



Teachers Council
Educational Leadership in America

BridgeUSA J-1 Exchange Visitor Program for Teachers
Program Fees

****Click [HERE](#) for a Sample Budget****

Please note: Teachers Council does not work with 3rd party recruiters and therefore there are no additional 3rd party fees associated with our J-1 Programs.

PRE-PROGRAM FEES PAID TO TEACHERS COUNCIL

Initial Eligibility Application, Interview, and Consultation: \$0

- Includes assessment of initial eligibility by Teachers Council for the J-1 Teacher Program. If the applicant meets basic eligibility standards, he or she will be invited to submit a full application for J-1 sponsorship in which a thorough investigation for approval or denial can be completed.

We offer **three different types of programs** for J-1 Teachers looking for sponsorship service.

Program Option 1: Placement Program

For teachers who require J-1 sponsorship AND help securing a teaching position in the US

Application Review and Acceptance into Placement Program: \$500 (one-time fee)

- Includes: eligibility and compliance screening of teacher, resume assistance as needed, presentation to US host schools, interview preparation and coordination.
- Who pays this? The teacher.

Teacher-School Placement Match: \$2,500 (one-time fee)

- Includes: securing an offer of employment from the school, host school onboarding, DS-2019 processing and issuance, pre-arrival and orientation information.
- Collected after a job offer is confirmed; not collected until a successful match is made.
- Who pays this? The teacher.

Program Option 2: Self-Placed Program with Established Partner School/District

For teachers who already have a confirmed job offer with a partner school and only require J-1 sponsorship.

Application Review: \$1,750 (one-time fee)

- Includes: eligibility and compliance screening of teacher and host school, DS-2019 processing and issuance, pre-arrival and orientation information.
- Who pays this? The teacher or the host school may pay this fee.

Program Option 3: Self-Placed Program with New Partner School/District

For teachers who already have a confirmed job offer with a new partner school and only require J-1 sponsorship.

Application Review: \$2,250 (one-time fee)

- Includes: eligibility and compliance screening of teacher and host school, host school onboarding, DS-2019 processing and issuance, pre-arrival and orientation information.
- Who pays this? The teacher or the host school may pay this fee.

ADDITIONAL FEES PAID TO TEACHERS COUNCIL REGARDLESS OF PROGRAM OPTION APPLIES TO BOTH SELF-PLACED AND PLACEMENT PROGRAM TEACHERS

ANNUAL FEES:

J-1 Program Annual Sponsorship Fee: \$1,200 per academic school year.

- Includes: program monitoring, support, and administrative maintenance for the duration of the teacher's time in the US, 24/7 emergency support.
- First year of sponsorship fees (\$1,200) collected at time of initial visa approval and prior to arrival in the US.
- Subsequent annual sponsorship fees collected every spring.
- Who pays this? The teacher or the host school may pay this fee.

J-1 Emergency Health Insurance Policy Requirement: \$780 per year and subject to annual increases.

- Includes accident and illness health insurance coverage that is fully compliant with Department of State standards, for the entirety of the J-1 program.
- First year of insurance collected at time of initial visa approval and prior to arrival in the US.
- Please note that insurance premiums are subject to increase on an annual basis.
- Who pays this? The teacher or the host school may pay this fee.

OTHER FEES:

J-1 30-Day Pre or Post J-1 Emergency Health Insurance Policy Requirement (if needed): \$65 per month.

- Includes accident and illness health insurance coverage for the pre-program 30-day grace period or post-program 30-day grace period of the J-1 Teacher, should they wish to arrive/stay during this time frame and have coverage.
- Please note that insurance premiums are subject to increase on an annual basis.

J-2 Dependent Application (if applicable): \$750 (one-time fee)

- Includes assessment of all accompanying J-2 dependent applications for an approval decision by Teachers Council. An unlimited number of J-2 applications in association with the J-1 applicant is covered under this fee.
- Who pays this? Typically, the teacher pays this fee.

J-2 Dependent Emergency Health Insurance Policy Requirement (required if family members joining you): \$780 per year and subject to annual increases.

- Includes accident and illness health insurance coverage that is fully compliant with Department of State standards, for the entirety of the J-1/J-2 program.
- First year of insurance collected at time of initial visa approval and prior to US arrival.
- Please note that insurance premiums are subject to increase on an annual basis.
- Who pays this? The teacher or the host school may pay this fee.

Expedited Processing (optional): \$1,000

- Includes guaranteed processing time of all program documentation and issuance of an approval decision within five business days. Expedited processing timeline begins once the Teacher has received a formal offer of employment from the US school and all accompanying application materials and payment have been submitted.

ADDITIONAL FEES PAID TO THE US GOVERNMENT
(NOT PAID TO TEACHERS COUNCIL)

Sevis I-901 Fee: \$220 per J-1 participant

- SEVIS is a web-based system for maintaining information on international nonimmigrant Students and exchange visitors in the US. All approved J-1 participants with an issued DS-2019 are required to complete a form I-901 and payment prior to their embassy Appointment, and will be given instructions on how to do so. J-2 Dependents are automatically linked to the J-1 in SEVIS and therefore do not need to make a separate payment of the I-901.

DS-160 Fee: \$185 per person

- The DS-160 enables each J-1 visitor and accompanying J-2 dependents to make an appointment at their home country's US embassy. Unlike with the SEVIS I-901 Fee, each J-2 applicant must fill out and make payment on separate DS-160 applications. For example, if you have two family members joining you, it will cost \$370 (\$185 x 2 ppl) to book your embassy appointments. Teachers Council will provide instruction for participants on how to complete this requirement upon program approval and issuance of the DS-2019(s).

****While extremely uncommon, some US Embassies may charge a reciprocity fee. Please check the website of the US Embassy in your home country to see if this fee is applicable to you.*

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/Visa-Reciprocity-and-Civil-Document-s-by-Country.html>

I-765 Filing Fee (optional): \$410

- Form I-765 is submitted with accompanying payment to the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in the event that any accompanying J-2 dependents of working age are interested in obtaining Employment Authorization enabling him or her to work legally in the US while accompanying the primary J-1 holder during his or her exchange program. This fee is SEPARATE from the J-2 Employment Authorization fee collected by Teachers Council, enabling us to assist with the preparation and filing of the

form I-765 to USCIS.

Disclaimer: All US government filing fees are subject to change at the discretion of the US government.

ACTIVE PROGRAM FEES PAID TO TEACHERS COUNCIL

J-2 Employment Authorization Application (optional): \$750

- In addition to the I-765 Filing Fee of \$410 paid to USCIS (see above), this fee is collected by Teachers Council to assist with the preparation and filing of the form I-765 to USCIS. If you wish for Teachers Council to help your J-2 Dependent obtain their employment authorization in the US, it will cost \$1,160 total.

Extension Application (optional): \$500

- Includes assessment of formal Teachers Council extension application and, if approved, the subsequent submission to the Department of State. Extension may only be applied for after three successful and compliant years under J-1 sponsorship, for an additional one or two year period.

Extended Program Sponsorship: \$1,200 per year

- Upon acceptance by the Department of State for an extension of one or two years, includes the issuance of a new DS-2019 with updated program dates and continued program sponsorship and associated services by Teachers Council for the extension period.
- Collected after Department of State approval of extension application to cover extension period. Not collected if denied.

DS-2019 Replacement: \$75

- Includes generation of new DS-2019 to the participant in the US if the original DS-2019 has been lost, stolen, or irreparably damaged. In the event of a major change in program while in the US (for example change of host school), this fee will also be issued in order to generate a new DS-2019 with updated program information.

Host School Transfer (when warranted): \$300

- Includes the review of a new potential school site of employment should the exchange teacher need to change their host school during the time frame of the DS-2019. Includes support during the interview process and review of the new host school's application and employment offer letter, and, if accepted, a new updated DS-2019.

REFUND POLICY

The following policy applies to all fees paid to Teachers Council.

All refunds will be issued in the form of the original payment, and to the original payer, *minus any transaction fees incurred on our end.*

Please allow up to four weeks for the issuance of the appropriate refund.

All fees not listed below are billed at the time of the service and are non-refundable.

	Cancellation prior to approval decision by Teachers Council OR rejection by Teachers Council	Cancellation post-approval decision by Teachers Council OR rejection by US Embassy
Placement Program Application	50%	n/a
Teacher-School Placement Match	50%	50%
Self-Placed Program Application	50%	50%
Program Sponsorship	n/a	0%
Health Insurance	n/a	100% unused amount, minus administration fee
J-2 Application	50%	50%
Extension Application	0%	0%

**Note: For active participants, Teachers Council must be notified at least 90 days prior to the start of the subsequent school year in order for you to be eligible for a refund of that school year's program fees.