



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)	\$178.00	\$2,142.00	\$2,320.00	\$13,920.00	\$27,840.00
Scholar Only (age 26 and above)	\$247.00	\$2,142.00	\$2,389.00	\$14,334.00	\$28,668.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse	\$451.00	\$2,999.00	\$3,450.00	\$20,700.00	\$41,400.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse	\$567.00	\$2,999.00	\$3,566.00	\$21,396.00	\$42,792.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + 1 Child	\$410.00	\$2,785.00	\$3,195.00	\$19,170.00	\$38,340.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + 1 Child	\$527.00	\$2,785.00	\$3,312.00	\$19,872.00	\$39,744.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse + 1 Child	\$693.00	\$3,642.00	\$4,335.00	\$26,010.00	\$52,020.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse + 1 Child	\$856.00	\$3,642.00	\$4,498.00	\$26,988.00	\$53,976.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse + 2 Children	\$693.00	\$4,071.00	\$4,764.00	\$28,584.00	\$57,168.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse + 2 Children	\$856.00	\$4,071.00	\$4,927.00	\$29,562.00	\$59,124.00
Scholar (age 25 and under) + Spouse + 3 Children	\$693.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,193.00	\$31,158.00	\$62,316.00
Scholar (age 26 and above) + Spouse + 3 Children	\$856.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,356.00	\$32,136.00	\$64,272.00