

International Participants

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL REQUIRE A VISA TO ENTER THE U.S.

The deadline for international students requiring visa paperwork is MAY 8, 2012. Visa paperwork cannot be processed after this date.

Based on updated guidance from the United States Citizenship & Immigration Service [USCIS], participants who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents are now strongly encouraged to follow the appropriate steps to secure a J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa for participation in a BSPH Institute. NOTE: Internet MPH students who are participating in the Institutes must apply for F-1 student visas. Exceptions are made only on a case-by-case basis.

TO REQUEST YOUR J-1 VISA, PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:

After you have completed the application for the Graduate Summer Institute, you will receive an email with instructions on how to access a web portal called iHopkins. The email will ask you to fill out the J-1 Applicant Information E-Form and, if applicable, the SEVIS Dependent E-Form (the SEVIS Dependent E-Form is the form you will need to complete if you plan to bring a spouse or dependent child on a J-2 dependent visa.) You will need to provide a copy of your passport biographical page with the request as well as funding documentation. The Institute coordinator will work with the OIS to ensure that you receive your DS-2019. If you have not received an email with instructions to access the iHopkins web portal and complete the J-1 Applicant Information E-Form, please contact psscott@jhsph.edu.

The B1/B2 visitor's visa and the visa waiver program are not appropriate for Summer Institute participants. Please see [information from the The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services \(USCIS\) regarding the B1/B2 visa and study in the US](#). International Student Services advises that students attempting to enter the U.S. on a B1/B2 visitor visa or visa waiver program might be detained at the airport upon arrival and possibly returned to their home country on the next available flight.

Institute participants who do not heed this advice risk being denied entry to the U.S. at the U.S. port of entry by USCIS. If you have any questions about visa sponsorship please contact J1-scholars@jhmi.edu. For more information please visit the Office of International Services' website at <http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/intlscvs/>

In order to qualify for a DS-2019, J-1 Exchange Visitors must be able to prove that they have sufficient funds to cover their cost of living while in the U.S. Exchange Visitors coming to JHMI must be able to show that they have at least \$2,000 per month available to cover the cost of their living expenses while in the U.S. (\$500 per week).

Acceptable forms of financial documentation include personal bank statements, bank statements from a family member who will sponsor you, or a sponsorship letter from an institution or employer. You must provide documentation of the funds you have.

Bank statements must be in English or accompanied by an English translation. Also please ensure that the documentation is current (the documents must have been issued within the last 6 months). If you are providing bank documentation as proof of available funds and you are not the account holder listed on this documentation you must provide a letter from the account holder stating the amount of funds they are making available to you.

Sponsorship letters from an institution or employer must be on institution letterhead and must include your name, the amount of funding that will be provided and the dates during which the funding will be provided.

Please email your financial documents to me at pスコット@jhsph.edu in pdf or jpeg format.

Individuals who will require J1 visas must submit all required documentation to the Bloomberg School **by May 1, 2012.**

Please see our [International Students Frequently Asked Questions](#) for additional information.