage. Failure to show these documents to the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) may result in denied entry to the U.S. Make sure you inform CBP that you are traveling into the U.S. as a J-1 scholar.

I-94 Arrival/Departure Form:

Form I-94 is the U.S. government Arrival/Departure record issued to all foreign visitors who are admitted to the United States. Scholars can access their I-94 print-out at www.cbp.gov/I94.

If you have any problems during your entry, please contact the THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA Office of Global Affairs at 405-974-2390 or international@uco.edu

Passport Entry (Admission) Stamp:

In conjunction with the phasing out the issuance of physical I-94s, scholars will be given an entry (admission) stamp by Customs in your passport. The stamp should be marked with 'J-1 D/S' for J-1 scholars.

'D/S' stands for "Duration of Status."

212(e) Two Year Home Residency Requirement & 12 month bar for J-1 Students and Scholars:

Overview:

J-1 Exchange visitors must be familiar with the bars and the 212 (e) requirements. Certain J-1 s and their J-2 dependents are subject to the two-year home country physical presence requirement (also known as 212 (e), and thus are obligated to return to their last country of legal residence for an aggregate of at least two years before they are eligible for H-1B, L, K visas, or Permanent Resident status. Please note that if a J-1 student/Scholars is subject to the 212(e), any J-2 dependents are also subject to the 212(e).

This requirement applies to those whose:

1. program was financed to some extent by the U.S. government or the student's/scholars home country;
2. skill appears in the Exchange Visitors Skills list as identified by the student's/scholars home country government;
3. Purpose in coming to the U.S. was to receive graduate medical education or training.

For details regarding who may be subject to the 212(e) please visit this Department of State website.

Advisory Opinion:

A J-1 visa stamp/DS-2019 form will have a statement in the bottom left hand corner of the form, as follows: "Bearer is or is not subject to section 212(e). Two year rule (does or does not) apply (name of country)" This is a preliminary endorsement of the Consular Officer or Immigration Officer regarding 212(e). You may request an Advisory Opinion from the Department of State (DOS) Waiver Review Division when you have doubt or question about this preliminary endorsement. For details on how to request an Advisory Opinion, please visit the DOS website.

12-Month Bar

Students who have been in the United States for more than 6 months in the previous year (12 months) in J visa status are not eligible to begin a new program in the U.S. as J-1 Research Scholar or Professor for a 12-month period. Please note that if a J-1 student is subject to this 12-month bar, any J-2 dependents are also subject to the 12-month bar. The 12-month bar does not prevent individuals from returning to the U.S. in any other visa status

The 24 month bar is a repeat participation bar. This bar prohibits repeat participation in the Exchange Visitor categories of professor and research scholar. It requires that the Exchange Visitor not be in J professor or research scholar status for two year before becoming eligible for another 5-year period of program eligibility in J professor or research scholar status. This bar is invoked the moment the Exchange Visitor completes a program as a professor or research scholar, even if he or she did not utilize his or her full five years of eligibility.

Health Insurance Requirement

Scholars must have health insurance and their accompanying dependents for the entire program in the United States. J-1 scholars are also required by Department of State to have medical insurance in effect for yourself and any accompanying dependents for the duration of your program. Willful failure on your part to maintain the required insurance will result in the termination of your J status.

Minimum Regulatory Requirements for Health Insurance Plans are as follows. Please note that scholars enrolled in the University of Central Oklahoma insurance plan will meet the regulatory insurance requirements:

- Covers the cost of repatriation of remains in the amount of \$25,000

- Medical benefits of **at least** \$100,000 per accident or illness
- Covers the cost of medical evacuation in the amount of \$50,000
- Has a deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness

Fees Payable to the University

If you choose to take classes you will be subject to paying tuition and fees. If you do not pay for these classes on time you will be charged interest for these items. For exchange visitors who live on campus, you will be required to pay for your housing while you are here. Payments can be made via the options found on the following website: <https://www.uco.edu/em/bursar/student/payments.asp>

Airport:

You will be arriving at the Will Rogers Airport in Oklahoma City-

Address: 7100 Terminal Dr, Oklahoma City, OK 73159

Phone: (405) 316-3200

<http://www.flyokc.com/>

Directions/Address:

University of Central Oklahoma
100 N. University Dr.
Edmond, OK 73034, USA

Directions and driving maps of almost any area in the United States are available from websites called Google Maps or Mapquest.

Google Maps Example:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/University+of+Central+Oklahoma/@35.6582114,-97.4709821,16z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0x87af4df09b319dbd:0xf0093f3eea20bcf8>

Campus Location:

The Office of Global Affairs is located in Room 137 on the First Floor of the Nigh University Center, which is building #36 on the following campus map:

http://www.uco.edu/resources/campus_maps/campusmap.pdf

Banking

Banks, savings & loan associations, and credit unions offer a variety of services for checking accounts and savings accounts. Interest rates are sometimes higher at a Savings & Loan Association,

Banking institutions with offices on the campus include:

- <https://uco.midfirst.com/inside/campus-banking-centers>

Banking institutions with offices OFF the campus include:

Kirkpatrick Bank 3001 E Memorial Rd Edmond, OK (405) 478-5301
kirkpatrickbank.com

F&M Bank 17100 N May Ave Edmond, OK (405) 715-1100
www.fmbankokc.com

Oklahoma Fidelity Bank 1020 NW 150th St Edmond, OK (405) 507-3142
www.fidelitybank.com

Citizens Bank of Edmond 1 E 1st St Edmond, OK (405) 341-6650
www.citizensedmond.com

Chase Bank 2307 W Edmond Rd Edmond, OK (405) 715-7150
plus.google.com

Prime Bank 1016 W Covell Rd Edmond, OK (405) 340-2775
www.primebankgroup.com

Bank of America 333 N Bryant Ave Edmond, OK (405) 216-0436
locators.bankofamerica.com

Cellular Phones:

There are a variety of mobile phone companies that operate in the Edmond area. Monthly contracts and pay-as-you-go services are available with most companies. Each company has different requirements for buying a phone and setting up service. Make sure you can meet those requirements before you sign any contract.

Local Cell/Mobile Phone companies:

AT&T – <http://www.wireless.att.com>

Verizon – <http://www.verizon.com>

T- Mobile – <http://www.t-mobile.com>

Sprint – <http://www.sprint.com>

Driver's License and Oklahoma ID:

If you wish to drive in state of Oklahoma you must obtain an Oklahoma Driver's License. You will have to take a two-part test. First, a written exam and then a driving test. A free booklet is available from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to help prepare you for the written exam. This booklet is also produced in several different languages besides English.

You must take the following original documents to the local DMV office to apply:

- I-20 or DS-2019
- Print-out of Form I-94 at www.cbp.gov/I94
- Passport
- UCO ID

The local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is located at:

<http://local.dmv.org/oklahoma/oklahoma-county/edmond/dmv-office-locations.php>

Housing Options:

You are free to live on or off campus. Various housing options can be found at:

<http://www.uco.edu/student-affairs/ocl/off-campus-housing.asp>

<http://www.uco.edu/administration/housing/>

Community Resources:

<http://www.uco.edu/student-affairs/ocl/off-campus-resources.asp>


Purpose of J-1 Exchange Visitor Program:

The J Exchange Visitor program was developed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people from other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange. The Exchange Visitor Program provides opportunities for foreign nationals to participate in programs in the U.S. and then return home to share their experiences.

The Exchange Visitor Program is administered by the U.S. Department of State (DOS). Below is the DOS contact information for the Exchange Visitor Program:

Mailing Address:

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
Department of State
State Annex SA-5, Fifth Floor
Washington, DC 20522-0505

Phone Number: 202-632-9310  202-632-9310

Fax Number: 202-632-2701

Email Address: JVisas@state.gov