

H-1B Facts

International Faculty & Scholar Services
354 Bizzell Hall West
979-862-1719
<http://ifss.tamu.edu>



IFSS

The International Faculty and Scholar Services staff want to ensure that H-1B employees maintain their immigration statuses. If you have any questions about your current immigration status please contact us immediately by calling 862-1719. You can also visit our office in 354 Bizzell Hall West. We encourage you to visit our website <http://ifss.tamu.edu>.

Duration of Stay

Scholars in H-1B status can remain in the U.S. for an initial period of three years with an additional three years extension. There is a maximum of six years in this status. However, the department could request the H-1B for a period of less than three years.

Extensions

IFSS requires extension requests to be made at least six months before the expiration of your current status. Each department must request extensions on behalf of their H-1B employees.

H-4 Dependents

Spouses of H-1B holders and unmarried children (under 21 years old) are classified as H-4 dependents. H-4 dependents are not eligible for employment authorization. H-1B holders must submit the Form I-539 to request H-4 status for their dependents. Contact IFSS for more detailed instructions.

H-1B Portability

Scholars who are in H-1B status with another university or company may transfer their H-1B status to Texas A&M. This is termed "portability." IFSS will submit the new H-1B petition to USCIS, and employment will begin once we have evidence of the H-1B USCIS receipt. Please do not leave your current employment until you are notified by IFSS.



Traveling

IFSS encourages all H-1B holders to carry the original I-797 approval notice, a current letter from employer verifying employment and a copy of your H-1B application for your interview at the embassy/consulate.

Before traveling review the travel advisory information on our website and we advise that you visit the website of the embassy or consulate where you will apply for the visa for up-to-date information on their processing policies.

Reimbursement of Expenses

H-1B holders are allowed to be reimbursed for expenses, such as food or lodging, when traveling to other institutions or conferences.



Speeches/Lectures

Many H-1B holders are occasionally asked to make speeches/lectures at other institutions or conferences. This activity is permitted under H-1B regulations, but the H-1B holder cannot receive payment for such activities.

Changes in H-1B Employment

If there are any significant changes in the duties, terms or conditions of your H-1B employment, such as salary increase or title change, please contact IFSS immediately. An amended H-1B application may be required.

Termination of Employment

There is no official grace period for H-1B holders after employment termination. Hiring departments should complete and forward the departure notification to IFSS if the H-1B employment is terminated.

