



GENERAL INFORMATION

J-2 dependents are eligible to work in the United States provided that they have been issued a valid Employment Authorization Document (EAD card) from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This form provides detailed instructions on how to apply for employment authorization from USCIS.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Form I-765, found at www.uscis.gov, completed and signed
- Form G-1145, found at www.uscis.gov, completed and signed
- Check or Money Order made payable to “U.S. Department of Homeland Security”
 - For current fees associated with Form I-765, please visit www.uscis.gov
- Two passport photos, 2 inch x 2 inch (51 x 51mm) in size, taken within the last 30 days
 - For details on photo requirements, please visit www.travel.state.gov/passport
- Photocopies of the following documents, from both the J-2 and J-1 visa holder:
 - Passport photo page
 - J-2 & J-1 Visa
 - Form DS-2019
 - Form I-94
- Brief letter addressed to USCIS requesting work authorization, including the following statements:
 - *Income received from employment is not needed to financially support the J-1 exchange visitor or the J-2 dependent and will be used solely for recreational purposes; and*
 - *Work authorization is requested simply to gain work experience, for career advancement, and for cultural enrichment.*

Re-applying for work authorization? Include a copy of all previous EAD cards.

If you live in Florida, mail all of the above to one of the following addresses:

United States Postal Service

USCIS
P.O. Box 660867
Dallas, Texas 75266

Courier Service (i.e., FedEx or DHL)

USCIS; Attn: AOS
2501 S. State Hwy 121
Business Suite 400
Lewisville, Texas 75067

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Employment authorization can take months to process. J-2 dependents are advised to apply early.

EAD cards will be mailed to the address indicated on the Form I-765. Ensure that this address will remain current for multiple months after the application is submitted as mail from the federal government will not be forwarded.

J-2 dependents must not accept employment, paid or unpaid, prior to their possession of a valid EAD card. Beginning work prior to the issuance of a valid EAD card is considered unlawful employment.

Employment may not exceed the expiration date listed on the EAD card or the Form DS-2019 end date, whichever is earlier.