

To accompany the ISSS Prospective J-1 Scholar Application

“Non-Clinical, Incidental Patient Contact” Letter Instructions for:

Foreign Physicians

J-1 Scholars are limited to observation, consultation, teaching or research. They are allowed no element of patient contact or treatment in their program. However, a J-1 scholar may conduct incidental patient contact **only** if he/she is a foreign medical graduate and the incidental patient contact is part of the J-1 scholar’s program of observation, consultation, teaching, or research with the U of M.

- The limited patient contact must be “incidental” to the programs objectives.
- Patient contact **MUST NOT** be connected to any clinical program (diagnosis and/or treatment).
- There must be **NO** element of patient care involved in the program and/or **NO** hands-on assistance during any clinical procedure.

In the ISSS application to invite a J-1 Professor, Research Scholar or Short-term Scholar, if you indicated that the J-1 applicant is a certified physician in his/her home country and that she or he will have Non-clinical Incidental Patient Contact, **you must request a "non-clinical, incidental patient contact" letter from the Medical School’s Office of Faculty Affairs. Please send the application and your request in the form of a letter to the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs (Dr. Gregory Bielman). Your request should be sent via email (beilman@umn.edu) and include the following information:**

1. *Dates of visit*
2. *Purpose of visit*
3. *Name and title of Advisor - must have a full-time appointment in the Medical School*
4. *Must state that any patient contact will be incidental*
5. *Include the J-1 Scholar’s CV*
6. *The request must come directly from the Department Chair*

This letter (or a copy of it) should accompany the application your department submits to ISSS to request a DS-2019 for the prospective J-1 scholar. Your department should then send an original version of this letter along with the original DS-2019 document processed through ISSS to the prospective scholar.

(Please note: This letter is not required for medical students who are not yet M.D.s as they are ineligible for incidental patient contact.)