



AFS-GPS DS-2019 Information (hosted students)

What is a DS-2019 form?

A DS-2019 is required by the U.S. State Department. The form is prepared by AFS-USA in conjunction with State Department guidelines.

What is the purpose of the DS-2019?

The DS-2019 lets the State Department know that the student is part of a registered exchange program, such as AFS, and that the student is in “good standing” with that program.

Why is this form necessary?

The DS-2019 is necessary due to the type of visa our students possess, the J-1. There are many other types of student visas. A J-1 states, among other things, that AFS is ultimately responsible for the student while they are in the United States.

Why the verification process after the student has entered the U.S.?

As the visas are issued a month or so prior to the arrival of our students in the U.S., the DS-2019 must then be verified by an authorized AFS-USA representative. The AFS representative’s signature confirms that the student is in “good standing” with AFS-USA.

What happens if I don’t get the DS-2019 signed before I take my student out of the U.S.?

When the student attempts to re-enter the United States, U.S. Immigration can/will refuse to allow the student re-entry. As without the verified DS-2019, there is no “proof” that the student is still a participant in a qualified program like AFS. The J-1 visa may be considered invalid.

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LIAISON.