J-1 Exchange Visitor Process

	TASKS	TIME TO COMPLETE
Step 1 Department Initiation	DEPARTMENT: Department gathers information from Exchange Visitor and fills out UW J Visa Request, submits electronically to ISO/AHR at http://ap.washington.edu/ahr/visas/request-process/j1-request/ .	1 week to gather information and submit request to ISO/AHR
Step 2 ISO & AHR Review	ISO & AHR: Review J Visa Request and contact Department to resolve any errors or discrepancies. Send approved J Visa Request to Department.	1 week to review and approve J Visa Request
Step 3 Department Submission	DEPARTMENT: Prints out PDF of approved UW J Visa Request Form. Gathers supporting documents (if any), signatures from relevant parties in Department and school. Submits visa request packet to ISO at Campus Box 351245.	1 week to submit request packet to ISO
Step 4 ISO Processes Form DS-2019	ISO: Reviews supporting documents for sufficiency. Enters exchange visitor's data into SEVIS database, requests DS-2019 form from Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Sends approved DS-2019 form to Department. DEPARTMENT: Sends approved DS-2019 to Exchange Visitor.	1 week to issue DS-2019 to Department
Visa Application by Exchange Visitor	EXCHANGE VISITOR: Receives the DS-2019 and reviews it for errors. Pays SEVIS fee online at least three days before visa appointment at https://www.fmjfee.com . Schedules a visa appointment (except Canadian citizens) with US embassy or consulate at: http://www.usembassy.gov/ .	1-4 weeks depending on the consulate
Step 6 Consulate Processes Visa	US EMBASSY/CONSULATE: Reviews visa application. Conducts background security check. Issues visa stamp in passport.	1-8 weeks varies with consular posts and time required to clear security
Step 7 Exchange Visitor Arrives in the US	EXCHANGE VISITOR: Presents passport and DS-2019 to border official at port of entry, receives Form I-94. Checks in with host department immediately upon arrival. Attends a J-1 Check-in Session at ISO within thirty days of start date on DS-2019.	Exchange visitor may arrive up to 30 days before start date
Step 8 ISO Validates Legal Status	ISO: Obtains proof of insurance. Updates visitor's arrival information and address in SEVIS. Validates the exchange visitor and notifies US Department of Homeland Security through SEVIS.	Immediately upon exchange visitor's arrival at the UW This step is critical for maintaining the exchange visitor's legal status in the US