

# UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

## LETTER OF INVITATION J-1 SCHOLAR

August 28, 2013

Liping Wang, Lecturer  
Department of Foreign Languages  
Northwest Agriculture & Forestry University  
Yangling, Shaanxi 712100  
P.R. China

Dear Liping Wang,

In my capacity as Associate Professor of English at the University of Missouri-Columbia (MU), I invite you to be a visiting research scholar in the Department of English for the 2014-2015 Academic Year, from approximately August 15, 2014 to August 1, 2015.

While at MU, you will be conducting collaborative research on writing-across-the-curriculum/writing-in-the-disciplines (WAC/WID) with me and possibly also other scholars in Rhetoric and Composition. In addition, there may be opportunities for you to share your experiences with our graduate students in a classroom setting, although it is unknown at this time whether graduate seminars in WAC/WID will be taught during your visit.

The university, college, or department will not be paying you a salary. It is our understanding that your expenses while at MU will be covered with a grant provided by your government and/or home institution and also perhaps with your personal funds if necessary.

Finally, as a participant in the J1 exchange visitor program you will be expected to comply with the U.S. Department of State's accident and illness insurance requirements throughout your stay. You may choose your own insurance provider or elect to enroll in the MU's health and accident insurance program for visiting scholars. Information regarding accident and illness insurance is enclosed with this letter.

Sincerely,



Martha A. Townsend  
Associate Professor

Encl.



## Insurance requirements

U.S. Federal Regulations state that all J-1 visa holders and their dependents must meet insurance coverage requirements for the duration of their stay. These requirements are as follows:

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- *Minimum Coverage* – Insurance shall cover: (1) medical benefits of at least \$50,000 per person per accident or illness; (2) repatriation of remains in the amount of \$7,500; (3) expenses associated with medical evacuation in the amount of \$10,000; and (4) deductible shall not exceed \$500 per accident or illness.
- *Maintenance of Insurance* – Willful failure on your part to maintain the required insurance will result in the termination of your exchange program.

You can purchase insurance coverage from a company of your choosing before you travel to the United States or after you arrive, but the plan must cover your entire stay. Visiting scholars can choose from three options in obtaining adequate health insurance:

1. *MU Employee Benefits Plan*: available to visiting scholars who are paid by the University of Missouri, such as post-doctoral fellows paid by the hosting department. Contact your hosting department for information on how to sign up for this plan. **If you have this insurance plan, you must purchase additional Medical Evacuation and Repatriation coverage.**
2. *Aetna Student/Scholar Health Insurance*: this plan covers all of the insurance requirements and is available through the International Center. You can download the enrollment form or pick one up when you check in at the International Center. This policy is not mandatory and can be expensive if you add dependents. J-2s (spouses and children) cannot be covered by Aetna unless the J-1 is also covered by Aetna.
3. *Other*: you can purchase a plan of your choosing from an insurance company in your home country or in the United States as long as it meets the specified requirements. You must provide a copy of your insurance plan in English.

This chart illustrates these requirements as well as the different options available. For all of these plans, you must show proof of your coverage by providing us with a copy of your insurance enrollment form and payment.

*\*\* If you are planning to extend your J-1 status, you must demonstrate proof of insurance coverage for the extended period before we will create a new DS-2019 for you.*

J-1 scholars can use the Student Health Center if they pay the health fee (\$94.47 per semester). Spouses can also use the Student Health Center for \$125 per semester (if the J-1 has also paid the health fee). You can pay this fee at the Student Health Center.

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| Phone: 573-882-6007 | Fax: 573-882-3223 | E-mail: international@missouri.edu  
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