

Visitor Arrival and Check In

Remember: Each visitor is responsible for securing their own housing and bringing their own laptop.

1. Travel

Once a visitor receives their J-1 Visa from the U.S. State Department, they may purchase their tickets to travel. Please bear in mind that arrival at UCSB must be within 30 days of the date specified on the DS-2019.

If a delay in arrival beyond the 30-day window is anticipated, a request for amendment must be made at least 14 days prior to the expiration date of the DS-2019. The updated amended DS2019 is necessary for travel.

2. Arrival and Check In

- Upon arrival, the visitor must first check in with OISS (Student Services Building, UCSB).
- Following this, the visitor must check in with the GEOG personnel team. Please be sure to make an appointment by sending an email to personnel@geog.ucsb.edu.
 - Administrative staff will assign office space, and a key to the office can be checked out.

3. Departure

Once the visit is concluded (on the end date of the DS-2019), the visitor must return their keys and they may no longer continue to work on campus. However, if the visitor anticipates the need to extend their visit, they must request an extension within 4 weeks prior to the expiration date specified on the DS-2019. OISS will need to see documents justifying the need to extend the stay and demonstrating the means with which to stay. This will be done via the UCSBGlobal system, with assistance from the GEOG personnel team.

Please note: J-1 program participants are allowed to stay 30 days beyond the program end date on their DS-2019. This 30-day grace period allows the visitor to prepare to return home, travel, sightsee, etc. within the U.S. Travel beyond the borders of the U.S. is not recommended since the DS-2019 is no longer valid and they may not be permitted re-entry. However, during the grace period UC policy specifies that the visitor may not work or continue and/or complete their research activities on campus. This qualifies as an “unlawful presence on campus” and is considered a violation of the terms of the J-1 visa.

A visitor cannot transfer or extend his J-1 status during the 30-day grace period.