

Differences between F-1 and J-1 visas

	F-1 VISA	J-1 VISA
SOURCE OF FUNDING	Sources of funding can be personal, from family, friends, a scholarship, a fellowship OR a combination of one or more of these sources. Any student admitted into a degree program at Hartford International is eligible to apply for a F-1 student visa.	Must have at least 51% of total funding from a source other than personal or from family (or friends). <i>Other than personal funds</i> may include: a scholarship or a grant from an external funding source or a fellowship, assistantship in instruction or assistantship in research from Hartford International. Other external funding sources may also include your home country government, an international organization, or a corporate sponsor.
SPOUSES AND CHILDREN (Dependents)	Dependents in F-2 status may not work or engage in full-time. F-2 spouses may engage in part-time study that is recreational in nature (i.e., language classes). F-2 children may only engage in full-time study if the study is an elementary or secondary school (kindergarten through twelfth grade).	Spouses in J-2 status may apply for work permission to USCIS and may study part-time or full time. There is currently no regulatory restriction on study for J-2 dependent children.
2 YEAR HOME COUNTRY RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT	There is no home country residency requirement following the completion of program.	May be subject to a 2-year home country residency requirement if receiving government funding or if from the country from the EV skills lists.
ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT	F-1 Students can work on-campus without P/DSO authorization with some requirements . Limited to 20 hours per week while school is in session, but can be full-time during official school breaks.	Requires prior authorization from RO/ARO . Limited to 20 hours per week while school is in session, but can be full-time during official school breaks.
OFF-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT	Optional Practical Training (OPT) F-1 students are eligible to apply for up to 12 months of OPT per degree level to work in a job that is directly related to their field of study. Students will need to first request an OPT I-20 from a P/DSO. Approved by USCIS with a fee.	Academic Training (AT) AT may not exceed the amount of time it took a student to complete their course of study, or 18 months, whichever is shorter. Ph.D. students engaged in post-doctoral training are eligible for up to 36 months of AT. Job must be directly related to the student's field of study. Approved by Hartford International RO/ARO.
GRACE PERIOD	60-day grace period to depart U.S. following the completion of program or Optional Practical Training	30-day grace period to depart the U.S. following the completion of program or Academic Training.
HEALTH INSURANCE	Hartford International requires every enrolled F-1 student to have health insurance coverage. For more information, please see the Student Services Coordinator.	Federal law requires both J-1 students and their J-2 dependents to carry health insurance throughout the period of their stay. Insurance must meet the minimum defined by U.S. federal law . For more information, please see the Student Services Coordinator.