



## J-1 Visa Renewal Information For Au Pairs Participating in the AuPairCare Extension Program

*AuPairCare does not recommend that au pairs travel outside of the U.S. during their extension program. If it is necessary to travel outside of the U.S. during the extension term, host families and au pairs should review this document before planning the trip.*

- An extension au pair wishing to travel outside of the U.S. must either return to the U.S. while her/his current J-1 Visa is still valid or have her/his J-1 Visa renewed in her/ his home country before re-entering the U.S.
- If the au pair attempts to renew the J-1 Visa, s/he should plan to return to the U.S. before their original J-1 Visa expires; which means that the trip should be completed before the au pair's first program year ends. Au pairs will not be able to re-enter the U.S. with an expired J-1 Visa.
- The au pair's extension request must be approved by the Department of State in order to get a J-1 Visa renewed. Then the au pair must make an appointment at a U.S. Embassy outside of the USA, preferably in the au pair's home country. AuPairCare cannot set up an appointment for an au pair and has no ability to affect scheduling appointments at the U.S. Embassy in any way. Contact information for U.S. Embassies abroad can be found at <http://usembassy.state.gov>.
- Au pairs and host families should be aware that it can sometimes take several weeks to obtain an appointment at the U.S. Embassy. Wait times for appointments vary depending on time of year and demand at that specific U.S. Embassy. Visa wait times can be found at this website: [http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait\\_4638.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait_4638.html).
- In order to renew a J-1 Visa, an extension au pair must bring certain documents to the U.S. Embassy appointment including her/his passport, print out of their I-94, and the new DS-2019 form that the au pair receives after the Department of State has approved the extension. The new DS-2019 form will reflect the dates of the au pair's first program year and extension term. Other documents may be required for the appointment and can be found on the U.S. Embassy website when the au pair schedules the appointment.
- AuPairCare cannot guarantee the renewal of a J-1 Visa. Although it is rare, any au pair who attempts to renew the J-1 Visa, risks the possibility of being denied. Even though an au pair has been approved by the U.S. Department of State to participate in the Extension Program, the decision to renew the J-1 Visa is at the discretion of the U.S. Embassy officer who interviews the au pair. AuPairCare has no influence over this process.
- AuPairCare will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a renewal J-1 Visa denial or J-1 Visa delay. Host families should be aware that they could experience breaks in childcare due to the renewal process.
- There is a non-refundable fee to apply for the renewal J-1 Visa. The fee is paid directly to the U.S. Embassy and the au pair is responsible for covering this cost. This fee may vary from country to country and can be found on the U.S. Embassy website.
- In the case of an emergency and/or sudden need to return home during the extension term (i.e. death/sickness of parent or relative), the au pair will need to visit the U.S. Embassy in her/his home country to renew the J-1 Visa before she/he can return to the U.S. The return date to the U.S. will depend on how long the au pair has to wait for his/her appointment at the embassy and whether a renewal J-1 Visa is issued. As indicated above, it can sometimes take several weeks to obtain an appointment and interview at the U.S. Embassy. Au pairs who return home for an emergency are strongly encouraged to contact the U.S. Embassy for an appointment date as soon as plans to travel home are made.
- It is advised that an au pair renew the J-1 Visa at the U.S. Embassy in her/his home country. If an au pair tries to renew the J-1 Visa in a country other than her/his home country and is denied, the au pair may not be able to re-enter the U.S. and will be responsible for making arrangements and covering all costs incurred to return to her/his home country.
- An au pair traveling to her/his home country at the end of their first year may experience difficulty re-entering the U.S. if it is close to the J-1 Visa expiration date. Therefore, AuPairCare advises that all extension au pairs returning to the U.S. within 30 days of the J-1 Visa expiration date show the new DS-2019 form to the airport government officer which proves that the Department of State has already approved the au pair to extend her/his stay within the U.S. Also, if the au pair renews the J-1 Visa before attempting to return to the U.S., the au pair should not have problems re-entering.
- AuPairCare will not reimburse for any costs associated with traveling home to renew your J-1 Visa.

## **Process for Extending Your J-1 Visa for Extension Au Pairs**

An extension au pair wishing to travel outside of the U.S. must either return to the U.S. while her/his current J-1 Visa is still valid or have her/his J-1 Visa renewed in her/ his home country before re-entering the U.S. If the au pair attempts to renew the J-1 Visa, s/he should plan to return to the U.S. before their original J-1 Visa expires; which means that the trip should be completed before the au pair's first program year ends. Au pairs will not be able to re-enter the U.S. with an expired J-1 Visa.

Au pairs and host families should be aware that it can sometimes take several weeks to obtain an appointment at the U.S. Embassy. Wait times for appointments vary depending on time of year and demand at that specific U.S. Embassy.

In order to renew a J-1 Visa, an extension au pair must bring certain documents to the U.S. Embassy appointment including her/his passport and the new DS-2019 form that the au pair receives after the Department of State has approved the extension. The new DS-2019 form will reflect the dates of the au pair's first program year and extension term. Other documents may be required for the appointment and can be found on the U.S. Embassy website when the au pair schedules the appointment.

AuPairCare cannot guarantee the renewal of a J-1 Visa. Although it is rare, any au pair who attempts to renew the J-1 Visa, risks the possibility of being denied. Even though an au pair has been approved by the U.S. Department of State to participate in the Extension Program, the decision to renew the J-1 Visa is at the discretion of the U.S. Embassy officer who interviews the au pair. AuPairCare has no influence over this process.

AuPairCare will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a renewal J-1 Visa denial or J-1 Visa delay. Host families should be aware that they could experience breaks in childcare due to the renewal process. There is a non-refundable fee to apply for the renewal J-1 Visa. The fee is paid directly to the U.S. Embassy and the au pair is responsible for covering this cost. This fee may vary from country to country and can be found on the [U.S. Embassy website](#).

In the case of an emergency and/or sudden need to return home during the extension term (i.e. death/sickness of parent or relative), the au pair will need to visit the U.S. Embassy in her/his home country to renew the J-1 Visa before she/he can return to the U.S. The return date to the U.S. will depend on how long the au pair has to wait for his/her appointment at the embassy and whether a renewal J-1 Visa is issued. As indicated above, it can sometimes take several weeks to obtain an appointment and interview at the U.S. Embassy. Au pairs who return home for an emergency are strongly encouraged to contact the U.S. Embassy for an appointment date as soon as plans to travel home are made.

It is advised that an au pair renew the J-1 Visa at the U.S. Embassy in her/his home country. If an au pair tries to renew the J-1 Visa in a country other than her/his home country and is denied, the au pair may not be able to re-enter the U.S and will be responsible for making arrangements and covering all costs incurred to return to her/his home country.

An au pair traveling to her/his home country at the end of their first year may experience difficulty re-entering the U.S if it is close to the J-1 Visa expiration date. Therefore, AuPairCare advises that all extension au pairs returning to the U.S. within 30 days of the J-1 Visa expiration date show the new DS-2019 form to the airport government officer which proves that the Department of State has already approved the au pair to extend her/his stay within the U.S. Also, if the au pair renews the J-1 Visa before attempting to return to the U.S., the au pair should not have problems re-entering.