



## **J-1 STUDENT INTERNSHIP FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS**

A foreign national who is currently enrolled in a full-time accredited college or university level academic program\* at an institution outside the United States may be eligible to perform a student internship at UMass Medical School for up to twelve (12) months.

\*Students enrolled in an accredited Doctor of Medicine program may also qualify for the J-1 Student Intern category however, departments should contact the Immigration Services Office for further details. An MD Statement will be needed.

The J-1 Student Intern visa has eight (8) main components:

1. **FULL-TIME STUDENT:** The J-1 Student Intern must be currently enrolled full-time in an academic program and must be designated as a paid or unpaid intern at UMMS. They need to have been enrolled for at least one full academic year at an accredited academic institution outside the United States.
2. **INTERNSHIP REQUIRED BY STUDENT'S PROGRAM:** The internship must directly fulfill requirements of his/her academic program.
3. **UMMS P.I. MUST HOST INTERN:** A UMMS Principal Investigator (P.I.) must agree to host the student intern with the primary objective of helping the student complete the internship program. At no time should a student internship program be used as employment or to provide services to the P.I. Student Internships must be full-time, consisting of a minimum of 32 hours per week. Per UMMS policy, student interns may participate in a student internship program for 6 months. If an extension of the internship is approved by HR, visa sponsorship cannot be extended beyond 12 months.
4. **ENGLISH PROFICIENCY:** The Student Intern must provide evidence of English language proficiency confirming that he/she possesses adequate English language skills to participate in the internship program. This requirement is evidenced by a videoconference between the applicant and the PI. This requirement is waived if the foreign national's home country is English speaking or if the foreign national is currently studying at an English speaking academic institution.
5. **MINIMUM FUNDING:** The minimum amount of funding for living expenses is \$2,500 per month. Proof of funding must be submitted and verified before the Immigration Services Office can issue visa eligibility documents. Funding for a Student Intern can come from any combination of the following sources providing the total is at least \$2,500 per month:
  - a. **PAID INTERNS:**
    - i. UMMS source at appropriate intern rate
    - ii. Personal funds\*\* can be used to supplement UMMS paid wages to bring student up to required \$2500/month
  - b. **UNPAID INTERNS:**
    - i. The student's academic institution; and/or
    - ii. A fellowship/scholarship/stipend from a formally/legally recognized funding organization; and/or
    - iii. Personal funds\*\* with evidence of \$2500/month.

\*\***Personal funds** must be verified by an official bank letter or bank statement (less than 3 months old at time of request), stating availability of funding for the entire duration of the J-1 Exchange Program. If the intern will be funded by a family member, include an original letter of sponsorship indicating willingness and ability to support the intern and confirming the relationship, along with the official bank letter or bank statement. Bank and support letters that are not in English must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

6. **INSURANCE:** J-1 student interns are required to have insurance that covers (a) sickness and/or accidents during the intern's stay in the United States. In addition, the intern is required to have (b) medical evacuation and repatriation insurance:
    - a. Sickness/accident insurance must include medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness and a deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.
    - b. Medical evacuation / repatriation insurance must include coverage of at least \$50,000 for expenses associated with medical evacuation and at least \$25,000 for repatriation of remains.
  
  7. **WRITTEN TRAINING PLAN:** The P.I. and J-1 Student Intern must complete a written Internship Plan (DOS form DS-7002). An acceptable Internship Plan should cover a definite period of time and should consist of definite phases of training or tasks performed with a specific objective for each phase (3 separate phases of training is suggested). The plan must also contain information on how the intern will accomplish those objectives (i.e. individual instruction, shadowing, classes/seminars, etc.). Each phase must build upon the previous phase to show a progression in the internship.
  
  8. **EVALUATION:** The P.I. must evaluate that the student intern has met the goals and objectives as laid out by the DS-7002. One evaluation upon completion of a 6 month internship is required. If the internship is extended beyond 6 months, a second evaluation upon final completion of the internship will also be required.
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#### **Required Documents Needed Prior to Internship**

- ✓ [J1 Intake Form Part 1 \(Completed by Department\)](#)
- ✓ [J1 Intake Form Part 2 \(Completed by Student\)](#)
- ✓ [Form DS-7002 \(Contact ISO for details\)](#)
- ✓ [Home Institution Certification of Enrollment](#)
- ✓ Copy of Student's valid Passport
- ✓ Copy of Student's CV
- ✓ Proof of funding in the amount of \$2,500/month
- ✓ [MD Statement](#) (Completed by UMMS Sponsoring Department – only required if student is enrolled in MD Program)
- ✓ [Family Data Sheet](#) and family passport copies (if student is requesting visa sponsorship for family members)\*\*\*

\*\*\* Visa sponsorship for family members may require additional financial evidence. Contact ISO for details.