

IMMIGRATION LAW OFFICES OF RON KATIRAEI

MANHATTAN, NEW YORK

Phone (212) 760-4400



J-1 VISA (Exchange Visitors)

This Visa is for individuals approved to participate in work-and study-based exchange visitor programs. The J-1 visa is designed to provide educational and cultural exchange programs, and to promote the sharing of individuals, knowledge and skills in education, arts and sciences. This visa enables people to participate in exchange visitor programs in the United States. Participants in this visa include students, trainees involved in on-the-job training, teachers engaged in research and teaching and international visitors interested in traveling, researching, consulting and demonstrating specific knowledge. Your spouse and/or unmarried children under the age of 21 may apply for entry under J-2 status.

Process

One must apply for a J-1 Visa at the US Embassy or Consulate with jurisdiction over your place of permanent residence. While you may apply at any US consular office abroad, it is advised to apply within your jurisdiction. Participants in the J exchange program should present a Form IAP-66, prepared by a designated sponsoring organization.

Documents

The following documents are required for the J-1 Visa:

- A) A filled-in visa application Form DS-156.
- B) One recent photograph 1 & 1/2 inches square (37mm x 37mm) of each applicant, with the entire face visible. The picture should be taken before a light background and without head covering.
- C) A passport, valid for travel to the United States for at least six months longer than your intended visit.
- D) A completed form, IAP-66, prepared by a designated sponsoring organization.

A completed form, IAP-66, prepared by a designated sponsoring organization. You must also demonstrate that you have binding ties to a residence in a foreign country which you have no intention of abandoning, and that you are coming to the United States for a temporary period of time.