

**UFIC Notice to Department Administrators of J-1 Program (Exchange, Visitor, Scholars):
February 04, 2020**

Greetings Departmental Administrators,

Please note US embassies in China are closed this week, from February 3-7, 2020. All immigrant and non-immigrant visa appointments scheduled for this week have been canceled.

Also, please note the information from the link below:

Foreign nationals who have visited China within 14 days of seeking admission to the United States will be denied entry, with the exception of lawful permanent residents, immediate family members of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents, and certain others.

<https://www.osac.gov/Content/Report/3f2cdbc4-9672-4d33-8dad-17e0c38edfc1>

UF continues to be welcoming to our students and exchange visitors from China. EVS is happy to work our valued departments to defer program dates for incoming exchange visitors. EVS continues to accept initial DS-2019 requests and amendments for all exchange visitors.

EVS understands many flights back to China have been canceled. If you have an exchange visitor from China who wishes to extend their DS-2019 to allow more time to remain in the US, EVS is here to help. EVS is happy to extend a program end date, within the maximum duration of stay for the specific exchange visitor category, providing there are legitimate program activities the exchange visitor will engage in. If an exchange visitor is within their 30-day grace period and the department wishes to extend their DS-2019, EVS can accommodate; this option may be time limited within the grace period. Urgent requests may be sent to Scott Davis.

If an exchange visitor is in their grace period, or soon to be in their grace period and 1) cannot extend their program due to reaching the maximum duration of stay, 2) the exchange visitor does not wish to extend their UF J1 program, or 3) the department is unable to offer additional program activities to warrant a DS-2019 extension, the exchange visitor may contact the US Port of Entry (CBP) to inquire on how to extend their grace period due to current circumstances.

https://help.cbp.gov/s/article/Article-ContactUs?language=en_US