



**UNIVERSITY POLICY AC-06.04-03/24**

**TO:** The University of West Florida Community  
**FROM:** Dr. Martha D. Saunders, President  
**SUBJECT:** F-1 and J Visa Status Medical Insurance Requirements  
**RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:** Office of International Affairs

**I. Purpose:**

Florida Board of Governors (“BOG”) Regulation 6.009(2) requires that all international students with F or J visa status have medical insurance that meets minimum requirements to register or continue enrollment at a Florida State University System school. For international students in J visa status, these requirements also apply to their accompanying spouses and dependents. Federal law establishes requirements for medical insurance for exchange visitors with a J visa status. See 22 C.F.R. §62.14. This University of West Florida (“UWF”) policy establishes medical insurance requirements for international students with an F or J visa status, J exchange visitors, and the spouses and dependents accompanying all J visa status holders.

**II. Policy:**

**A. International Students with F or J Visa Status**

UWF will offer all international students with an F or J visa the option of enrollment in a group insurance plan that meets or exceeds the minimum coverage requirements described in BOG Regulation 9.009(2). No international student in F or J visa status shall be permitted to register or to continue enrollment at UWF without demonstrating to the Office of International Affairs that the student has medical insurance coverage for illness or accidental injury that is equal to or exceeds the level of coverage offered by the UWF group insurance plan.

**B. J-1 Research Scholars, Professors, Specialists, Short-term Scholars, J-1 Visa Accompanying Spouses and Dependents**

In accordance with federal regulation 22 CFR §62.14, as it may be amended, UWF as a sponsor must require that all exchange visitors have adequate insurance for sickness or accidents. In addition, UWF must require that accompanying spouses and dependents of exchange visitors have insurance for sickness and accidents. UWF must inform all exchange visitors that they, and their accompanying spouses and dependents, may also be

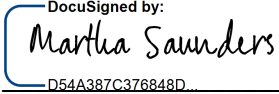
subject to the requirements of the Affordable Care Act. In pertinent part, 22 CFR §62.2 defines an exchange visitor as a foreign national who is participating in an exchange visitor program and is entering the United States temporarily on a J-1 visa or who has obtained J visa status in the United States. UWF exchange visitors include, but are not limited to, the following: students, research scholars, professors, specialists, and short-term scholars.

The following individuals must have medical insurance:

1. J-1 research scholars, professors, specialists, and short-term scholars must have medical insurance that covers illness or accidental injury during the period of the J-1 program.
2. J-1 students, research scholars, professors, specialists, and short-term scholars must have medical insurance that covers an accompanying spouse and dependent(s) in J-2 status for illness or accidental injury during the period of the program.

C. Medical Insurance:

Insurance coverage must meet or exceed the coverage requirements of the UWF group insurance plan as outlined in the “Maintaining Required Insurance in F-1 or J-1 Visa Status” Confluence page at <https://confluence.uwf.edu/x/2QDdAw>. The process for coverage is outlined at the referenced website, as well.

Approved by:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 03/11/2024

Dr. Martha D. Saunders

**Authority:** Board of Governors Regulation 6.009, Admission of International Students to State University System (SUS)  
22 C.F.R. §62.14

**Cross Ref.:** None

**History:** Medical Insurance Coverage for F-1 and J-1 Visa Holders and F-2 and J-2 Dependents and Spouses Adopted August 2009; revised December 2015; revised and renamed April 2023; revised March 2024.

**Last Review:** January 2024