



MOST COMMON NON-IMMIGRANT VISA CLASSIFICATIONS AT UC IRVINE

Visa	Name of Visa	How this is visa category is used at UCI	Employment Limitations	Length of Stay	Dependents	How to request	Processing Time	Remarks
WB B-1	<u>Waiver for Business</u> Visitor for Business	Short-term visits (less than 9 days); cannot hold UCI appointment; cannot enroll in an academic institution.	No employment. Reimbursement , per diem and /or honoraria possible for "usual academic activities"; subject to restrictions. <i>Consult with Accounting and Fiscal Services</i> about payments.	Determined at port of entry; extension not possible for WB/WT	Must apply for own B-1/B-2 visas. Cannot enroll in an academic institution. Cannot work in the U.S.	Visitor takes a letter of invitation & other documentation determined by Consulate.	Depends on consular post.	For visitors to the campus who require an extended stay (generally over 9 days) for consultation, research, observation require a UCI appointment and cannot be on this visa category.
WT B-2	<u>Waiver for Tourism</u> Visitor for Pleasure							
F-1	Student	Degree-seeking students; EAP Reciprocity Students.	On-campus: part-time. Off campus, only with permission of IC and USCIS after 9 months in student status.	Until completion of degree or program	F-2: Cannot enroll in academic institution; cannot work	For new students - Graduate Students: IGSP Packet. UG Students through Admissions Office.	Variable; depends on home country.	Must be enrolled full-time each quarter, unless authorized by IC
H1B	Temporary Worker in Specialty Occupation	Tenure-track faculty positions, other approved academic titles or SRA II and above in certain conditions.	May only be employed by petitioner. Limited to job duties, location and other as indicated on petition.	Up to three years at a time, for six year maximum.	H-4: May enroll in academic institution. Cannot Work.	Form I-129, copies of degrees, CV, & Chair letter. DOL approved Labor Condition Application filed with USCIS by IC.	Allow 6 months; petition sent to U.S. Consulate for individuals outside the U.S.	USCIS approves; Consul issues and USCIS extends stay in U.S. Any changes to job duties & location must be discussed with IC.
J-1	Exchange Visitor (Professor, Lecturer, Researcher)	Professor/Researchers must have academic title or SRA II and above.	Depends on terms of particular exchange visitor programs and permission of sponsor. Student category on J-1 limited to 50% in academic year. No medical/clinical training except ECFMG sponsored.	Professors & Researchers: five years.	J-2: May enroll in an academic institution. Eligible to apply for authorization to work in the U.S.	Submit: New Request for DS-2019 Forms A and B, and supporting documents; continuing Forms C.	Allow 3 months.	May be subject to 24 month bar. Change of visa from J may be restricted if subject to two-year home residency requirement. Change of Category or objective not permitted.
	Students	Students: degree seeking students.		Students: Duration of program		Students: new students complete IGSP. Continuing students submit DS-2019 Request Form C for Students		
TN	Canadian or Mexican Professionals under NAFTA	Employees from Canada or Mexico meet eligibility for TN category	One-year increments	Indefinite; some limitations	TD: May enroll in academic institution. Cannot work in the U.S.	Letter of employment	Allow 3 months.	Consult with IC.

IC: International Center **USCIS:** United States Citizenship & Immigration Services **DOL:** Department of Labor **ECFMG:** Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates

Important: This chart provides general overview of commonly used visa categories for academic-related activities at UCI. Information can change and may not be applicable to all situations. Contact the UCI International Center at 949.824.7249 to discuss appropriate visa categories.