



Rutgers Global

J-1 STEM Research
Sponsorship Program





An Overview

- About Rutgers Global
- About the J-1 STEM Research Sponsorship Program
- Sponsorship Process
- Roles / Requirements
- Sponsorship Costs
- Resources for Prospective Host Companies





About Us

RUTGERS GLOBAL



International
Student and
Scholar Services



Study Abroad
Center for Global
Education



Global Partnerships
& Strategic
Initiatives



Office of the
Vice President

1,200+ International Faculty & Scholars from 100 Countries

#26 Among U.S. Institutions Hosting to the Most International Faculty & Scholars

7,000+ International Students from 165 Countries

174 International Partnerships in 52 Countries

97 Study Abroad Programs in 42 Countries

ABOUT THE J-1 VISA

- J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa Program was established by the Fulbright–Hays Act of 1961
- Mission = Promote mutual understanding and cultural exchange
- Administered by U.S. Department of State
- Primary mechanism for U.S. universities to host international researchers
- Several different categories (including Research Scholars)
- Research Scholar Category
 - Purpose = Work-Based Learning and Collaborative Research
 - Not meant for ordinary employment or unskilled labor
 - Opportunity to explore U.S. culture
 - Maximum of 5 years

ABOUT THE STEM RESEARCH SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

- In 2022, President Biden announced BridgeUSA J-1 Early Career STEM Research Initiative to open pathways for private sector STEM businesses to host international researchers
- Private companies can now partner with Universities to sponsor international STEM researchers for J-1 visas
- Rutgers Global launched this program to:
 - Provide more pathways for F-1 students and J-1 scholars interested in pursuing private sector STEM research in the U.S.
 - Support Rutgers' partnerships with local STEM research businesses
 - Support new ventures started by Rutgers faculty

BENEFITS FOR HOST COMPANIES AND PARTICIPANTS



Shorter Processing Times



Straightforward Paperwork



No Lotteries or Annual Caps



Up to 5 Years



Access to Diverse Talent Pool



Fewer Government Processing Fees



Remain under Sponsorship of RU Global



Extensions Don't Require USCIS Approval



Updated Exchange Visitor Skills List
(Only 27 Countries on List)

EXAMPLES



Current J-1 Scholars

- Can use this program to transfer from academia to the private sector
- Example – 3 Years as Postdoc at Rutgers / 2 Years at Private Research Company



F-1 Students after OPT Ends

- Most STEM graduates eligible for 36 months of OPT
- Can switch to J-1 visa after OPT ends

HOW DOES IT WORK?



J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM ROLES

Sponsor (Rutgers)	Host (Employer)	Participants (Employee)
Screens Participants	Provides opportunity for research, training, and educational exchange through employment	Conducts collaborative research and work-based learning
Screens Host Company	Promotes Cultural Exchange	Engages in cultural exchange
Issues Immigration Documents	Evaluates Progress / Performance	
Verifies Health Insurance	Incident Reporting	
Provides Orientation / Advising		
Maintains Immigration Records		
Monitors Participants		

HOST COMPANY REQUIREMENTS



STEM Research

- Must conduct STEM research that aligns with the background of the Exchange Visitor



Opportunities for Exchange / Training

- Must provide the Exchange Visitor with valuable skills, education, and experience in STEM field and promote cultural exchange



Infrastructure

- Must possess the personnel, premises, and resources to provide structured and guided work-based training
- No fully remote roles (must be onsite at least 3 days per week)



Monitoring / Evaluation

- Must monitor the Exchange Visitor's progress and welfare
- Must have established supervisor responsible for day-to-day oversight

AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR PROSPECTIVE HOST COMPANIES



- [Rutgers STEM Research Sponsorship Program Webpage](#)
- [ResearcherUSA STEM Research Initiative Webpage](#)

Contact Us

If your prospective employer has any questions, they can contact:

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