

Berkeley Law

VISITING SCHOLAR / VISITING STUDENT RESEARCHER AGREEMENT

The University of California, Berkeley School of Law, welcomes your interest in our Visiting Scholars Program, which aims to facilitate the residency of distinguished scholars from varied academic institutions and accomplished professionals whose expertise is the focus of their research projects.

Program participants will be granted access to basic campus resources to fulfill their research objectives and are encouraged to participate in Berkeley Law's vibrant academic life and programs.

Visiting Scholar / Visiting Student Researcher positions are non-employment/non-compensated appointments to further their personal research projects. Visitors must be self-supporting, and provide evidence of adequate support from external sources for living expenses and health insurance while in Berkeley. Admission of visiting scholar/visiting student researchers to the Program must conform to the U.S. Federal, California State, and, University of California requirements, policies, and procedures

ADMISSION DECISIONS, GUIDELINES, AND POLICIES

AUTHORITY TO APPOINT

- Faculty Director and Executive Director determines admission or reappointment decisions; please note that an acceptance email from the hosting department will detail the next steps in the admission process.
- All applicants must meet specific requirements to be eligible for a Visiting Scholar or Visiting Student Researcher position at UC Berkeley, such as income and funding, health insurance, English language proficiency, visa type, and academic history.
- No person may be appointed as a visitor if they have an active appointment or employment with the University of California.

CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

- The process to obtain the J visa can range from 2-6 months, so it would be best to return the application and supporting materials as soon as possible.
- Scholars must provide enough advanced notices for late arrival or early departure approval.
- Visitors must have enrolled or waived enrollment in the Visiting Scholar injury and Sickness Insurance Plan through Garnett-Powers & Associates. If the visitor has

insurance with comparable coverage, please contact the insurance agent to waive this requirement. Visitors may begin enrolling 30 days before the effective date of the appointment. Dental Insurance is optional.

- Visiting Scholars are considered guests of the University. Service as a Visiting Scholar or Visiting Student Researcher is neither employment nor enrollment as a student at the University of California.
 - 1) A Visitor will not have employment (including as a contractor), including a teaching appointment with the University of California.
 - 2) A Visitor will not be a current UC student.
- As non-employees, visiting scholars or student researchers are not entitled to salary, stipend, compensation, benefits, housing, full-time, or part-time positions during the visit period.
- Research Scholars are accepted for the conducting of their own research. Berkeley Law does not offer scholars an option to teach an elective course. They may audit (for no credit) one course at the Law School per semester per the instructor's approval, noting that non-law school courses are not available to audit or register on campus.
- The Visiting Scholars Program is not a scholarship or fellowship program; there are no forms of awards or funding for scholars to conduct research at Berkeley Law.
- Upon completing the Visiting Scholar / Visiting Student Researcher appointment, the individual cannot be appointed as a postdoctoral fellow or postdoctoral fellow research associate.
- Starting August 1, 2023, Central Campus will automatically end all visitors' appointments on the end dates. We will no longer reactivate or defer the cancellation of visitor appointments.
- All scholars or third party is not authorized to act on behalf of the University to modify admission policy and appointment terms. All invitation letters should come from the VSPA office and the hosting department.
- Budgetary restraints prohibit us from providing scholars with copying or secretarial services.
- Program alterations will be posted on the [Visiting Scholars Program](#) website as they occur.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

- Each appointment or reappointment with a visiting title shall be for a specified term, not exceeding one year. The total period of consecutive service with a visiting title shall not exceed two years and counts toward the service limitation explained in general university policy.
- The Berkeley Law Visiting Scholars Program official will review case-by-case, and the approval of an admission or extension request is not guaranteed.
- A fully predominantly virtual exchange program is not permitted. During the visit, one of two telework days are allowed weekly.

PROGRAM FEES

University Services Fee and J-1 Services Fee

- All applicants agree to pay the required fees (VSPA University Services Fee, and J-1 Services Fee) upfront upon temporary approval. Fees vary depending on the visiting scholar’s appointment terms.

REFUND / REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES

- Payments will not be refunded unless applicants are not eligible to join the program after further reviewing their application.
- J-1 services and FedEx fees will not refund after issuing J1/J2 visas.
- A visitor is bound by the rules and policies of the University of California. If your appointment is eligible for reimbursement, please present appropriate receipts and all backup documents of evidence of payment. All expenses must be actual research-related expenses for official University business. Non-J1 or J2 visa holders are not eligible for funding or reimbursements.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE ABOVE THE TERMS OF APPOINTMENT, POLICIES, AND GUIDELINES

*** I acknowledge that I have read and understand the terms of the appointment and accept the policies and procedures of being a visiting scholar/visiting student researcher at Berkeley Law.**

VS/VSR Name (Please Print)

VS/VSR Signature

Date: _____