

### **J-2 Dependent Employment**

J-2 dependents may apply to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for permission to accept employment if such employment is needed for the support of the dependent(s), and not for the support of the J-1. The application should include:

- Form I-765, *Application for Employment Authorization* [item #16, the eligibility category for J-2 dependents should be noted as (c)(5)( )];
- Documentary evidence of the J-1's funding, which may include Brown University salary noted on the DS-2019, sponsor's letter, or bank statements;
- Documentary evidence of the relationship of the J-2 and the J-1, such as a marriage certificate and/or birth certificate of children;
- Letter based on OISSS sample (*see reverse*);
- Two passport photos (taken within 30 days) with name and SEVIS ID number written lightly on the back);
- Fee of \$340, check or money order payable to USCIS with the J-2's name and SEVIS ID# clearly printed in the Memo line on the front of the check;
- Photocopy of J-2's I-94 (front and back);
- Photocopy of J-1's DS-2019;
- Photocopy of J-1's I-94 (front and back); and
- Photocopy of previously issued Employment Authorization Document (EAD), if applicable.

The application should be sent by CERTIFIED MAIL with return receipt requested to the address on the sample letter. Please be sure to copy all documents and forms before you send them, including your check, and to save any receipts or notices you receive from USCIS.

After processing your materials to determine your eligibility, the USCIS will issue you an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) and mail it to your U.S. residential address. **If you change your address after submitting your application, you must notify USCIS and OISSS within 10 days of such change).**

J-2 employment authorization is valid for any kind of employment without limitation as to full-time or part-time and expires at the same time that the J-1's authorized stay expires. Note, that employment will be authorized only for the period covered by the J-1's DS-2019. Extension of stay must be accomplished before further employment authorization. If you wish to request an extension of the J-2 employment authorization, you may do so only after the J-1 extension of stay request has been approved.

J-2 dependents may not work beyond the ending date of the approved period, even if an application for extension of stay and work authorization has been filed with USCIS. To avoid an interruption of your approved employment, submit your application for extension no later than 90 days prior to the expiration date.

### Sample Letter

*Please print or type the following letter on a separate piece of paper, filling in the missing information. Sign it, and include it with your employment authorization application packet.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service  
Vermont Service Center  
75 Lower Welden Street  
St. Albans, VT 05479-0001

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the J-2 dependent of J-1 Exchange Visitor \_\_\_\_\_ and I wish to apply for *(an extension of my previously granted)* permission to accept employment. My *(spouse) (parent)* receives a *(stipend) (salary) (grant)* from \_\_\_\_\_ sufficient to provide for all of *(his) (her)* expenses. I wish to be employed to provide for my expenses *(and those of my children, such as (please describe what expenses you will be covering with your salary from working))*. Any money which I earn from such employment will *(continue to)* be used exclusively for my support *(and that of my children)* and not for the support of my *(spouse) (parent)*. Documentary evidence of my J-1 *(spouse's) (parent's)* ability to support *(himself) (herself)* is enclosed. Please grant me *(an extension of my previously approved)* permission to be employed.

Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name

Address