

WFI Fellows come to the United States of America (U.S.) on a J-1 visa. The WFI International Fellowship Program is made possible through the U.S. Department of State's J-1 Exchange Visitor Program. We partner with a non-profit organization, [Experience International \(EI\)](#), which is authorized by the Department of State to sponsor your program. Experience International will ensure that you meet the criteria for the Exchange Visitor Program and will guide you through the necessary steps to apply for the J-1 visa.

Important: You cannot go directly to the U.S. Embassy in your country for a J-1 visa, you must have a U.S. Sponsor

This document explains the fee structure for the program as of July 2018. Subject to change.

EI Visa Program Fee Including Health Insurance:

Timeframe	Total Cost	Amount Fellow Pays	Amount WFI Pays
6 Month Program Ages 40 and under	\$1,956	\$978	\$978
6 Month Program Ages 41 and above*	\$2,285	\$1,143	\$1,143

*The cost of health insurance is increased for those applicants 41 years of age and older.

Additional Visa-Related Fees. The Fellow is responsible for 100% of the following non-refundable fees which are required by and paid to the U.S. government:

- DS-160 Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application Form Fee: **\$160**
- SEVIS Fee: **\$180**

Total Cost to Applicant:

\$1,318 for applicants 40 yrs of age and under

\$1,483 for applicants 41 yrs of age and above

This fee covers a six-month J-1 Program and **seven** months of health insurance. You are allowed to arrive in the U.S. up to 30 days before your program start date and stay up to 30 days after your program end date, and you must have health insurance the entire duration of your stay.

J-1 Exchange Visitor Program Fees

Other Program Fees (may or may not apply to applicant):

- Dependent Documentation/J-2: If dependents will travel with you for the duration of your program, it is recommended they come on a J-2 visa. J-2 Fees: \$600 additional, plus insurance and DS160 fees.
(The World Forest Institute recommends family members arrive a month after the program starts, to give enough time for the Fellow to settle in and look for accommodations that will suit their visiting family.)
- An additional month of insurance beyond the seven months will cost between \$65 -\$112 dollars depending on your age. You will need this if you decide to spend the full 30 days before and after your program dates in the U.S.

EI Refund Policy:

In the event that your visa is denied, or that you withdraw from the program after the DS2019 has been issued, EI will refund a certain amount of your EI Visa fees, and this refund is split evenly between the Fellow and WFI.

Timeframe	Total Fees paid to EI	If Visa is denied or fellow withdraws after DS2019 issued	
		EI Refund to Fellow	EI Refund to WFI
6 Month Program Ages 40 and under	\$1,956	\$690	\$690
6 Month Program Ages 41 and above	\$2,285	\$855	\$855

If for any reason (such as applicant not meeting deadlines and expectations) the World Forestry Center or Experience International has cause to cancel your visa after it has been issued, you will be refunded only the cost of the health insurance (\$65-\$112 per month).

Note: Bank wire fees are not included in the above amounts.