

Understanding the New Fixed Period of Admission Rule

An ISSO presentation for
Morningside and Manhattanville Departments Sponsoring
J-1 Faculty, Researchers, Scholars and Student Interns

 COLUMBIA | ISSO
International Students & Scholars Office



Mon, Aug 3, 2026

ISSO Presentation Agenda

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has published a new rule that changes how J-1 and J-2 nonimmigrants are admitted to the United States.

This is scheduled to take effect September 15, 2026.

Today's overview of this new rule will cover:

- Duration of Status (D/S) and Admit Until Date (AUD)
- Rule Effective Date and Rule Transition Provisions
- International Travel and Re-entry
- Program Extensions and Transfers
- J-2 Dependents
- ISSO Resources and Support

Old Rule

At the port-of-entry,
an I-94 arrival record is
created by CBP

*For entries
prior to 9/15/2026*

J-1s and J-2s
are admitted for “D/S”
Duration of Status

The screenshot shows the 'Most Recent I-94' record for a J-1 visa holder. The header includes the CBP logo and the text 'U.S. Customs and Border Protection' and 'Securing America's Borders'. The record details are as follows:

- Admission (I-94) Record Number: 123456789
- Most Recent Date of Entry: 2016 August 14
- Class of Admission: J1
- Admit Until Date: D/S (highlighted with a red box)
- Details provided on the I-94 information form:
 - Last(Surname): Roary
 - First (Given) Name: Lion
 - Birth Date: 1784 September 21
 - Passport Number: 123456789
 - Country of Issuance: Columbia

Below the details is a 'Get Travel History' button. At the bottom, there is a note about the automated admission process and a link to the CBP website for more information.

“D/S” Duration of Status reflects the Form DS-2019 end date, **unless the J-1 scholar finishes earlier**, plus a 30-day period to prepare for departure.

Under D/S policy, the J-1 Program Sponsor could extend the DS-2019 – and thus J-1/J-2 visa status – in accordance with regulations.

www.cbp.gov/i94

Mon, Aug 3, 2026

New Rule

At the port-of-entry,
an I-94 arrival record is
created by CBP

*For entries
on or after 9/15/2026*

J-1s and J-2s
will have a date-specific
“Admit Until Date” (AUD)
mm/dd/yyyy.

The screenshot shows the 'Most Recent I-94' record for Roary Lion. The 'Admit Until Date' is listed as 'DIS' (Discretionary), which is highlighted with a red box. Other details include: Admission (I-94) Record Number: 123456789, Most Recent Date of Entry: 2016 August 14, Class of Admission: J1, Last/Surname: Roary, First (Given) Name: Lion, Birth Date: 1784 September 21, Passport Number: 123456789, and Country of Issuance: Columbia. A 'Get Travel History' button is visible below the personal information. At the bottom, there are instructions regarding the automated admission process and a note about security.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Securing America's Borders

OMB No.
Expiration Date:

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 123456789
Most Recent Date of Entry: 2016 August 14
Class of Admission: J1
Admit Until Date: DIS
Details provided on the I-94 information form:

Last/Surname: Roary
First (Given) Name: Lion
Birth Date: 1784 September 21
Passport Number: 123456789
Country of Issuance: Columbia

[Get Travel History](#)

Effective April 26, 2013, CBP began automating the admission process. An alien lawfully admitted or paroled into the U.S. is no longer required to be in possession of a preprinted Form I-94. A record of admission printed from the CBP website constitutes a lawful record of admission. See 8 CFR § 1.4(a)(5).

If an employer, local, state or federal agency requests admission information, present your admission (I-94) number along with any additional required documents requested by that employer or agency.

Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.

For inquiries or questions regarding your I-94, please click here
Automobile / Private Police

<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/record.html>

The AUD will reflect the Form
DS-2019 end date – *not to exceed
four years* – plus a 30-day period to
prepare for departure.

**Passports with earlier expiration dates
may result in an earlier AUD.**

ISSO will continue to provide
guidance, but scholars are ultimately
responsible for maintaining their own
immigration status and monitoring –
and not overstaying! – the AUD.

www.cbp.gov/i94

Mon, Aug 3, 2026

Rule Effective Date 9/15/2026

Current rule (before Sept. 15, 2026)	Final rule (Sept 15, 2026 & forward)
Arrivals are admitted for Duration of Status (D/S) on I-94	Arrivals will be admitted until fixed Admit Until Date (AUD) on I-94 Those who arrived in the U.S. before 9/15/2026, “D/S” continues while remaining in the U.S.
No USCIS adjudication needed if program is extended Program extensions largely managed through SEVIS by J-1 Program Sponsor	If additional time is needed beyond AUD: 1) USCIS Extension of Stay (EOS) adjudication with Form I-539, or 2) admission by CBP with a longer AUD
J-1 employment (if appointed) continues based on unexpired Form DS-2019 and I-94 indicating “D/S”	J-1 employment/appointment requires an unexpired Form DS-2019 <u>and</u> an unexpired I-94. Employment/appointment can continue for 240 days while remaining in the U.S. awaiting USCIS adjudication of EOS.

Rule Transition Provisions

J-1 Exchange Visitors currently inside the U.S. with “D/S” on 9/15/2026, can remain in “D/S” status until the earlier of:

- the Form DS-2019 end date, plus 30-day grace period
- four years from the 9/15/2026 rule effective date, plus a 30-day grace period (10/15/2030)

J-1 Exchange Visitors will not automatically receive a new date-specific I-94 on 9/15/2026.

Certain events—such as international travel, USCIS approval of an Extension of Stay (EOS)—will end the transition period and replace D/S with a fixed Admit Until Date (AUD)

Keep in mind:

These J-1 Exchange Visitors are transitioning to a fixed-period system, similar to other visa statuses such as H-1B, O-1, TN, E-3.

International Travel and Re-entry

The new rule does not prohibit international travel.

The same travel regulations, proclamations and guidance apply as before.

The next time a J-1 Exchange Visitor arrives in the U.S. on or after 9/15/2026, the new rule will apply to admission at the port-of-entry.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will issue a date-specific Admit Until Date (AUD) that will be the earlier of:

- the end date on Form DS-2019, or
- four years from the date of admission into the U.S.

plus a 30-day period to prepare for departure

CBP may limit the period of admission based on passport validity



Unlawful Presence and the Admit Until Date (AUD)

There are serious repercussions if one overstays the AUD!

By remaining in the U.S. after the date-specific AUD ends without a timely-filed Extension of Stay (EOS), **unlawful presence** begins the day after the visa status ends.

Most Recent I-94

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Securing America's Borders

OMB No.
Expiration Date:

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 123456789
Most Recent Date of Entry: 2016 August 14
Class of Admission: J1
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If an employer, local, state or federal agency requests admission information, present your admission (I-94) number along with any additional required documents requested by that employer or agency.

Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.

For inquiries or questions regarding your I-94, please click here
Accessibility / Privacy Policy

<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/record.html>

Consequences of unlawful presence and an overstay of the AUD are serious:

180 days to less than 1 year:
→ 3-year bar from re-entry.

1 year or more:
→ 10-year bar from re-entry

The J-1 Exchange Visitor must file an Extension of Stay (EOS) or depart the U.S. prior to the AUD indicated on Form I-94

www.cbp.gov/i94

Program Extensions

J-1 Exchange Visitors and J-2 dependents will need to obtain an **Extension of Stay (EOS)** to remain in the U.S. beyond the Admit Until Date (AUD) on their Form I-94.

Under prior D/S policy, extending Form DS-2019 through ISSO was sufficient to extend J-1 and J-2 visa status inside the U.S.

Under the new rule with a date-specific AUD, extending Form DS-2019 will not extend J-1 and J-2 visa status inside the U.S.



Program Extensions

If additional time is needed beyond the date-specific AUD, J-1 Exchange Visitors must follow one of two methods using an unexpired Form DS-2019:

- International travel and readmission, resulting in a new Form I-94 and longer AUD; or
- File Form I-539 with USCIS for Extension of Stay (EOS) with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

J-1 employment for those on appointment can continue for up to 240 days when the EOS is timely filed and while remaining inside the U.S.



Program Transfers

If a transfer of J-1 sponsorship is needed prior to the Columbia start date, submit an application through the Scholar Sponsorship Portal (SSP) and include copies of all current and prior J-1 documentation.

ISSO can coordinate the SEVIS transfer with the international adviser at the current institution.

ISSO guidance will then be provided on the transfer process and whether an Extension of Stay (EOS) application also needs to be filed with USCIS.



J-2 Dependents

J-2 dependents in the U.S. with “D/S” before 9/15/2026, will benefit from the same transition provisions as the J-1 Exchange Visitor.

Upon re-entry to the U.S. on or after 9/15/2026, J-2 dependents will receive a fixed period of admission (AUD) which may not exceed the authorized period of admission for the J-1 Exchange Visitor.

J-2 dependents also need to apply for an extension of stay to remain in the U.S. beyond their AUD.



Resources and Staying Informed



Staying Informed



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**Understanding the Fixed Time
Period of Admission Rule site**



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In-person (by appointment preferred)

Document drop-off & pick-up and drop-ins: M-F 9am-5pm

Q&A

This new rule is extensive with implementation guidance still forthcoming from Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of State (DoS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP).

ISSO's interpretation and understanding this new rule may evolve and we will update our international community accordingly.

