

Lifespan Visa Services

Hospital-based researchers with concurrent appointments at Brown University, have access to immigration services available at Brown University. [Please note: This service agreement does not cover services for clinical staff at Lifespan.] For further information or to set up an appointment for a consultation, please contact the Office of International Student & Scholar Services (OISSS) at 401-863-2427.

The most common visa categories are:

J-1

Under Brown University's Exchange Visitor program, researchers and scientists may be eligible for a J-1 visa. J-1 status is used for professors, research scholars, short-term scholars, sponsored students and specialists for temporary participation in approved programs of teaching, research, study, observation, and consultation. Postdoctoral Research Associates, Lecturers, Visiting Scientists, and Visiting Researchers are all eligible to apply for a J-1 visa.

The most common types of J-1 visitors to Brown are:

Research Scholars and Professors- maximum amount of time is 5 years

Short Term Scholars- maximum amount of time is 6 months

To request a J-1 please follow the procedures indicated on the OISSS website
http://brown.edu/Administration/OISSS/hospitals/docs/j1_process_proc_hosp.pdf

H-1B

Brown University can petition to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to issue H-1B status on behalf of a scholar who is being employed by Brown or its affiliated hospitals in a "specialty occupation" and who has adequate educational degrees and specialized knowledge to perform in this occupation. H-1B status is valid up to 3 years, can be renewed for another 3 years, and allows the temporary non-immigrant to apply for permanent immigration status while in H-1B status.

The H-1B can take between 4 to 5 months to process. USCIS offers premium processing for an additional \$1225. With premium processing USCIS will adjudicate the petition within 15 days of receiving it.

Please refer to the OISSS website for further information regarding requesting an H-1B
<http://brown.edu/Administration/OISSS/hospitals/H1B.html>