

From: Rose, Vicki T
Sent: Thursday, April 09, 2009 3:24 PM
To: Geary, Susan A; Lawrence, Sally; Hawkins, Karen S
Subject: FW: J Student Intern Program

Thomas Barnett has written to me concerning the Form DS-7002 – in that the questions

Thom Barnett sent the email listed below and commented on the Form DS-7002. Based upon a telcon with him, I advised him that I would share them with you. I think that we need to consider his comments.

From: Thomas Barnett
To: Rose, Vicki T
Sent: Tue Mar 31 18:59:56 2009
Subject: J Student Intern Program

Vicki,

The current DS-7002 Training/Internship Placement Plan was developed before the implementation of the J Student Intern for education category.

The form acts as a one-size fits all. With that, however, comes some ambiguities that are not readily discernable because there is no instruction page (you know, like the instructions that come with the IRS 1040 - line by line)

I will list the block titles in CAPS and below each, give you my interpretation..... But remember a whole lot of end users are filling these out with no guidance.

OCCUPATIONAL FIELD

I would surmise this is really intended for a trainee with a job or an intern with a job. In our intern category, you have to be a full time student so - no job. Consequently, either leave it blank or enter "student".

NUMBER OF YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Again, only if the person has a job. In our intern category, if 'Student' is entered in the occupational field, then 'N/A' would be appropriate for years of experience.

LEVEL OF DEGREE

For a trainee or graduated intern, this is easy. But, for our student intern, does this mean the degree being pursued, or the degree obtained before the one currently being pursued? The next block of "Date Awarded" - being in the past tense would infer a degree already received.

DATE AWARDED

Again, self evident for a trainee or graduated intern. But for our student intern it depends on how LEVEL OF DEGREE is interpreted.

U.S. RESIDENCE ADDRESS

Realistically, VERY few will have an address finalized prior to coming to the United States.

WILL TRAINEE/INTERN RECEIVED A STIPEND?

Since this is a plan written by the student and the intended supervisor, does this mean a stipend from the supervisor's institution or does this mean a stipend from anywhere regardless of source? If the latter, then isn't it more of an issue of paid or unpaid internship? (Note-TSRI won't allow unpaid interns from abroad -but that's us)

Now, shift focus to the online SEVIS Exchange Visitor Personal Information Page necessary to complete the DS-2019:

#19 INTERN FOREIGN DEGREE

This is the same issue as the LEVEL OF DEGREE on the DS-7002. For a trainee or graduated intern, this is easy. But, for our student intern, does this mean the degree being pursued, or the degree obtained before the one currently being pursued? The next block of "Date Awarded" - being in the past tense would infer a degree already received.

#20 STUDENT INTERN FOREIGN FIELD OF STUDY

Is this the foreign field of study in the degree already achieved, or in the degree that is currently being pursued?

#21 SUBJECT/FIELD DESCRIPTION

Is this a description of the subject/field at the institution in the U.S. where the internship is going to happen or from the overseas institution where they are pursuing their degree?

We have about 10 of these pending at the moment..... All anxious, of course.

Your guidance will be MOST helpful..... Well maybe..... (grin)

All the Best,
Thom

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