

# NON-IMMIGRANT VISA CATEGORIES MOST COMMONLY USED AT UT-AUSTIN

TYPE OF IMMIGRATION STATUS	POSSIBLE INCOME FROM U.S. SOURCES	PROBABLE TAX STATUS**	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	MAXIMUM LENGTH STAY IN U.S.	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES	SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION NEEDED	GOVT FORMS
B-1/B-2 VISITOR FOR BUSINESS/ PLEASURE*	Honorarium and/or reimbursement for travel and subsistence possible, but no salary*	Nonresident Alien	Proof of academic or business purpose for visit to United States	6 months, renewable to 12 months	Quick and relatively easy to obtain and use many times; no government form or petition required	Limited stay in U.S.; may not be paid a salary. Cannot stay for more than 9 days at any one university if being paid an honorarium. WB: see B-1 WT: see B-2	Invitation letter with dates and purpose of visit; proof of adequate funds; evidence of return ticket	NONE
WB (WAIVER FOR BUSINESS)* or WT (WAIVER FOR TOURISM)*	Honorarium and/or reimbursement for travel and subsistence possible, but no salary*	Nonresident Alien	WB: See B-1 WT: See B-2 Only applicable if from designated visa waiver country	90 days	No need to visit U.S. Consulate	No extensions or change of immigration status possible	WB: see B-1 WT: see B-2	NONE
F-1 STUDENT	Employment only* campus permitted; off-campus allowed only in case of unexpected need after 1 year in the U.S. 12 mo. practical training permitted. Or- or off-campus work with sponsor's approval (20 hr/wk during long session); up to 18 mo. post-degree academic training permitted (Postdoctoral work may qualify for up to 36 months).	Nonresident Alien for five years	Admission to academic course of study; evidence of adequate financial support for length of program; indication of adequate English proficiency.	As long as academic progress continues	Easy to move to other states when applicable; not subject to 2-year home country residence requirement. Relatively quick and easy to obtain; easier to get off-campus work permit than as an F-1; spouse may receive employment authorization	Off-campus work severely limited except for post-degree practical training (12 mo.); spouse unable to work	Proof of academic admission; evidence of financial support for length of program	I-20
J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR (STUDENTS)	Unlimited income for work on campus in pursuit of academic objective; limited authorization for lecture/short research outside of host institution	Nonresident Alien for two years	Invitation to academic program with sponsorship; evidence of adequate financial support for length of program	As long as academic progress continues	Relatively easy and quick to obtain; spouse may receive employment authorization	May be subject to 2-year home residence requirement; cannot change program objective; cannot be self-funded	Proof of academic admission; DS-2019 from program sponsor with details of academic objectives and financial support	DS-2019
J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR (PROFESSORS AND RESEARCHERS)	Unlimited income from UT sponsoring dept, no other income without petition from new employer	Resident Alien if present in the U.S. over 183 days	Invitation to teach, lecture or conduct research; indication of adequate financial support for length of program	Up to 5 years	Relatively easy and quick to obtain; spouse may receive employment authorization	May be subject to 2-year home residence requirement; cannot change program objective; limitation of length of stay	DS-2019 from program sponsor with details of academic objectives and financial support	DS-2019
H-1B TEMPORARY WORKER	Unlimited income from UT sponsoring dept, no other income without petition from new employer	Resident Alien if present in the U.S. over 183 days	Possession of professional degree and skills; indication that position to be filled requires professional skills and is temporary	First period up to 3 years, renewable to total of 6 years***	May have long-term intent to immigrate; not subject to 2-year home country residence requirement	Lots of supporting documentation needed; must pay a prevailing wage.	Certified copy of highest degree; employer letter, LCA and more....	I-129
O-1	Unlimited income from UT sponsoring dept, no other income without petition from new employer	Resident Alien if present in the U.S. over 183 days	Possession of professional degree and skills; demonstration of outstanding ability; indication that position to be filled is an event that is temporary in nature	First period up to 3 years, renewable annually	Not restricted by being subject to 2-year home country residence requirement; no prevailing wage requirement	Lots of supporting documentation needed to demonstrate that the beneficiary is outstanding	Letter of consultation from peer group; letter of recommendation; same degree requirements as above, and more....	I-129
TN	Unlimited income from UT sponsoring dept, no other income without approval for new employer	Resident Alien if present in the U.S. over 183 days	Possession of qualifying professional degree or licensure; indication that position to be filled is temporary in nature	One year; renewable annually	No prevailing wage requirement; Canadian TN is quick and easy to obtain through border entry	Limited to Canadian and Mexican citizens (Mexican TN process requires visa application at U.S. Consulate)	Proof of qualifying citizenship; original degree diploma; letter of support from hiring department.	I-129 (for renewal of TN status only)

\* A visitor status holder is limited to 5 payments in a 6-month time period, no stay longer than 9 days at any college or university. \*\* May receive tax exemption through treaty \*\* Extended periods possible under conditions of AC21. NAFSA: Association of International Educators initially produced this chart. It has been modified from the original.