

Information for inviting dependents, relatives and or friends to the U.S.

Below is a list of suggested items to send to dependents, relatives and/or friends when inviting them to the United States for a visit. They in turn take these documents to the U.S. consulate or embassy to assist in their visa application (B-2 for tourist, F-2 or J-2 visa for dependents of F-1 students and J-1 students or scholars, respectively).

1. The ISS invitation certificate (complete the attached form with the requested information).
2. A letter in English to whom you are inviting into the U.S. This letter should
 - State the purpose of their visit, i.e. graduation, vacation, birth of baby, etc.,
 - Indicate how long they are planning to stay in the U.S. and
 - State what you will provide for them (room, board, spending money, etc.) with verification of income if you are providing funding for them. This should include a bank statement if you are here on personal funds or a letter from the department business office if you are on Purdue payroll.
3. An I-20 for F-2 dependents or J document for J-2 dependents (these forms may be ordered using the student or staff request form).
4. An I-134 affidavit of support form is optional and available at the following website <http://uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/i-134.htm>.

The initial entry I-94 card governs how long a visitor may stay in the United States. F-2 and J-2 dependents will be admitted for the “D/S” (duration of status) which is governed by the principal visa holder’s visa document. Under current regulations, people entering the U.S. on a B-2 visa are routinely granted a six-month period of stay at the port-of-entry. However, this time can vary from 30 days to 6 months. There are proposed regulations that would allow individuals to be admitted “for a period of time that is fair and reasonable for the completion of the purpose of the visit.” These new regulations would also make six months the maximum period for admission. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) will require detailed evidence regarding financial support and ties to the home country for applications submitted for an extension of stay beyond the initial time granted.

Special note for B-2 visa holders:

An extension of a B-2 visitor visa status may be requested on form I-539. It may be obtained at the BCIS web site: <http://uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/i-539.htm>. Applications must be submitted to CIS in Lincoln, Nebraska. (Evidence of a return airline ticket to the home country may be requested before granting an extension is granted.) The extension request must be submitted & received by CIS prior to the expiration date on the I-94 card. We suggest applying at least 2-3 months prior to the expiration date on the I-94 card. It may take 3-6 months to receive the extension approval or denial back from CIS.

Send B-2 application for extension to the following address:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Nebraska Service Center
P.O. Box 87539
Lincoln, NE 68501-7539