

## #17-5 Designated Sponsors

**Designated program sponsors are critical to the success of the Exchange Visitor Program (EVP), as they facilitate the exchange and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements while creating a positive experience for participants.**

Here are some key highlights:

### General knowledge

- Legal entities designated by the Department of State to carry out the sponsorship duties of the EVP
- Can be public or private entities, such as a university, government agency, or private companies
- Also referred to as Exchange Visitor Program sponsors, J-1 visa program sponsors, designated sponsors, or simply sponsors
- Generally charge a fee or tuition to cover administrative expenses
- FUSIA is a designated sponsor in the J-1 intern category.

### General duties

- Ensure that programs meet regulatory requirements set forth by the US Department of State
- Monitor the progress of participants to ensure compliance with program regulations
- Maintain regular contact with participants throughout their stay in the United States
- Evaluate program effectiveness and participant satisfaction
- Identify areas for improvement and implement changes as needed
- Promote ongoing program development and innovation to enhance the overall quality of the exchange experience for participants

### Program operations

- Screen and select qualified participants for exchange programs
- Issue necessary documentation such as the Form DS-2019
- Provide pre-arrival orientation and support services for participants
- Assist participants with cultural adjustment
- Provide resources for medical and personal emergencies
- Conduct site visits to host organizations to ensure that the worksite and program are suitable

NOTE: FUSIA is a designated program sponsor that administers exchange programs in the J-1 intern category. As a designated sponsor, FUSIA brings qualified foreign nationals to participate in programs that promote the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills.

**For assistance, contact FUSIA at +1 718 643 0311 ext. 11 (office) or +1 917 244 2600 (WhatsApp chat).**

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