



J-1 Scholar and J-2 Dependent Expenses

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) requires exchange visitor program sponsors to verify that J-1 exchange visitors (J-1 scholar) and any accompanying dependent(s) have adequate financial support for the duration of their J-1 program.

If a J-1 scholar receives a salary from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, the department must pay at least the minimum salary as specified in the Office of Human Resource (OHR), Compensation and Titling website (<http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/compensation>). If the position is not full-time, the department must pay the appropriate percentage of the full-time salary. If the part-time salary is less than the minimum required amount specified below, then the J-1 Scholar must provide documentation to IFSS that he/she has access to additional personal or other funds to meet or exceed the required minimum for financial support.

A J-1 scholar can have one source of financial support, multiple sources of financial support, or have sources of financial support change over time. Examples of financial support can be J-1 scholar's salary from abroad, personal bank statements, letters regarding scholarships, or fellowships. The J-1 scholar must always show proof of the required financial support which must meet or exceed the amounts set for the University of Wisconsin-Madison's J-1 exchange visitor program.

Additionally, there is a mandatory health insurance requirement to the J-1 exchange visitor program. IFSS partners with the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) office to ensure that J-1 scholars have UW-Madison approved health insurance coverage. J-1 scholars on an unpaid appointment are required to register with the SHIP Office and purchase SHIP for themselves and any J-2 visa dependents. J-1 scholars that are covered by health insurance that meets one of the criteria listed on the Waiver Application you can file a qualifying waiver at the SHIP office. **If you do not qualify for a waiver, you are required to enroll in SHIP.** Please review the current [Waiver Application](#) for more details.

The total amount required for financial support is a combination of the SHIP premiums PLUS the value of the living expenses. Please refer to the chart below to determine the minimum financial support for a J-1 Scholar.

Amount set for living expenses:

J-1 Scholar: \$2,142.00/month

J-2 Spouse: \$857.00/month

J-2 Child: \$643.00/month for first child; \$429.00/month for each additional child

SHIP premiums are not payable on a monthly basis. SHIP premiums are payable on an annual or half-yearly basis.	SHIP Insurance	Living Expenses	Monthly Total	6-Month Total	12-Month Total
Scholar Only (age 25 and under)	\$161.00	\$2,142.00	\$2,303.00	\$13,818.00	\$27,636.00
Scholar Only (age 26 and above)	\$222.00	\$2,142.00	\$2,364.00	\$14,184.00	\$28,368.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse	\$424.00	\$2,999.00	\$3,423.00	\$20,538.00	\$41,076.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse	\$534.00	\$2,999.00	\$3,533.00	\$21,198.00	\$42,396.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + 1 Child	\$387.00	\$2,785.00	\$3,172.00	\$19,032.00	\$38,064.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + 1 Child	\$497.00	\$2,785.00	\$3,282.00	\$19,692.00	\$39,384.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse + 1 Child	\$653.00	\$3,642.00	\$4,295.00	\$25,770.00	\$51,540.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse + 1 Child	\$807.00	\$3,642.00	\$4,449.00	\$26,694.00	\$53,388.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse + 2 Children	\$653.00	\$4,071.00	\$4,724.00	\$28,344.00	\$56,688.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse + 2 Children	\$807.00	\$4,071.00	\$4,878.00	\$29,268.00	\$58,536.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse + 3 Children	\$653.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,153.00	\$30,918.00	\$61,836.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse + 3 Children	\$807.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,307.00	\$31,842.00	\$63,684.00